

## PROCEDURE REGULATIONS

### Erste Bank Eishockey Liga 2007/2008

#### § 1 Term

The Erste Bank Eishockey Liga (EBEL) is a competition, where the championship of Austria's highest league is carried out together with clubs from Slovenia and Hungary.

#### § 2 Participants

Following clubs participate at the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga 2007/2008:

EHC Liwest Blackwings Linz, EC Pasut VSV, HC TWK Innsbruck „Die Haie“, EC KAC, EV Vienna Capitals, Graz 99ers, EC Red Bull Salzburg, HK Acroni Jesenice, Olimpija Ljubljana, Alba Volán FeVita Székesfehérvár

#### § 3 Participating conditions

Registration deadline for the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga is the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 2007 – 24:00. In order to register successfully, the clubs must confirm the procedure regulations of the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga in written form (see last page). A functionary, who is officially entitled by the club, must declare at the office of the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga and at the office of the Austrian Ice Hockey Federation (ÖEHV) by sending a Fax to:

Fax number – Office ÖEHV

Fax number – Office EBEL

**+43 (0) 1 20 200 20-50**

**+43 (0) 1 960 58 - 58**

1. Every club must nominate its strongest team for every game.
2. A club, which does not show up at a game, will:
  - face punishment and have to compensate possible costs
  - will have to pay overall compensating costs in the amount of 2.500 Euro to the opponent club

3. The club's roster must be set up following the rules of the EBEL point system, which was confirmed by the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga and by the ÖEHV as well. These regulations are an integral element of the procedure regulations. When setting up a roster or nominating the players on the game report, following rules must be taken under consideration. Violating these regulations will have the annulment of the game as a consequence.
  - a) Creation of the roster / Nomination of the roster
    - Registration deadline is the 20th of September 2007. At least 22 of 25 players must be registered at the ÖEHV. The remaining players can be registered till the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2008.
    - Club's players, who are younger than 20 years (U20-players), do not have to be declared at the nomination of the roster. These players are always eligible to play and are calculated with one point by our point system.
    - If a club has already nominated its roster (25 players), transfer card players can be switched four times till the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2008.
    - Corresponding with IIHF-rules, there are no more transactions and no more nominations possible after the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2008.
  - b) Nomination of the roster on the game report
    - There can be only 22 players at a maximum on the game report. Every position, which is not filled up with a player on the game report, will be evaluated with one point.
    - The sum on the game report must not exceed the amount of 65 points.
    - A maximum of 17 players, who are older than players dated from 1984, are allowed on the game report.
4. The contracts, signed by the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga and Premiere, are an important part of the procedure regulations. As a consequence, starting time as well as game days of the TV broadcasting schedule must be fulfilled. Before the start of the 2007-2008 season, the clubs - together with Premiere - will agree with the standard weekdays and the beginning of live-broadcasting. Clubs violating these regulations will not have the chance to compete with the other clubs remaining in the same league.
5. If an Austrian/Slovenian/Hungarian national player (players, who were part of the 22 players roster at the last World Championship) gets injured while competing for the national team (in case of a shortfall of at least 4 weeks, delivery of a medical report, examination of the Austrian/Slovenian/Hungarian national doctor or confirmation of the injury degree), the club is allowed to replace this player by another one (transfer card player).

This substitute is allowed to play until the national player recovers and counts for one switch (Nomination only possible until 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2008)\*

#### § 4 No-Show of a team, Waiting Period

The waiting period is 30 minutes. If a team does not show up with at least seven players (including goalkeeper) 30 minutes after the scheduled game start, it will be considered as not having arrived. If the guest team cannot arrive on time because of "force majeure" (the club must provide information by telephone), the waiting period will be extended to a maximum of one hour. According to rule 632, the time to warm up must be guaranteed.

#### § 5 Procedure mode

##### 1. The competition will be carried out in ONE group.

##### 2. Regular Season:

Phase 1: A double round robin will be played.

Phase 2 a): Positioning round:

The first 6 teams will play double round robin for the placing for the Play-off.

The best team after the regular season receives 4 bonus points, team number two is rewarded 3 points, team number three 2 points, team number four gets 1 point. Team number five and six do not receive any points.

Phase 2 b): Qualification round:

The teams placed at position seven to ten after the regular season will play a single round robin for the two remaining Play-off-spots.

Team number seven receives 2 bonus points, team number eight 1 point. Team number nine and ten do not receive any points.

After the qualification round the two teams ranked on position number three and four, drop out of the championship. The two teams ranked number one and two get the Play-off-spots seven and eight.

The ranking is based on IIHF rule 611. A won game is worth 2 points, a lost game counts for 0 points. In case of a tie in points after the regular season, IIHF rule 611 comes into action.

There must be a winning team after every game. If a game is tied after regular time, both teams receive one point each - the game will be continued after a two-minute-break without ice-cleaning and a five minute long "Sudden Victory Overtime" will be played, where only four field players per team may compete. However, there must compete at least three field players. After that, there will be a penalty shoot-out competition, that follows ÖEHV rules. The winner receives one further point.

### 3. Play-off:

- 3.1. The teams ranked 1 to 6 after the positioning round and the two best teams after the qualification round make the play-off.
- 3.2. In the quarterfinal, the team ranked number 1 plays against team ranked number 8, number 2 meets 7, 3 vs 6 and 4 vs 5 – each during a series „best of five“.
- 3.3 In the semi-finals, the winner of team 1 against team 8 faces the winner of team 4 against team 5, while the winner of team 2 against team 7 meets the winner of team 3 against team 6 – each during a series “best of seven.”
- 3.4 The two winning teams will face in the finals, playing a series “best of seven.”
- 3.5 The team with the better record after regular season will have homecourt-advantage at the quarter- and semifinals as well as at the finals.
- 3.6 If a play-off-game, where one team can achieve the next round or even win the championship, is tied after regular time, the game will be continued by an ice-cleaning break and a twenty minute long “Sudden Victory Overtime” til Sudden Death. This procedure will be repeated until the game winning goal is made. Only four field players per team may compete. However, there must compete at least three field players. After regular time and after every twenty minute long “Sudden Victory Overtime” an ice-cleaning break takes place.
- 3.7 The best Austrian club of the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga is allowed to participate at the Continental Cup, which is announced by the IIHF.

If the best Austrian club is not interested in participating, the best Austrian club after regular season is allowed to be part of the Continental Cup

(subject to the condition, that the IIHF offers only one spot for the Continental Cup).

If the IIHF offers two spots for the Continental Cup, the best Austrian club of the play-off is allowed to participate first, followed by the best Austrian Club after regular season. In case of teams from Slovenia and Hungary, their national regulations are mandatory.

If the best Austrian club of the regular season and the best Austrian club of the play-off are one and the same club, the second best Austrian club of the finals is allowed to participate at the Continental Cup (subject to the condition, that the IIHF offers two spots for the Continental Cup)

- 3.8 The best placed Austrian club in the Play-off season will receive the title "Österreichischer Staatsmeister 2007/08". The best second placed Austrian club in the Play-off season will receive the title "Österreichischer Vize-Staatsmeister 2007/08".

## § 6 Game days and right to choose court

### 1. Standard starting time

Starting time for games of the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga at weekdays is 7.15 pm, for games on Sundays and holidays 6 pm. Starting time can only be changed with the approval of the EBEL and the ÖEHV.

### 2. Right to choose court

The club, which is listed first on the game schedule, has the right to choose the court and is host of the game. The Head of competition – in accordance with the EBEL – is entitled to change the schedule in certain cases.

### 3. Force majeure

Games, that could not be carried out because of force majeure must be played in accordance with the Head of competition as soon as possible.

If a game is interrupted by an electrical power breakdown, fog or other circumstances, the host must take out every measurement necessary to enable continuance of the game. Any interruption must not take longer than 45 minutes.

### 4. Basic dress colors at homegames

Every club of the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga determines the basic dress colors (bright/dark), which the team will play its homegames with, in written form and till 15th of August 2007.



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Changing the colors during the season is forbidden.

## § 7 Game entitlement and player pass

### 1. Game entitlement

Every player, who is declared at the ÖEHV, the Hungarian and Slovenian Ice Hockey Federation, is entitled to play.

### 2. Appearance of a player without player pass

If a player – although entitled to play – shows up without player pass, his team will not lose any points, but will face punishment regarding the disciplinary code of the ÖEHV – subject to the condition, that the player's identity is confirmed by an officially entitled functionary at the back side of the game report.

### 3. Procedure in case of a match penalty

A player, who was announced a match penalty, will keep his player pass. However, he will be locked until the Penalty Senate of the EBEL has made its decision (see disciplinary code of the ÖEHV).

### 4. Farmteam regulations

Each club can arrange with a club from a lower league a Farmteam regulation. 8 players of the club from the lower league have to be named. These players are allowed to play in the higher league as in the lower league as well. A participation of players from the higher club at the lower club is not allowed. Transfer card players are generally exempted from this regulation.

Arrangement for second teams

If participate a second team of a club at any championship, the club have to name his 15 best players before the start of the championship. These players are not allowed to participate at the second team. During the championship, the Austrian Ice Hockey Federation will control that these named players are the top 15 players at any time. The Austrian Ice Hockey Federation can adjust these lists.

### 5. Registration – Unsubscription / Exchange procedures / Lending agreements

Following procedures can be carried out until the 31st of January 2008:

- Registration and Unsubscription of players with Austrian citizenship
- Registration and Unsubscription of transfer card players with foreign citizenship
- Exchange of players with Austrian citizenship, who play abroad and need a transfer card, although they are registered at an Austrian club
- Lending agreements

After the 31st of January 2008, players with Austrian citizenship playing abroad can only be implemented and switched like a transfer card player.

## **6. Numbers of exchange procedures**

Til the 31st of January 2008, four exchange procedures of transfer card players with foreign citizenship are possible.

## **7. Switching transfer card players**

Transfer card players with foreign citizenship are not allowed to change clubs within the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga during the whole championship.

## **8. Nomination U20-National Team**

The season will not be interrupted due to U20 World Championships or its preparation. The clubs will make the relevant players available. In case of non-obedience, the concerned player will be locked until the Junior National Team returns. The same rule comes into action, when a player refuses to join the National Team because of a disease.

## **9. Entitlement of foreign clubs at the EBEL**

All the rules of the procedure regulations of the Erste Bank Eishockey Liga 2007/2008 concerning the entitlement of transfer card players, the exchange procedures and so on (§7 – points 1 to 8) are relevant for players with Slovenian / Hungarian citizenship as well as for players with Slovenian / Hungarian citizenship, who need a transfer card.

## **§ 8 Duties of the host and the guest team**

Basically, the overall procedure regulations of the ÖEHV, who are an important part of these special rules, are relevant.

Right after the game, the host must send the game reports by fax to the ÖEHV-office (+43 1 20 200 20 50), to the Head of Statistics (Martin Kogler, +43 316 687321) and to the EBEL-office (+43 1 960 58 58).

The host has to make sure, that there is a doctor available from 30 minutes before game start until 30 minutes after game end. The doctor has to be available to the guest team as well.

Only persons with a valid identity card of the ÖEHV are allowed to sit at the judge's table of the home team.

The home team is obliged to display the game report on the Online Scoring System of the ÖEHV.

## **§ 9 Referees**

1. The head of referees is in charge of the nomination of the referees.

2. The rules of the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) are valid.
3. The referees must send by fax or e-mail all reports and complaints to the ÖEHV-office, the EBEL-office and to the club, which is concerned by the complaint. These measurements must be carried out until noon (12:00), day 1 after game day, at the latest.

## **§ 10 Verification of the games**

The verification of the games is based on the game reports and is carried out by the Head of Nomination, Regulation and Verification, in cases of an argument by the Verification Senate of the ÖEHV.

## **§ 11 Doping regulations**

The Anti-Doping regulations of the "Bundessportgesetz" are binding and must be acknowledged (see §18a of the ÖEHV-statutes). This applies also to all foreign clubs of the EBEL.

## **§ 12 Communication tools**

All game reports, forms and notes have to be filled out by a typewriter or by any other EDV-based tools.

The clubs are required to let the referees send all announcements, which are relevant for the EBEL, by club-owned fax machines or e-mail programmes.

## **§ 13 Final clause**

1. The board of the ÖEHV has the right to decide about all cases, which are not foreseen in these procedure regulations.
2. All participating clubs commit themselves to stick to the procedure regulations by providing their signature.
3. These procedure regulations are valid for the season 2007/08.

The German version is binding.

**Austrian Ice Hockey Federation**