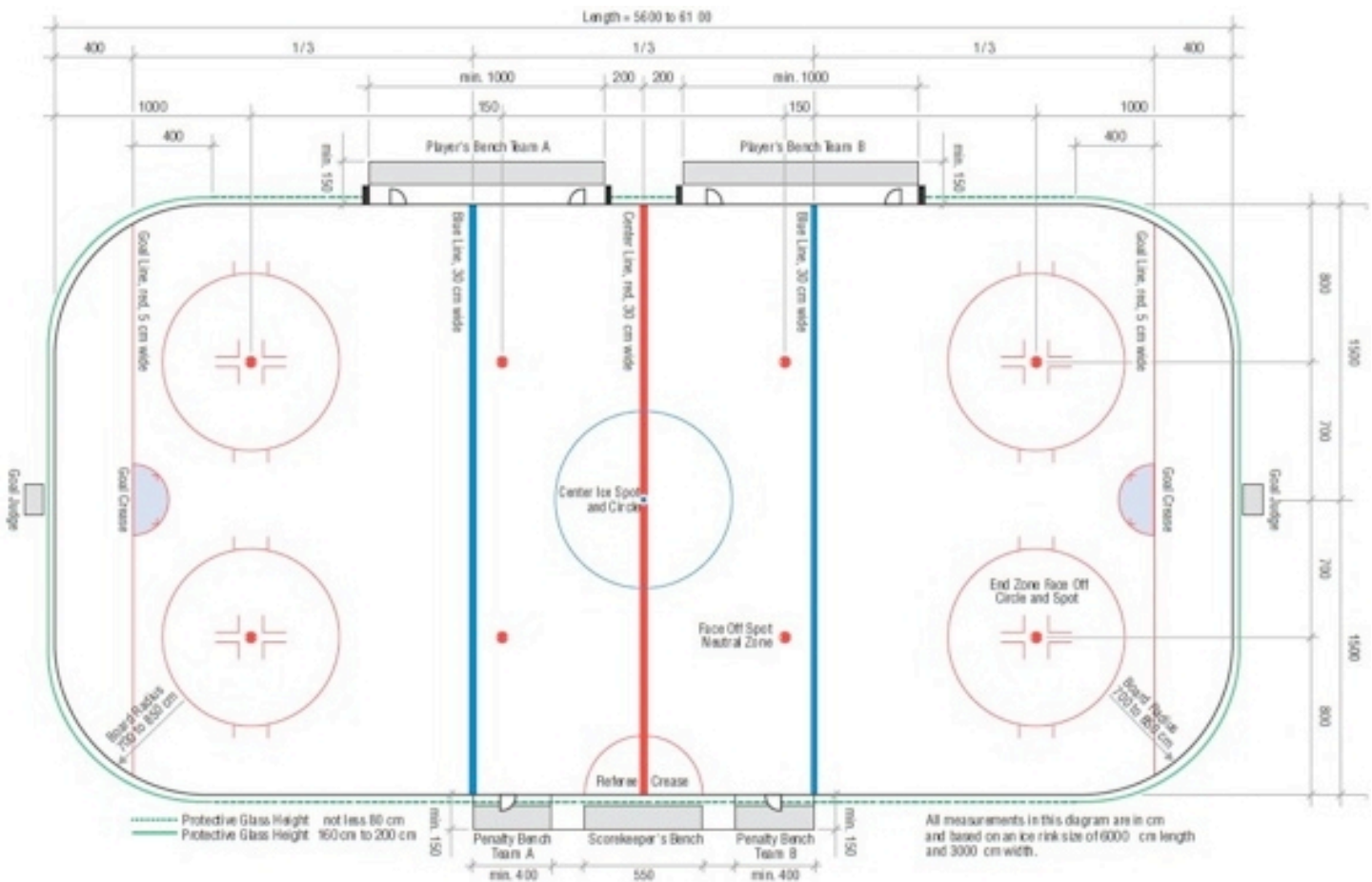


# Hockey Rink Descriptions



There are two official hockey rink dimensions:

- the National Hockey League (NHL)
- the Olympic & International Ice Hockey

The descriptions of the dimensions and layout of a hockey rink used in the National Hockey League are also used in virtually all games played in North America.

## NHL Hockey Rink Size

The ice surface measures 200 feet long (61 m). It has a width of 85 feet (or 26 m). Each corner consists of an arc with a radius of 28 feet (8.5 m). The structure is surrounded by boards measuring between 40" and 48" high.

The boards are made of fiberglass or wood. Rules dictate that these boards are white with the exception of when they are used for advertising. A yellow kick plate at the base of the boards provides a visual separation of the ice and the boards.

## Positions of the Net and Goal Posts

The two goal posts and nets are situated in the midst of a 2" wide line that is 13 feet from each end of the rink. This line extends the full width across the ice. The net is placed in the middle (equal distance) from sideboards. The line is referred to as the goal line.

Two pegs measuring 8" secure the net. If the rink is longer than 200 feet, the goal line should be set no further than 15 feet from the boards.

The goal posts are 48" tall and 6 feet apart. A nylon mesh is connected to the net. The netting prevents the puck from flying through the hockey cage. A white canvas skirt is attached to the bottom of the net.

The dimensions of a hockey rink dictate this skirt must be secured 6" from the goal post. It can't go above 1" from the base plate. The posts and cross bars are colored red.

### **Sections of the Ice Rink**

A red line 2" wide is set in front of the goal. This is known as the goal crease. This section extends up to 4 feet and is identified by its light blue shade. The inner goal area is white.

The ice rink is separated into three segments. Two lines (colored blue) are set 60" away from the goal lines. Both lines are 12" wide. The defense zone is the area where one team defends their goal.

The attack zone is the other end. The middle segment is the neutral zone in the dimensions of a hockey rink. The red centerline is 12" wide. It cuts the rink equally.

### **The Center Spot and Face Offs**

The rink center is marked by a blue point measuring 12". The neutral zone face off spots measure 2" in diameter. They are 44 feet from each other. The end zone face off spots are marked red and are also 2" in diameter.

There is also a 3" line along the boards. There is also a circle measuring 15" with lines measuring 2" wide. A couple of red lines are set on the edge.

These lines are used for player positioning. The face off circles are 20 feet away from the goal and also 22 feet from the line along the 2 goals.

These dimensions are used in America today, and are unlikely to change in the foreseeable future.