

# NHL<sup>®</sup> 08



**⚠ WARNING: PHOTSENSITIVITY/EPILEPSY/SEIZURES**

**READ BEFORE USING YOUR PLAYSTATION®2 COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM.**

A very small percentage of individuals may experience epileptic seizures or blackouts when exposed to certain light patterns or flashing lights. Exposure to certain patterns or backgrounds on a television screen or when playing video games may trigger epileptic seizures or blackouts in these individuals. These conditions may trigger previously undetected epileptic symptoms or seizures in persons who have no history of prior seizures or epilepsy. If you, or anyone in your family, has an epileptic condition or has had seizures of any kind, consult your physician before playing. IMMEDIATELY DISCONTINUE use and consult your physician before resuming gameplay if you or your child experience any of the following health problems or symptoms:

- dizziness
- altered vision
- eye or muscle twitches
- loss of awareness
- disorientation
- seizures
- any involuntary movement or convulsion

**RESUME GAMEPLAY ONLY ON APPROVAL OF YOUR PHYSICIAN.**

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**Use and handling of video games to reduce the likelihood of a seizure**

- Use in a well-lit area and keep as far away as possible from the television screen.
  - Avoid large screen televisions. Use the smallest television screen available.
  - Avoid prolonged use of the PlayStation 2 system.  
Take a 15-minute break during each hour of play.
  - Avoid playing when you are tired or need sleep.
- 

Stop using the system immediately if you experience any of the following symptoms: lightheadedness, nausea, or a sensation similar to motion sickness; discomfort or pain in the eyes, ears, hands, arms, or any other part of the body. If the condition persists, consult a doctor.

**WARNING TO OWNERS OF PROJECTION TELEVISIONS:**

Do not connect your PlayStation 2 system to a projection TV without first consulting the user manual for your projection TV, unless it is of the LCD type. Otherwise, it may permanently damage your TV screen.

**HANDLING YOUR PLAYSTATION 2 FORMAT DISC:**

- This disc is intended for use only with PlayStation 2 consoles with the NTSC U/C designation.
- Do not bend it, crush it or submerge it in liquids.
- Do not leave it in direct sunlight or near a radiator or other source of heat.
- Be sure to take an occasional rest break during extended play.
- Keep this compact disc clean. Always hold the disc by the edges and keep it in its protective case when not in use. Clean the disc with a lint-free, soft, dry cloth, wiping in straight lines from center to outer edge. Never use solvents or abrasive cleaners.

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This product has been rated by the Entertainment Software Rating Board. For information about the ESRB rating please visit [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org).

## COMPLETE CONTROLS

Get a handle on these controls to stay competitive on the ice, and refer to the Advanced Controls section (p. 3) when you're ready to take your game to the next level.

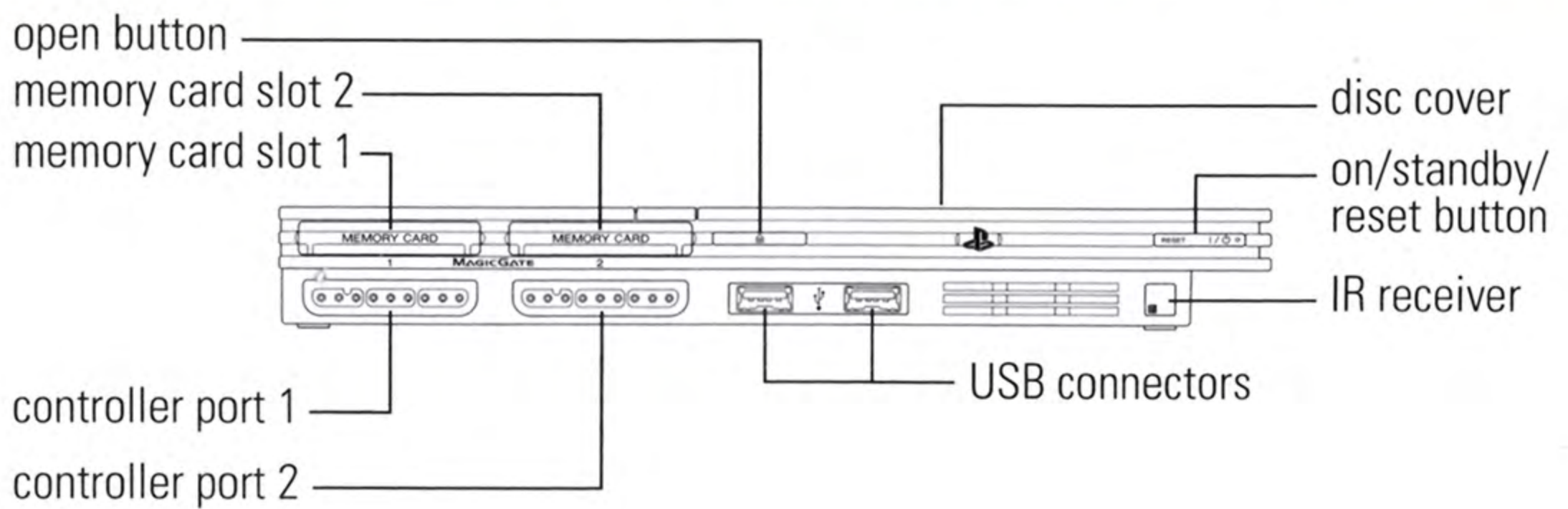
### OFFENSE

	HYBRID CONTROLS	CLASSIC CONTROLS
<b>SKATING</b>	Skate	left analog stick
	Speed burst	<b>L1</b> button
	Deke	right analog stick ←/→
	Auto deke/Spin deke	△ button/ <b>R1</b> button
	Deke modifier/Cancel shot	<b>R1</b> button
	Open Ice Control	□ button
	Open Ice Support	○ button
<b>SHOOTING</b>	EA SPORTS™ Skill Stick (see p. 5)	N/A
	Wind up/Fake shot	right analog stick ↓
	Snap shot	right analog stick ↑
	Slap shot	right analog stick ↓ then ↑
	Wrist shot	right analog stick slightly ↙/↘ then ↑/↓
<b>PASSING</b>	Quick pass	<b>R2</b> button/⊗ button
	Manual pass	<b>R2</b> button (hold) + right analog stick in any direction
	Draw puck during face off	right analog stick/⊗ button

### DEFENSE

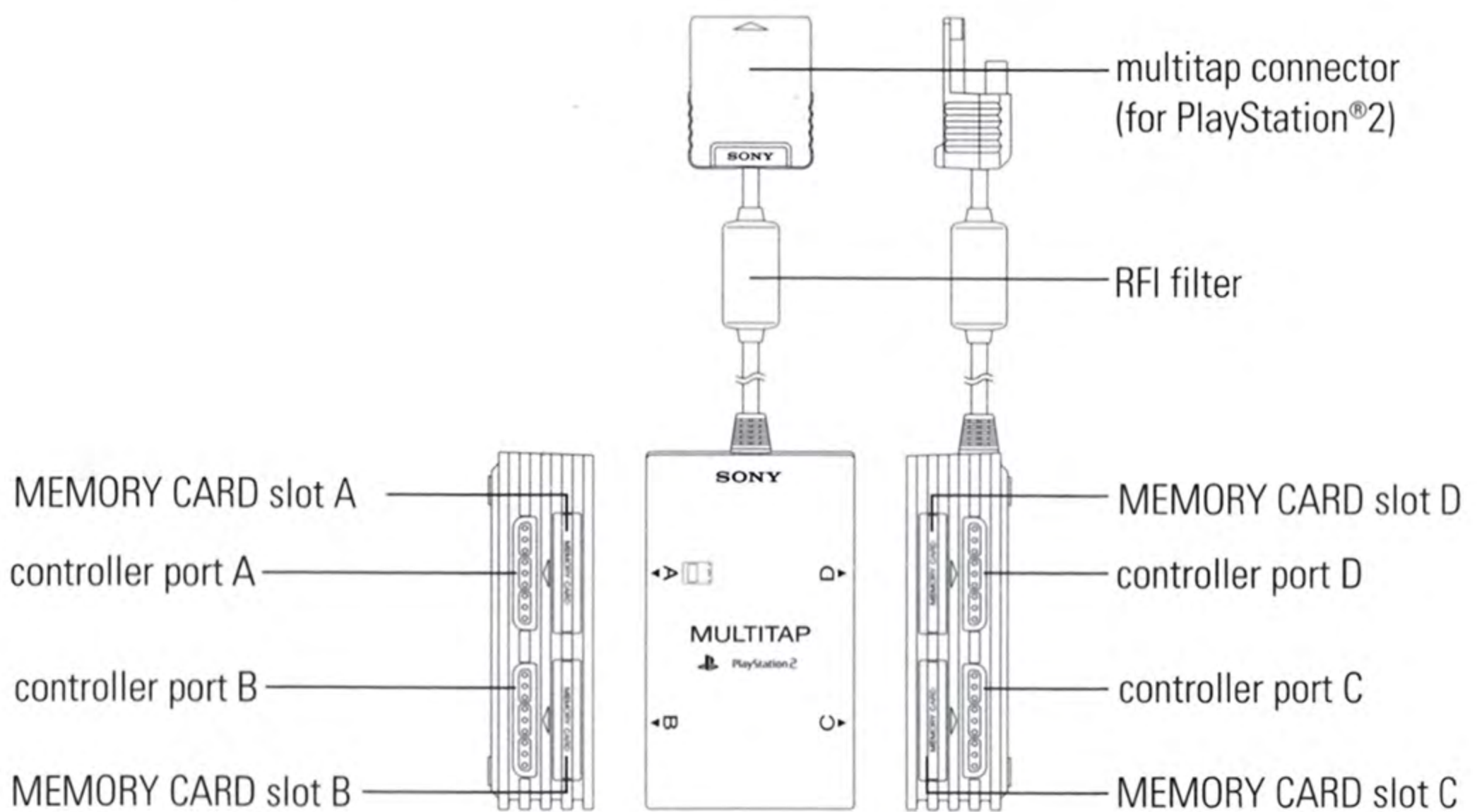
	HYBRID CONTROLS	CLASSIC CONTROLS
Move	left analog stick	left analog stick
Switch player	⊗ button (hold for goalie)	⊗ button (hold for goalie)
Body check	right analog stick	△ button
Poke check	<b>R1</b> button	□ button
Manual poke check	<b>R1</b> button + right analog stick	<b>L1</b> button
Hook/Tie up	△ button	○ button
Block pass	○ button	<b>R2</b> button
Dive/Block	□ button	<b>L2</b> button
Speed burst	<b>L1</b> button	<b>R1</b> button

# GETTING STARTED



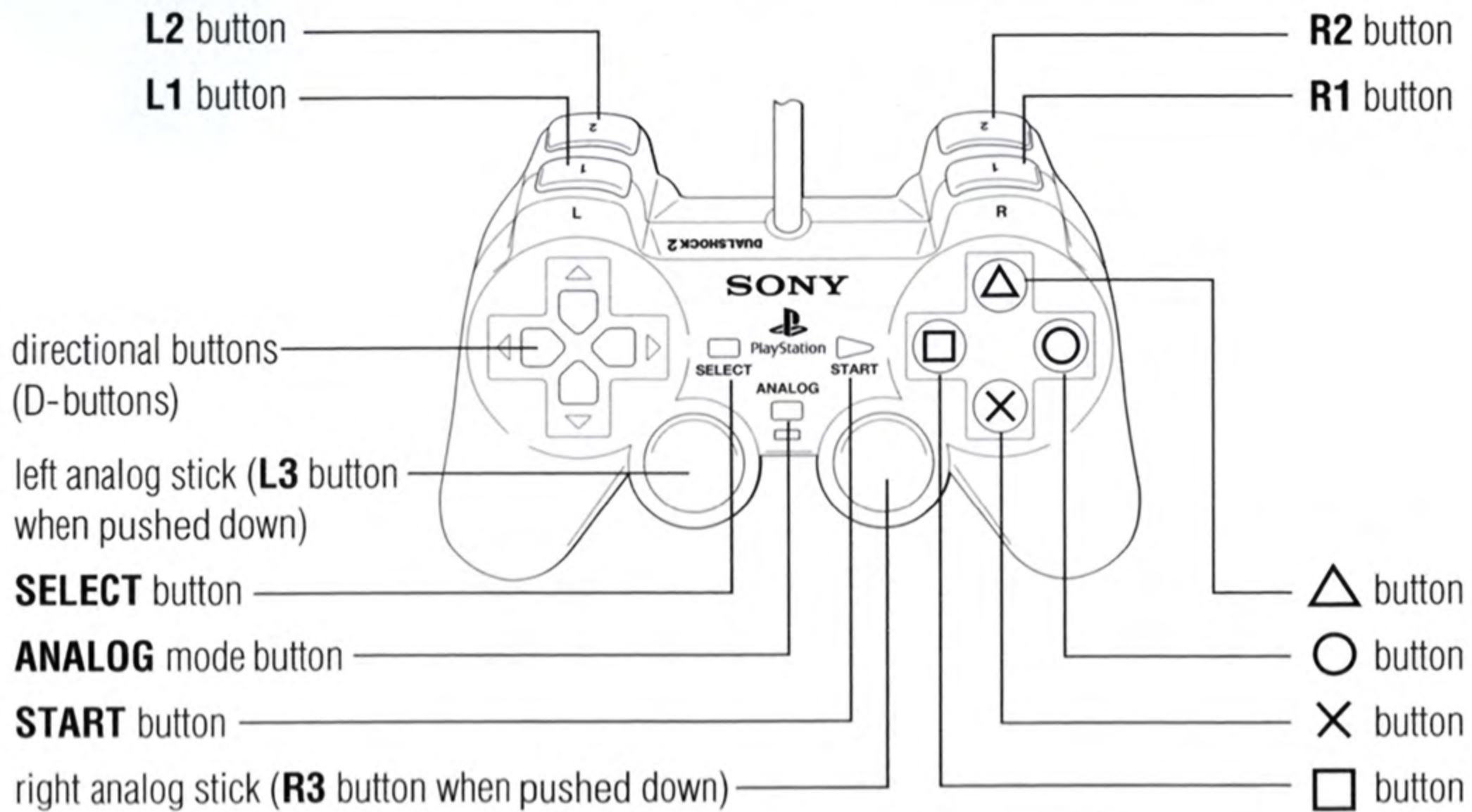
1. Set up your PlayStation®2 computer entertainment system according to the instructions supplied with your system.
2. Check that the system is turned on (the on/standby indicator is green).
3. Insert the *NHL® 08* disc in the system with the label side facing up.
4. Attach game controllers and other peripherals as appropriate.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions and refer to this manual for information on using the software.

**NOTE:** When using the multitap (for PlayStation®2), a controller must be connected to controller port 1-A.



# STARTING UP

## DUALSHOCK®2 ANALOG CONTROLLER CONFIGURATIONS



## COMPLETE CONTROLS (CONT.)

### COACHING STRATEGY

	HYBRID CONTROLS	CLASSIC CONTROLS
Offensive/Defensive strategies	D-button ←/→	D-button ←/→
Select face-off strategy	left analog stick	left analog stick
Line change	D-button ↑	D-button ↑
Vision control	<b>L2</b> button	N/A
Pull goalie	<b>SELECT</b> button	<b>SELECT</b> button
Pause game	<b>START</b> button	<b>START</b> button

**NOTE:** You may pull your goalie by selecting PULL GOALIE in the Pause menu.

### FIGHTING

Initiate fight	D-button ↓
Punch high/low	○ button/× button
Block high/low	Δ button/□ button



[WWW.EASPORTS.COM](http://WWW.EASPORTS.COM)

# PLAYING THE GAME

Lace up your skates, go directly to the ice, and settle the score with a Play Now game.

## USER PROFILES

Keep track of your personal stats with a User Profile. An active User Profile saves Dynasty Mode™ statistics to your memory card (8MB)(for PlayStation®2).

## CHOOSE TEAMS/STRATEGIES

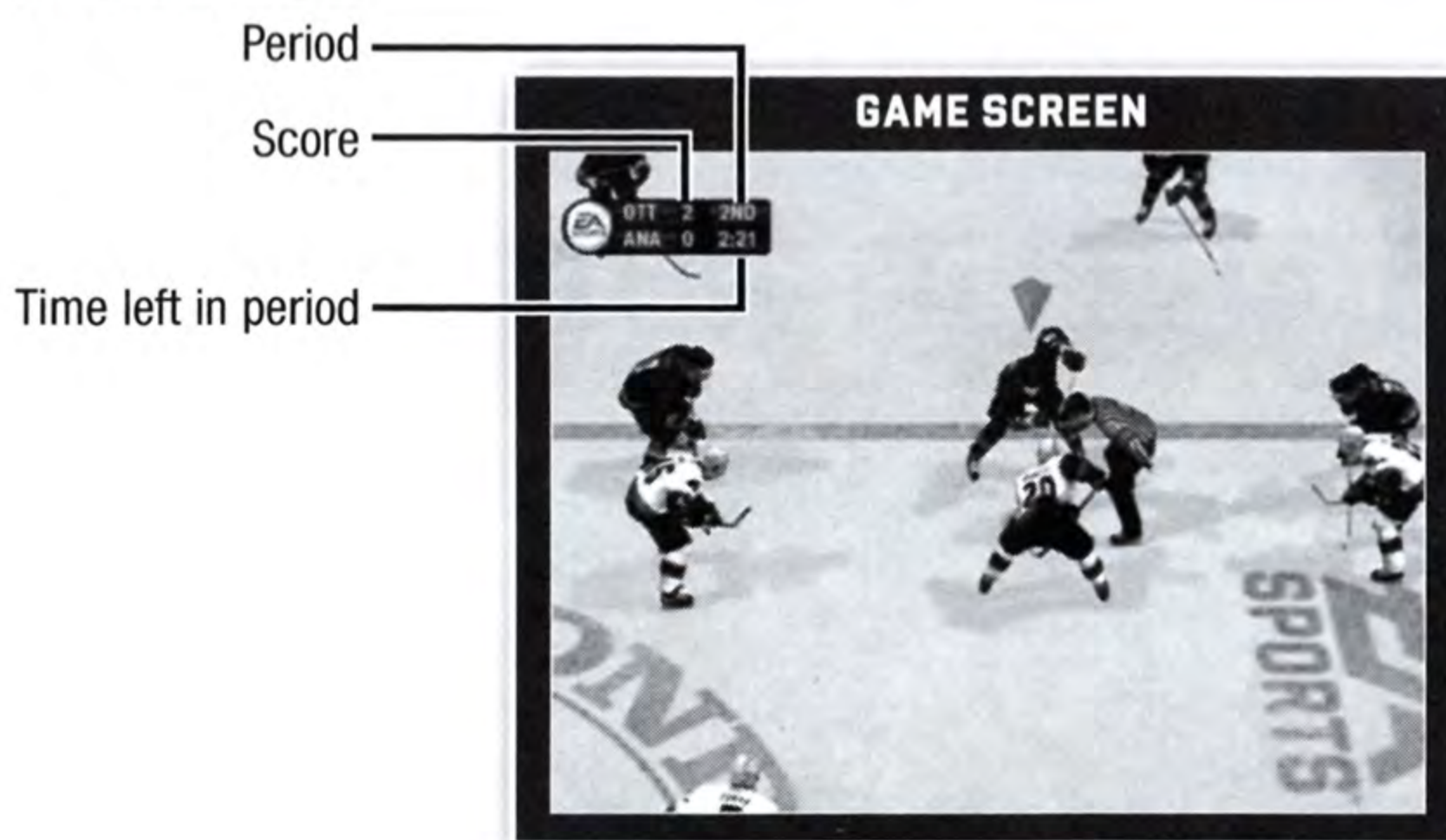
After selecting NHL®, AHL, European Elite, or Custom teams for the upcoming game you have the option to adjust your team strategies. You can set your Quick Plays, along with strategies for specific lines, including your power play and penalty kill units. Additionally, select the Home, Away, Alternate, or Vintage sweaters your players will wear when they hit the ice.

## Quick Settings

Select the skill level for the next game, along with camera angles, rules, and period length.

From the Advanced Settings screen, set your Line Changes to AUTO, OFF, or MANUAL, or Shot Aim to AUTO or MANUAL. When set to MANUAL, you are in full control of the action.

## ON THE ICE



## NEW HYBRID CONTROLS

The skater's movement and puck handling are more in your control than ever as you skate, pass, shoot, and defend with Hybrid Controls. Pressing the right analog stick puts you in complete command of your hockey stick, and allows you to send your opponent crashing into the boards.

For those old school players, Classic Controls remain an option. Custom Controls even let you alter the Classic Controls so you can set up the control scheme that you've always wanted. Access the Rules and Options menu to select your preferred method of controlling your team's destiny.

## NEW BUDDY BUZZ

You're wide open but your teammate doesn't notice you in the clear for a scoring opportunity. Get his attention in no time with the all-new Buddy Buzz, the new communication feature for two players. When playing with a friend on the same team, press the **R3** button to cause his controller to vibrate and let him know that you're ready for the puck. Once he is buzzed the player you're controlling taps his stick, so get ready for your buddy's sizzling pass before you one-time the puck into the back of the net.

## NEW AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE (AHL)

Now you can control and manage the hockey stars of tomorrow with all 29 teams comprising the American Hockey League (AHL). Pit the future of the NHL in head-to-head competition and navigate your way through the battle-hardened and road-weary minor league system. Choose the Wilkes-Barre Scranton Penguins, Rockford IceHogs, or any of the other teams in the AHL and take them all the way to the coveted Calder Cup®.

## EA SPORTS™ SKILL STICK 2.0

Control the puck like the pros with an enhanced EA SPORTS Skill Stick. By pressing the right analog stick, elevate passing, shooting, and deking to NHL All-Star levels. Press and hold the **R2** button and point the EA SPORTS Skill Stick in the direction you want the puck to travel to perform a pass. Pressing the right analog stick **↑** executes a slick snap shot while pressing the right analog stick **↓** winds up a blistering slap shot. Press the right analog stick **←/→** and deke defenders and goalies into submission. Players can also perform quick-fakes and spin dekes by rotating the EA SPORTS Skill Stick.

## TARGETS

Shooting accuracy and precision are all but assured with the assistance of in-net targets (when your Shot Aim is set to MANUAL). During scoring opportunities, a target icon appears between the goal posts and inside the net—press the left analog stick during your windup to move the target to an open part of the net. Once an opening appears, blast the puck on-net and light the lamp as you celebrate the first of many goals to come.

## OPEN ICE SUPPORT/CONTROL

Open Ice Support alerts a teammate to block defensemen on your way to the net. Time it right and scoring will never seem so easy.

Open Ice Control allows the AI to take over the player handling the puck so you can position another player to receive a pass.

## SAVING AND LOADING

Before exiting a game mode (or a menu where changes have been made), be sure to save your progress to a memory card or else all unsaved information will be lost. You can also save or load manually by accessing the SAVE/LOAD screen.

# PLAY ONLINE

Become the most formidable hockey phenomenon ever witnessed as you overwhelm the best online players from around the world.

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED TO ACCESS ONLINE FEATURES. TERMS & CONDITIONS AND FEATURE UPDATES ARE FOUND AT [www.ea.com](http://www.ea.com). YOU MUST BE 13+ TO REGISTER ONLINE.**

**EA MAY RETIRE ONLINE FEATURES AFTER 30 DAYS NOTICE POSTED ON [www.ea.com](http://www.ea.com) OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE LAST DAY OF THE 2007-2008 NHL SEASON.**

A network adaptor (Ethernet/modem) (for PlayStation®2) and a memory card (8MB)(for PlayStation®2) with Your Network Configuration file inserted into MEMORY CARD slot 1 are required to play *NHL 08* online. *NHL 08* is compatible with Your Network Configuration files created from other PlayStation®2 online games. You can use the Network Adaptor Start-Up Disc that came with your network adaptor (Ethernet/modem) (for PlayStation®2) or the Network Configuration GUI in this game to create a network configuration. Your Network Configuration file requires 94KB of free space on the memory card (8MB)(for PlayStation®2).

## PLAYING ONLINE

In order to play *NHL 08* online, you must create a Network Configuration file and a new EA Account by following the on-screen instructions. If you already have an EA Account and a Network Configuration saved on a memory card, they appear automatically.

## PLAYING BEHIND A FIREWALL

We recommend that you do not play behind a firewall. However, if you do wish to play behind a firewall, you must open the following ports: **3658** (peer-to-peer connection); **6000** (VOIP).

## WELCOME TO NHL 08 ONLINE

The Online lobby is your main resource for connecting to players from around the world. All the tools you need to join other hockey enthusiasts are available from the Online menus.

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Play Now</b>      | Choose Play Now to find the next available player for Online play.   |
| <b>Session Match</b> | Selecting a Session Match allows you to tailor the game to the way you want to play. No rules? No problem. |
| <b>Lobby Match</b>   | Choose a Lobby match and play against players based on your skill level or country.                        |
| <b>EA™ Messenger</b> | Use EA Messenger to play or chat with your favorite players online.  |

# DYNASTY MODE™

Take on the role of GM (general manager), coach, and player and run your favorite franchise—whether it's any team in the NHL or any of the high-powered teams from the European Elite Leagues—for up to 10 seasons. For the ultimate team, build your team from scratch in the Fantasy Draft by drafting each and every NHL player who will wear your squad's sweater. See if you can withstand the pressure of an entire season and live up to your owner's expectations by increasing profits, capturing division and conference titles, and most importantly, winning the Stanley Cup®.

## Message Central

Keep up on the latest news from inside your own organization and around the league by checking your emails. Read important messages concerning the league, owner, staff, coaches, accounting, and players and respond accordingly. Be sure to read each message before they expire since emails are automatically deleted if you let them sit in your inbox too long.

## DYNASTY CENTRAL MENU

Make every off-the-ice move from the Dynasty Central menu. From playing the next game on your schedule to setting your Rules and Options, the everyday operations are managed here.

### Day-to-Day

Day-to-Day operations include playing or simulating games on the schedule, viewing the season calendar and team reports, and saving your dynasty.

### GM Options

As GM your team's success depends on your ability to multi-task. Adhering to the NHL's salary cap rules, trading players, signing free agents, viewing scouting reports, and preparing for the upcoming rookie draft are a few details that require your attention. Bolster your roster through player trades and tantalize the rest of the league by placing players on the trading block. Offer free agents contracts and receive instant feedback from them. You can also release players to free agency via the Contracts menu or send them to the minors by choosing COACHING OPTIONS then selecting MINOR LEAGUE MANAGEMENT. You have a team to build so get to work.

### Coaching Options

Be a hands-on coach and assume more control over the team by increasing or decreasing the practice schedule's workload, adjusting lines, managing your minor league rosters, tweaking game strategy, reviewing progress reports for every player on the team, and even changing jersey numbers. Coach with authority and see how your players respond.

### Stats Central

Crunch the numbers and use statistics to your advantage. Whether it's overall team standings and statistics to individual numbers and awards, this hub has the crucial data you need to alter and enhance your roster. See your statistical mastery translate into victories.

### Rules and Options

Set rules and options to fit your style of play. Gameplay settings, display settings, sound settings, and the controller configurations are all adjusted here.

## DURING THE SEASON

There's more to a season than simply suiting up and playing the games. For every hat trick, stick save, and game-winning goal, there are managerial and administrative issues that need to be addressed. It's up to you to manage your players' salaries and personalities while building hockey's next dynasty.

### MORALE

Every player on your team starts with a morale rating of 100. Lack of ice time, dollars spent on Team Functions, and losing streaks all contribute to a decrease in morale. View player morale on the Progress Reports screen. When morale decreases, player attributes also decline. In the Player Information screen a phrase next to each player explains how high his morale is at the moment. Use that information to make strategic decisions about which players are best suited for particular lines and massage those bruised egos to their best performance come game time.



## **OWNER'S TRUST SYSTEM**

The Owner's Trust System is a point system determined by your team's results on the ice and is calculated every game. Defeating a powerhouse team provides more points than a big win against a floundering team. Don't look past opponents, though, as losing a game your owner expected you to win will make your Owner's Trust Points suffer. Winning a game your owner expected you to lose, however, earns you a boost in Owner's Trust Points. If you have a strong team's number and beat them on numerous occasions, then your owner's expectation will change: he expects to win, regardless of the opponent.

Set the tone of your reign as GM and your owner's expectations by choosing the type of leadership style you plan to employ at the beginning of your Dynasty. Trust Points are gained or lost depending upon what kind of a GM you are. Some GMs are awarded more points per victory but lose more after a loss. Other GMs are able to upgrade their team immediately but see the upgrades come less often over the course of your career. When it comes to selecting your managerial style, choose wisely.

**NOTE:** The more Owner's Trust Points you earn, the more Stars you earn. Go to the Upgrade screen in the GM Options menu and use your Stars to upgrade your team in any of 15 categories. The more success you have, the more you can improve your team. This feature applies to NHL franchises only.

## **TYPES OF GENERAL MANAGERS**

### **PLAYED-OUT PROFESSIONAL**

Having played many years in the NHL and paid his dues, this GM begins the Dynasty with no probationary period. He also starts with higher Owner's Trust, and as a result, has slightly higher Owner's Expectations.

### **FINANCIAL FORECASTER**

A wizard with money, this GM is able to find every loophole and exploit every crack in any contract to help his team make money. Upgrades are available sooner when using him, but Owner's Expectations are also boosted, so be prepared to win now.

### **BRAW BOASTER**

The beat writer's favorite quote generator, this GM talks a big game. The amount of Owner's Trust Points increases with every win. When you lose, however, the amount of Trust Points lost increases. Be sure to back up the gift of gab with on-ice success.

### **INSIGHTFUL INVESTOR**

Long-term planning and slow, steady progress are the mottos of this GM. He provides you with at least one star upgrade in each and every category. All this planning comes at a price, though—your Owner's Trust Points build slower than they do with other GMs so it takes more winning to get your next upgrade star.

### **MASTERFUL MANAGER**

This is your vanilla GM. You don't start with any Advantages or Disadvantages.

### **PENNY PINCHER**

We all like to save money, owners of hockey teams especially. This GM takes fiscal responsibility to new level by slashing expenses and saving cash wherever possible. The owner rewards him for this with slightly lower expectations, but as a result upgrades become available for the team later.

### **INGENIOUS INTERCESSOR**

A wordsmith of sorts, this GM has the innate ability to spin any bad news for the owner into positive feedback, and is an excellent intermediary. He decreases the amount of points lost from losing games, but you also start with a lower than average Trust Level.

### **ADMINISTRATION AUDITOR**

This GM prefers to delegate responsibility and do his own thing. The Owner expects much less from him and your team starts out with lower Owner's Expectations, but you also start with the lowest level of Owner's Trust.

## **NHL ALL-STAR GAME**

Greatness is in abundance as the league's elite players gather for one night in Atlanta to play in the NHL All-Star game. Pit East vs. West or North America vs. the World and electrify the crowd in Philips Arena. The option is yours to play the game, regardless of whether you are simulating the season or not.

## POSTSEASON

There's no season like postseason and the tension is palpable. The harsh reality of the postseason is simple: winning is the only thing. Some teams advance to the playoffs while the rest stay home. Only one will be crowned champion. The playoffs can be viewed or simulated even if your team doesn't qualify for them.

## OFF-SEASON

In the off-season players recover from the grueling grind of the season and teams gear up for a fresh start beginning with the Entry Draft. After the draft GMs adjust rosters by offering contracts to free agents and releasing players from their team. After the free agent period ends, the rosters are set and the new season begins.

# OTHER GAME MODES

## PLAY NOW

Play an exhibition game with any two teams of your choice. After selecting the teams and adjusting the settings, the game begins.

## SEASON

Choose franchises from the NHL, AHL, or any of the Elite Leagues and begin the season and your quest for the Cup. This year you have a choice of 29 teams from the American Hockey League in addition to the four Elite Leagues: Elitserien (Sweden), SM-Liiga (Finland), DEL (Germany), and O2 Extraliga (Czech Republic).

## EA SPORTS™ WORLD TOURNAMENT

Team USA vs. Canada. Russia vs. Sweden. The game's gone global as the world's best teams compete in an 8- or 16-team World Tournament. You pick the teams, you set the rules, you play the games.

## EA SPORTS™ FREE FOR ALL

Featuring only one net and one goalie, play against up to four others in a Score Drive (play to a set number of goals) or On the Clock (play for a set amount of time) mini-game. It's you against everybody else, and the best goal-scorer wins.

## SHOOT OUT

Before you lace up the skates for real competition, iron out and hone your moves and breakaway skills in Shoot Out. Take on the goalie head-to-head in a one player format or compete against friends to see who has the finest shoot out abilities. Rebounded shots do not count.

## CREATION ZONE

Assemble the ultimate hockey weapon in Creation Zone. Use the analog facial sculpting controls and add black eyes, broken noses, and scars to strike fear into the hearts of your opponents. Have his place of birth be in your city or the most remote town in the Manitoba Province. Craft his on-ice demeanor and ability to emulate a finesse player or goon. Create an NHL team in your hometown or edit a player in the league with the player editor. It's up to you to create the ultimate hockey machine.

**NOTE:** To edit a player in the league, you must first transfer him to free agency. Only then can you access the player.

## ROSTERS

Cut players using roster management, and edit lines, determine jersey numbers, and set default rosters of every team. Make sure to go to SAVE ROSTERS before exiting to lock-in your changes or else any changes you make will be lost.

## RULES AND OPTIONS

Go to this menu to adjust your Settings, Rosters, Controller Configuration, and the songs in your EA SPORTS™ TRAX Jukebox.



You Played the Game. Now Play the Music.  
**EA Soundtracks and Ringtones**  
Available at [www.ea.com/eatrax/](http://www.ea.com/eatrax/)

# LIMITED 90-DAY WARRANTY

## ELECTRONIC ARTS LIMITED WARRANTY

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**Online:** <http://warrantyinfo.ea.com>

**Automated Warranty Information:** You can contact our automated phone system 24 hours a day for any and all warranty questions:

US 1 (650) 628-1001

## EA WARRANTY MAILING ADDRESS

Electronic Arts Customer Warranty  
P.O. Box 9025  
Redwood City, CA 94063-9025

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# GET EA CHEAT CODES AND GAME HINTS

Register your game online at  
**ea.onlineregister.com**

Enter your Game Access Code and receive:

- Exclusive access to an EA cheat code or hint—specifically for your game.
- The inside scoop on your favorite EA games.
- Full-care technical support.

GAME ACCESS CODE:

**15397**

**IT'S EASY. IT'S FAST. IT'S WORTH IT!**



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## Technical Support Contact Info

**E-mail and Website:** For instant access to all of our technical support knowledge, please visit <http://support.ea.com>.

**Telephone Support:** Technical Support is also available from 8am to 5pm PST by calling us at (650) 628-1001. No hints or codes are available from (650) 628-1001.

**Mailing Address:** Electronic Arts Technical Support  
P.O. Box 9025  
Redwood City, CA 94063-9025

If you live outside of the United States, you can contact one of our other offices.

In **Australia**, contact:  
Electronic Arts Pty. Ltd.  
P.O. Box 432  
Southport Qld 4215, Australia

In the **United Kingdom**, contact:  
Electronic Arts Ltd.  
P.O. Box 181  
Chertsey, KT16 0YL, UK  
Phone (0870) 2432435

In **Australia**: For Technical Support and Game Hints and Tips, phone the EA HOTLINE: 1 902 261 600 (95 cents per min.) CTS 7 days a week 10am to 8pm. If you are under 18 years of age parental consent required.

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