

2023-24 HANDBOOK



The 2023-24 Minnesota Hockey Handbook is dedicated to **DAVE KEMP** in appreciation for his outstanding service to young hockey players throughout Minnesota.

PROUD
AFFILIATE OF



MINNESOTAHOCKEY.ORG

REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENT FEES

	<u>Team Entry Fee</u>	<u>Team Gate Fee</u>
Region - Peewee/12U	\$750	\$650
Region - Bantam/15U	\$850	\$650
State	\$500	
		<u>Spectator Fee</u>
State - Tournament Pass		\$25
State - Daily Admission		\$15
State - Senior and Student Tournament Pass		\$15
State - Senior and Student Daily Admission		\$10
State - 10 and Under Admission		free
State - Armed Service Members (Veteran/Active Duty)		free

REGISTRATION DATES AND FEES

Player and Coach Registration

All Players and Coaches must register electronically via Cyber Sport.

	<u>MH Fee</u>	<u>USA Hockey Fee</u>
Players born in 2003 and before	\$1 per player	\$46 per player
Players born in 2004 to 2010	\$10 per player	\$70 per player
Players born in 2011 to 2014	\$10 per player	\$61 per player
Players born in 2015 to 2016	\$10 per player	\$50 per player
Players born in 2017 and after	No fee	\$15 per player
Coaches	\$1 per Coach	\$46 per Coach

Team Rosters

All teams except Adult..... Deadline Date – December 31

Player rosters must be approved prior to the first league or tournament game.

No roster changes after Dec. 31st to teams eligible for State Tournaments, with exceptions as approved by the District Director.

Adult.....Deadline Date – February 15

Insurance coverage is provided to all registered coaches, players and managers and includes general liability, catastrophic medical and participant (excess) accident, subject to the exclusions, limitations, deductibles and terms of USA Hockey's insurance policies. These insurance coverages are in effect while participating on a USAH registered team during a USAH sanctioned event. In addition, Director's and Officer's Liability insurance and Crime insurance is provided to the MH Board, District Boards and the Boards of all Associations.

Tournament Sanctioning Fees For MH Affiliates

Refer to Youth Rules, Section XI for details.

	<u>MH Fee</u>	<u>USA Hockey Fee</u>
Only MH Teams	\$100 per level	No Fee
Teams from outside MH	\$100 per level	\$250 per Tourn.
Teams from outside USA	\$100 per level	\$250 per Tourn.

Note: MH fee for tourn's hosted by non-MH-Affiliates is \$50/team (not \$100/level)

MH AGE CLASSIFICATIONS FOR THE 2023-24 SEASON

<u>Youth/Adult</u>	<u>Girls/Women</u>		
Adult	5/31/04 and older	Women	12/31/03 and older
Junior Gold	6/1/04 to 5/31/08	19 & Under	1/1/04 to 5/31/07
Junior Gold 16	6/1/06 to 5/31/08		
MN Bantam	6/1/08 to 5/31/10	MN 15U (13/14/15)	6/1/07 to 5/31/10
MN Peewee	6/1/10 to 5/31/12	MN 12U (11/12)	6/1/10 to 5/31/12
MN Squirt	6/1/12 to 5/31/14	MN 10U (9/10)	6/1/12 to 5/31/14
MN Mite	6/1/14 and younger	MN 8U	6/1/14 & younger
MN Mini-Mite	6/1/16 and younger		

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Minnesota Hockey’s Vision and Mission

- Create a positive experience so all participants enjoy, excel and develop a lifelong passion for ice hockey.
- Partner with community associations, districts, programs and leagues to provide leadership, structure, education and programs to grow participation and develop hockey and life skills in a positive and safe environment.

2024 State Tournament Locations

Youth		Girls	
Junior Gold A	South St. Paul	19 & Under	Blaine (Fogerty)
Junior Gold B	Buffalo	15 & Under A	Fairmont
Junior Gold 16	South St. Paul	15 & Under B	Blaine (Fogerty)
Bantam AA	Grand Rapids	12 & Under A	Marshall
Bantam A	Virginia/Rock Ridge	12 & Under B	Blaine (Fogerty)
Bantam B	Proctor		
Pewee AA	Shakopee		
Pewee A	Shakopee		
Pewee B	Cloquet		

2023-24 CALENDAR

Sept. 22-24, 2023	MN Hockey Fall Meeting – Thumper Pond, Ottertail
Sep 24, 2023	2023 Region & State Tournament Hosting Packages Due
Oct. 2, 2023	MN District Girls 14 Tier II Playoffs – The Super Rink
Oct. 7-8, 2023	MN District Youth/Girls 14U Tier I Playoffs – Plymouth
Oct 7-8, 2023	MN District Youth 15 Only Tier 1 Playoffs – Plymouth
Oct 7-8, 2023	MN Youth 14U Tier II Playoffs – Plymouth
Oct 13, 2023	MGHCA Fall Clinic
Oct 15, 2023	National Tournament Declarations Youth/Girls Tier I and II Due
Oct 20-22, 2023	CCM HP Girls 14s National Invitational Tournament – Andover
Oct. 25-26, 2023	Girls 16U and 19U Tier 1 Playoffs – St. Louis Park
Oct 28-29, 2023	MN Youth 16U Tier I Playoffs – St. Louis Park ROC Rink
Oct. 28-29, 2023	MN Youth 18U Tier II Playoff – St. Louis Park
Oct. 28-29, 2023	MN District Girls 16U & 19U Tier II Playoffs – The Super Rink
Oct. 30, 2023	HS Girls Hockey start date
Nov 4, 2023	Try Hockey for Free Day - Various Sites
Nov. 7, 2023	MN District Youth 16U Tier I Playoffs – St. Louis Park West
Nov 13, 2023	HS Boys Hockey start date
Nov 15, 2023	National Tournament Declarations High School/Senior Women Due
Nov 16-19, 2023	NHL Sled Classic – Tampa, FL
Dec 31, 2023	Traveling Team rosters frozen
Dec 31, 2023	District, Region & State Tournament brackets due to Chair of Tournaments
Jan 19-21, 2024	MN Hockey Winter Meeting - Virtual
Jan 25-28, 2024	USA Hockey Winter meeting - Orlando, FL
Jan 27, 2024	Hockey Day Minnesota – Warroad
Feb 1, 2024	Last day for sanctioning invitational tournaments
Feb 21-24, 2024	Girls' State High School Hockey Tourney - Xcel Energy Center
Feb 25, 2024	MN Hockey District Tournaments must be complete
Feb. 24, 2024	Try Hockey for Free Day - Various Sites
Mar. 1-3, 2024	MN Hockey Region Tournaments - Various Sites
Mar 1-3, 2024	Senior Classic All-Star Series
Mar 6-9, 2024	Boys' State High School Hockey Tourney - Xcel Energy Center
Mar 15-17, 2024	MN Hockey State Tournaments - various sites
Mar 18-30, 2024	CCM Youth & Girls HP 14s & 15s tryouts & district teams formed
Mar 18-Apr 7, 2024	CCM Youth HP 16s & 17s tryouts
Mar 20-24, 2024	USAH High School National Tournament – West Chester, PA
Apr 1-7, 2024	CCM Girls HP 16s, 17s & 18s tryouts
Apr 1-17,2024	CCM Youth & Girls HP 14s & 15s Skills Sessions
Apr 2-7, 2024	USAH Youth/Girls Tier I/Tier II National Championships – various sites
Apr 8-17, 2024	CCM Youth HP 16/17 & Girls HP 16/17/18 Skills Sessions
Apr 11-14, 2024	USA D-fest: Warriors National Championship – Wayne, NJ
Apr26-28, 2024	MN Hockey Annual Meeting - Marriott Minneapolis West
Apr 18-21, 2024	Sled National Championship – Westchester, PA
Apr 18-21, 2024	CCM Youth HP 14s & 15s - Seeding Games
Apr 19-21, 2024	CCM Ted Brill Great 8 & HP 18 HS Festival
Apr 19-21, 2024	CCM Youth HP 16/17 & Girls HP 16/17/18 Spring Festivals
Apr 20 & 21, 2024	CCM Girls HP 14s & 15s - Play In Games
Apr 26-28, 2024	CCM Youth & Girls HP 14s & 15s Spring Festivals
Apr 26-28, 2024	CCM HP Youth National Invitational Tournament – Plymouth
Apr 26-28, 2024	Special Hockey International - Bost, MA
Apr 26-28, 2024	Youth HP 16/17 & Girls HP 16/17/18 Final 54
May 1-Jul 1, 2024	CCM Youth Tier 1 & Tier II Tryouts
May 1-4, 2024	Association Leader Excellence Conference - Marriott Minneapolis West
May 15-Jun 30, 2024	CCM Girls & Youth 13s, 14s and 15s Tier 1 Tryouts
May 24, 2024	MN Hockey Budget Requests Due
Jun 5-8, 2024	USA Hockey Annual Meeting - Denver
Jun 8-13, 2024	CCM Girls HP 15 Summer Developmental Camp – St. Olaf
Jun 9-14, 2024	CCM Youth HP 15 Summer Developmental Camp - St. Cloud State
Jun 16-20, 2024	CCM Girls HP 14 Summer Developmental Camp – St. Olaf
Jun 16-20, 2024	CCM Youth HP 14 Summer Developmental Camp – St. Cloud State
Jun 21-23, 2024	MN Hockey Summer Meeting - Marriott Minneapolis West
TBD	CCM HP Model Camp - Minneapolis
July 9, 2024	Minnesota Hockey Golf Benefit - Bunker Hills
Jul/Aug, 2024	USA Hockey Select 15/16/17 National Camps - sites TBD
Jul/Aug, 2024	USA Hockey Girls 15/16/17 National Camps - sites TBD
Aug 1-4, 2024	CCM Dave Peterson Goalie and Shooting Camp – St. Olaf
Sep 20-22, 2024	MN Hockey Fall Meeting – Marriott Courtyard, Mankato

NOTE: The calendar on the minnesotahockey.org website has additional info and updates

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For e-mail contact info, please refer to the minnesotahockey.org website

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AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION MINNESOTA HOCKEY, INC.

(Amended 1970, 1981, 1996 and 2003)

We, Dennis Green and William P. McDonald, President and Secretary, respectively, of Minnesota Hockey, Inc., a nonprofit corporation having no stock or stockholders and duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota and having its principal place of business in the City of St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota, do hereby certify that at the quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of Minnesota Hockey, Inc. duly called and held in the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on the Twenty-sixth day of January 2003, in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota nonprofit Corporation Act, as amended, the following resolution amending the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the corporation in their entirety was adopted by unanimous vote of all Directors present at said meeting, said resolution being as follows:

RESOLVED: That the amended Articles of Incorporation in the form attached to and made a part of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on January 26, 2003, be, and they hereby are, adopted to be effective immediately. We further certify that the amended Articles of Incorporation referred to in the above resolution are as hereinafter set forth:

I. The name of the corporation shall be MINNESOTA HOCKEY, INC., and the location of the registered office shall be in the City of St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota.

II. Purposes of the corporation: To encourage and improve the standard of youth and other amateur ice hockey in the Minnesota area; to conduct ice hockey tournaments; to select representative teams to participate in tournaments; to associate with other ice hockey associations; to do any and all acts necessary or desirable in the furtherance of the foregoing purposes; to buy, sell, lease and otherwise deal in all kinds of property, real, personal and mixed, for the purpose of creating further interest in youth and other amateur hockey.

III. This corporation shall have no capital stock.

IV. No part of the property or income of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, directors, trustees, officers, or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article Two hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.)

V. Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all liabilities of the corporation, shall distribute the remaining assets of the corporation to such other non-profit organization(s) promoting amateur hockey in the state of Minnesota in such proportions as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by order of the District Court of Hennepin County, Minnesota, to non-profit organization(s) operated exclusively for such purposes, as said Court shall determine.

VI. Neither the members, directors, trustees or officers of the corporation shall be personally liable for any obligation of the corporation of any nature whatsoever, nor shall any of the property of any member or officer of the corporation be subject to payment of obligations of the corporation to any extent whatsoever.

VII. The name and post office address of each of the original incorporators was:

Walter L. Bush, Jr.	Robert B. Ridder	Alfred J. Crary
600 Midland Building	Radio City Building	2124 West 60th Street
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota	Minneapolis 2, Minnesota	Minneapolis 19, Minnesota

VIII. The qualifications and conditions of membership, the limitation, if any upon the number of members, and the conditions of termination of membership shall be provided for in the By-Laws. Annual dues required to be paid by members shall be in the amount as shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The amount of dues need not be uniform as to all members, provided that the amount required of each member is determined upon a uniform basis. The Board of Directors in determining such a basis may take into consideration the number of teams in a member league, and whether or not the member teams play to a paid gate. Members may be required to pay in addition to annual dues an assessment based upon a percentage of gate receipts of member teams, not to exceed five percent of such receipts.

IX. The management of this corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors. The terms of office of the Directors other than the members of the first Board of Directors and the method by which they shall be appointed shall be fixed by the By-Laws and may be altered by amending the By-Laws. The number of Directors constituting the first Board of Directors shall be three. The name and post office addresses of each of the Directors was:

Walter L. Bush, Jr.	Robert B. Ridder	Alfred J. Crary
600 Midland Building	Radio City Building	2124 West 60th Street
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota	Minneapolis 2, Minnesota	Minneapolis 19, Minnesota

The term of office of the Directors shall be until the first annual meeting of the Corporation, or until successors are elected and qualified.

X. The corporation is to have perpetual existence.

XI. The Board of Directors shall adopt By-Laws for management of the corporation and shall have the authority to amend the By-Laws from time to time.

XII. These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by the Board of Directors upon receiving a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Directors entitled to vote on the proposed amendment, as provided by the By-Laws. Notice of the meeting and of the proposed amendment must be given at least twenty-eight (28) days prior to voting on the amendment.

BY-LAWS

By-Laws include Amendments as of June 2023

ARTICLE 1 - JURISDICTION

The exclusive jurisdiction of Minnesota Hockey, Inc. (MH) is the entire State of Minnesota. Any team joining USA Hockey (USAH) automatically comes under the jurisdiction and control of the local, district and state associations affiliated with USA Hockey (USA Hockey By-Law No. 3).

MH shall have jurisdiction over all member-team activities, including but not limited to, registration of teams, formation of leagues, sanctioning of tournaments, and conducting playoffs and Region and State tournaments. Activities involving MH teams must be sanctioned by MH. Applications for hosting a USA Hockey National Tournament in Minnesota must be presented to and approved by the MH Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 2 - USA HOCKEY PREEMINENCE

MH, an Affiliate of USAH, shall abide by and act in accord with the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules and decisions of the USAH Board of Directors, and such documents and decisions shall take precedence over and supersede all similar governing documents and/or decisions of MH. Further, MH shall assist USAH in the administration and enforcement of the provisions of the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules and decisions of the Board of Directors of USAH, within and upon its members and/or within its jurisdiction, and agrees to be guided by the following USAH core values:

SPORTSMANSHIP - Foremost of all values is to learn a sense of fair play. Become humble in victory, gracious in defeat. We will foster friendship with teammates and opponents alike.

RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL - Treat all others as you expect to be treated.

INTEGRITY - Foster honesty and fair play beyond mere strict interpretation of the rules and regulations.

PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE - Each member of the organization, whether player, volunteer or staff, should seek to perform each aspect of the game to the highest level of his or her ability.

ENJOYMENT - The hockey experience must be fun, satisfying and rewarding for the participants.

LOYALTY - We aspire to teach loyalty to the ideals and fellow members of the sport of hockey.

TEAMWORK - Working together makes us stronger - teamwork is reinforced by the hockey experience.

USAH acknowledges that MH is and shall remain a separate entity with complete authority to conduct its affairs and programs, subject only to the express obligations and restrictions contained in this By-law and in its affiliate agreement with USAH.

MH shall at all times maintain its tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. MH shall provide an annual financial report of operations to the Executive Director of USAH.

ARTICLE 3 - INDEMNITY

MH shall indemnify and hold harmless USAH, the USAH Board of Directors and each member thereof, the Executive Committee of USAH and each member thereof, councils and committees of USAH and each member thereof, and all other elected, appointed, employed or volunteer representatives of USAH from any and all claims, liability, judgments, costs, attorney fees, charges and expenses whatsoever, arising from acts and omissions of MH, except to the extent (i) that USAH or its afore-described representatives caused such claims, liability, judgments, costs, attorney fees, charges or expenses by their own intentional neglect or default or (ii) that such acts or omissions were the direct result of compliance with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules or decisions of the USAH Board of Directors. Further, MH understands and acknowledges that USAH and its afore-described representatives have assumed such assignment, function, office or capacity upon the express understanding, agreement and condition that they be so indemnified and held harmless to the extent described in this bylaw.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP

INDIVIDUAL SUSTAINING MEMBERS: Interested persons may become individual members by paying annual dues in the amount of \$46 to USA Hockey and \$1 or \$10, depending on age, to MN Hockey. The period of individual membership shall run from April 1 to August 31.

CORPORATE SUSTAINING MEMBERS: Interested corporations or unincorporated organizations may become corporate members by payment of annual dues in an amount to be negotiated. Such Corporate Sustaining Members may advertise or make known their affiliation with MH.

AFFILIATE MEMBERS: Any community-based association, geographically bound, whose teams wish to participate in MH must sign a MH Affiliate Agreement and pay annual fees in an amount established by the Board of Directors to become an Affiliate Member. Affiliate members shall have the right to vote for a director from the district in which the member has been assigned by the Board of Directors. Each affiliate member shall be entitled to select one representative who shall thereupon be a member of this corporation and shall be entitled to cast votes in the District Caucus for the purpose of electing the District Director, according to the affiliate's number of registered participants.

OFF-SEASON AFFILIATE MEMBERS: Any organization whose teams wish to participate in USAH/MH sanctioned off-season activities shall submit an application a minimum of 45 days in advance of the first event accompanied with a \$750 per team annual fee, register all the organization's teams with USAH and MH, and execute a MH Off-Season Affiliate Agreement to become an Off-Season Affiliate, which agreement shall be effective upon execution by the MH President. Off-Season Affiliate Members shall be represented by the MH Hockey Operations Vice President.

AFFILIATE AGREEMENTS: The District Dir. or Director responsible for the group (Disabled, Adults, Women, etc.) has authority to sign Affiliate Agreements. The President may appoint someone to sign Affiliate Agreements in special cases (see also Bylaw Article 11). Affiliates may advertise/make known their MH affiliation.

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING: Only players, coaches and team officials who maintain membership in good standing with their past or present local affiliate will be registered and rostered on MH teams. Good standing includes both financial and conduct obligations and discipline. Any financial obligation, suspension or discipline which extends beyond the current season will be applied to all MH affiliates until the party is in good standing. In cases of multiple players from a single family [parent(s) or court-appointed legal guardian(s)], all players must be in good standing to be registered, rostered or transferred.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Any person elected as a director or officer shall be a member of this corporation with such powers and duties as are established in the Articles and By-Laws.

ARTICLE 5 - REGISTRATION

- A. Affiliate members whose team(s) intend to participate with any other MH or USAH team(s) must register all of their players and coaches and all of their teams in accordance with the rules and regulations of their respective playing division, and list all of their players and coaches on an official USAH Roster.
- B. Except for existing teams and programs in place at the end of the 2018-19 Season, no Association may form a Team registered by the Association for reasons other than age (Classification), skill (Division) or gender (Youth, Girls). All Players who are otherwise eligible for a Team shall be allowed to register and tryout for the team(s). This rule shall not apply to mite, U8, or mini-mite teams which may be formed on a geographic or school attendance basis.
- C. Male and female players shall be allowed to participate or try out for all Youth and Adult teams while only female players are allowed to participate or try out for Girls and Women's teams.
- D. No player shall be registered with two or more MH/USAH teams at the same time regardless of division or classification. Exceptions may be made for House League teams, MH Tier 1 teams, and women hockey players only. (Refer to Youth Rules and Regulations and to Women's Operating Rules)
- E. Out of state and Canadian teams playing in leagues under the jurisdiction of MH shall comply with all regulations of this Article of these By-Laws.
- F. MH registered teams shall not participate with teams that are not registered with USAH or that have been outlawed by MH or USAH (see By-Laws entitled "CHA Relations" and "International Competition"). Where limited competition is available, Junior Gold and 19 & Under teams may play HS Varsity or JV teams with the permission of their MH District Director and the USAH Minnesota District Registrar in that order. Additionally, 15U and 16U teams may play HS JV teams under the approval provisions above, with the condition that if the association involved has multiple teams in either the 15 & Under or 16 & Under divisions, only the highest level team in that division will be considered. Failure to obtain proper permission to play a non-registered team may result in sanctions, including being ineligible to play in MH playoff tournaments.
- G. MH teams must have permission from their district director to compete in invitational tournaments held outside of MN. To compete in USAH National Tournaments, teams must be certified by MH and the USAH Minnesota District Registrar. Travel permits are required for all games or tournaments held outside of the US – contact the USAH Minnesota District Registrar for details. Teams not receiving permission may be subject to suspension.

ARTICLE 6 - AUTHORITY - APPEALS - SUSPENSIONS - COURT ACTIONS

- A. **Authority - Disciplinary Actions - Suspensions:**
 - 1. Minnesota Hockey and its Directors, leagues and affiliates have the authority to manage their programs and issue discipline to any party within their jurisdiction. This includes suspension, probation, censure, financial penalty, right to refuse membership, or other forms of discipline.
 - 2. In cases where such discipline leads to a suspension of the party, a Hearing as outlined in this Article is required. Except as modified in this Article, the hearing shall be governed by USA Hockey Bylaw 10.
 - 3. Exclusions: Hearings are not required for automatic playing rule suspensions, suspensions of officials per MHOA Bylaws, or situations outlined in USAH Bylaw 10 "Exclusions From Unified Procedure".
 - 4. Any Summary Suspension (suspension upon receipt of allegations and prior to a full hearing) must be approved by the MH SafeSport Coordinator.
- B. **Right to Refuse Membership:** Associations have the right to refuse membership into its Association to a party who: (a) either themselves or their family members have in the past violated the Rules of MH or the affiliate of refusing membership which justifies such refusal; and (b) there are equivalent programs offered within MH in which the party can participate.
 - 1. In cases where an Association refuses registration to a party, a Hearing as outlined in this Article is required. Except as modified in this Article, the hearing shall be governed by USA Hockey Bylaw 10.
 - 2. The Association refusing registration of any member must agree to a Discretionary Waiver if the player is accepted for registration with another association.
- C. **Administrative Action:** An action or decision by an Authority having jurisdiction that affects any party's membership or their eligibility to participate.
- D. **Disputes:** Authorities having jurisdiction are required to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of disputes (grievances), including notice and opportunity for a Hearing if applicable.

1. A party contesting an Administrative Action shall be afforded a Hearing.
 2. An Authority conducting a Hearing pursuant to this section shall first investigate the circumstances leading to the Hearing to determine if the situation can be resolved short of a Hearing. If resolution cannot be achieved, the Authority shall conduct the Hearing pursuant to the requirements of this Article. The investigation required by this section shall not delay the timing of the Hearing as required herein.
- E. **Hearings:** USA Hockey has developed a unified process on how to conduct Hearings (USAH Bylaw 10). The local authority having jurisdiction (local association, league or District) that conducts the Hearing must closely follow this process to resolve disputes.
1. The local authority having jurisdiction must hear disputes within thirty (30) days, provide a minimum of seven days' notice of the Hearing date and location, and make reasonable efforts to convene the hearing in a location accessible to all parties. The Hearing Notice must include the process and rules that will be used to conduct the Hearing. In suspension/discipline cases, the grounds for the proposed suspension/ discipline, the consequences of an adverse finding, and issues to be resolved by the Hearing panel should be included in the notice.
 2. The Hearing Panel shall consist of a minimum of three (3) reasonably impartial persons.
 3. The panel may in its discretion hold a formal or informal Hearing, in person or by telecom; hear any evidence it feels is relevant; place limitations on time, evidence and documentation; allow witnesses or written statements; and establish other hearing rules. Each party shall be treated equally, and shall have reasonable opportunity to present their case, in accordance with the established rules.
 - a. Video and/or Audio evidence shall be allowed to be submitted as evidence in proceedings of Minnesota Hockey Article 6. Any person offering video or audio evidence shall establish proper foundation for the authenticity and chain of custody of such evidence. Either the hearing panel or any other party may inquire into the foundation and reliability of such evidence. The hearing panel in arriving at a decision may give whatever credibility they believe is appropriate to such evidence.
 4. Parties may be represented by counsel, but the counsel's role in the Hearing is limited to listening only. Counsel may advise the parties quietly during the hearing or during a recess in the Hearing.
 5. Findings must be supported by a preponderance of the evidence (more likely true than not true) that an applicable rule has been violated. The decision logic must be included in the written findings. The Panel must endeavor to render its decision within (5) days of the Hearing and mail a written decision within (15) days of the Hearing. The decision must include the parties' right(s) of appeal. Decisions can affect only parties that were part of the Hearing (cannot be expanded to discipline a party that was not a subject of the Hearing).
- F. **Appeals:** Any member, team, league or local association who has a standing in the matter may appeal a disciplinary action or administrative action, in writing, to the District Director for a period of ten (10) calendar days, after a decision was rendered or a Hearing refused within its own league or association. Such appeal must state that it is an appeal, and provide the rationale, citing the applicable rule or regulation, as to why the disciplinary suspension or administrative action should be overturned or modified. In all appeals, the appealing party is required to establish the merits of the appeal. The District Director shall make a written determination within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of a valid appeal. The decision of the District Director may be appealed for a period of ten (10) calendar days to the MH Grievance Committee ("Committee") Chairperson; the Committee must make a written determination within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of a written appeal and receipt of a **\$500 Filing Fee**, refundable if the Committee rules in the appealing party's favor. The decision of the Grievance Committee shall be final except as noted in the paragraph hereinafter titled "USAH Appeal". Exception: Suspensions under USAH Bylaw 10 (3)(d) Assault of Game Official are appealed directly to the MH Grievance Committee.
- G. **Appeal Process:**
1. The District Director and Grievance Committee may make their determination by holding personal meetings, or communicating through the mail, e-mail or conference call(s).
 2. The "Hearing" format is not typically used for appeals, since the intent is to review the appropriateness of the initial decision, not to provide another forum in which to present the same arguments or evidence. Appeals are generally handled solely on written submissions, and the appealing parties should be notified that no personal appearances can be made.
 3. The appealing party must provide a basis for the appeal by referring to the relevant rules and/ or regulations and describing why the previous decisions made were flawed or incorrect. These elements are essential when considering the basis for appeal. Appeal Requests lacking this information may be rejected for cause.
 4. Only the evidence and theories explicitly presented to the initial decision-making body for consideration prior to rendering of its decision shall be presented or considered for appeal. In the event new evidence is discovered, it must be identified as such and included in the Appeal Request. If it is determined by the entity considering the appeal that the new evidence would have likely affected the initial decision, the matter will be referred back to the initial hearing body.
 5. If the entity considering the appeal uses a Hearing format to assist in making its determination, the process in the paragraph titled "Hearings" hereinbefore will be used.
 6. The standard of review on an appeal shall be an abuse of discretion by the initial hearing body.
 - * (e.g. – did the initial hearing body abuse their discretion?)
- H. **MH Board Appeal:** Decisions by MH Committees other than the Grievance Committee may be

appealed to the MH Board of Directors by providing written notice within fourteen (14) calendar days of a written decision. The appealing party must provide the rationale as to why the disciplinary suspension or administrative action should be overturned or modified.

- I. **USAH Appeal:** Grievance Committee or Board of Directors decisions may be appealed to USAH following the provisions of USAH Bylaw 10 - Dispute Resolution, Discipline, Arbitration.
- J. **Exclusive Remedy:** All Claims, demands, discipline or disputes as defined above shall be subject to the provisions of this Article, and this Article shall constitute the sole and exclusive remedy for dispute resolution. Any recourse to the courts of any jurisdiction by any member or individual shall be deemed conduct detrimental to the best interests of hockey and a violation of the MH and USAH Articles and By-Laws. This violation may result in suspension of membership and/or expulsion from the organization pursuant to the provisions of this Article.

ARTICLE 7 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Authority: The governing and management of this corporation shall be vested in its Board of Directors. Unless specifically authorized by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, no Board member shall represent to other persons, teams, leagues, associations or any other USAH Affiliate that he/she is speaking on behalf of MH or that his/her opinion is the official position of MH. Decisions or commitments that could reasonably be expected to impose upon MH any extraordinary financial obligation, legal liability or harm to its reputation or standing in the hockey community must be made or approved by the Board of Directors.

Board Members' Terms of Office: Board Members other than Officers and Directors Emeriti shall be elected as specified herein below for three-year terms, and such terms for outgoing Board Members shall end at the conclusion of the Summer Meeting or on June 30th if no Summer Meeting is held.

Officers' Terms of Office: Officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting for a three year term. Terms for outgoing officers shall end on the last day of the fiscal year following the election.

District Directors: The Board of Directors shall establish, from time to time, geographical boundaries for districts and shall divide said districts into a Gold Division and a Maroon Division. Each Division shall be under the supervision of a vice president of this association. Each such district shall be entitled to elect one person to the Board of Directors. The district directors shall be elected at a caucus of the affiliate members and team representatives of the district. MH does not require District Directors to reside in the District they represent; however, individual Districts can require this (must be documented).

District Directors' Duties: It shall be the duty of the district directors to organize, supervise and enforce the rules and regulations of MH in their respective districts, including tournament play, and to perform other duties as assigned by the President of this Association or the divisional Vice President. Each District Director is hereby declared to be the "proper authority" or "proper disciplinary authority" within their district for all purposes contemplated by the rules of MH and USAH, with the condition that they must abide by the decisions of MH. Each District Director may designate an Alternate Director to assist in the performance of their duties.

Director Emeritus: The Board of Directors shall have the authority to elect one or more persons to the position of Director Emeritus in recognition of distinguished and lengthy service to this Association. A candidate for Director Emeritus must meet the following qualifications:

1. Cannot be a current voting Board Member. In the case of an outgoing MH Board member, there must be a waiting period of at least 180 days from the date of completion of their Board term.
2. Actively involved and makes significant contributions to Minnesota Hockey. Actively takes part in discussions, attends meetings, and has something to offer. Does not attend meetings merely to socialize.

Any Board Member may nominate a Director Emeritus candidate, and 3/4 of the votes cast are required for election. Directors Emeriti have the same responsibilities as other Board members (e.g. - subject to all Board policies), but shall not be entitled to a Board vote. The term of office for Director Emeritus is a lifetime.

Active and Inactive Directors Emeriti: After no involvement for one year, the Board can put a Director Emeritus in Inactive status with a 2/3 vote. An Inactive Director Emeritus can be returned to Active status with a similar 2/3 vote. Active Directors Emeriti would be listed on the Board Members page of the Handbook and are entitled to all of the rights and privileges of other Board members, with the exception of voting.

Adult and Women Directors: Adults and Women shall each have a Director on the Board. These Directors shall represent their respective areas, perform such other duties as assigned to them by the President and shall be elected at a caucus of the representatives from the registered teams in each classification.

Boys' High School Director: Boys' High School teams shall be entitled to elect one Director to the Board of Directors. The Director shall be elected as determined by the boys' high school teams.

Girls' High School Director: Girls' High School teams shall be entitled to elect one Director to the Board of Directors. The Director shall be elected as determined by the girls' high school teams.

Director of Diversified Hockey: Diversified teams shall be entitled to elect one Director to the Board of Directors. The Director shall be elected at a caucus of the team representatives of the disabled teams.

Referee Section Director: The MH Officials Assn. President shall be a member of the Board of Directors.

Advisory Board Members: The Board may confirm additional Board members based on their recurring involvement and contributions to the Board and/or the functioning of MH. Examples would be the Immediate Past President, non-board-member committee chairs, and other individuals regularly engaged in counseling or guiding the Board. The following provisions apply to Advisory Board Members:

1. Serve as non-voting members of the Board.
2. Entitled to vote on decisions within a committee on which they serve.
3. Must follow the requirements of full Board members (Bylaws, Code of Conduct, etc.)
4. Covered by the Indemnification and Exculpation paragraphs hereinafter.

5. May be appointed by the President subject to Board confirmation at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
6. May be nominated by any voting Board member by notifying the Secretary no later than 30 days prior to a regularly scheduled Board meeting, and submitted for Board approval.
7. Must be reconfirmed by the President at each Fall Meeting and submitted for Board approval.
8. May be removed, following the process for Removal of Officers and Directors hereinafter.

Legal Advisor: An Advisory Board Member whose duties are to inform and provide recommendations to the Board of Directors and Committees with respect to those matters involving policies and rulemaking, and to assist in the engagement of outside legal counsel.

Officers: The officers of this corporation shall be Directors at Large of the Board of Directors and shall be the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and not more than four Vice Presidents. Officers may be selected from the membership of the Board or any adult resident of Minnesota who supports and can further the purposes of the corporation. Separate elections shall be held for each open position, with the successful candidate being the person receiving at least a simple majority of the votes cast. If a simple majority is not reached, the candidate receiving the least votes shall be dropped and the position re-voted. The officers shall have such powers and duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors. An officer may also be an elected member of the Board of Directors but such officer shall be entitled to only one vote.

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Immediate Past President, the four Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, two District Directors appointed by the President, and the Legal Advisor and HR Advisor who shall be non-voting members. The President shall have the ability to call meetings of the Executive Committee and seek guidance from the Executive Committee to assist in carrying out the duties and powers of the office of the President. The Executive Committee oversees the Conflict of Interest Policy. The Executive Committee's authority to make expenditures is limited to \$25,000.

President: The President shall preside at meetings of the association and Board of Directors, shall generally perform the duties usual to the office, and may at his/her discretion order the calling of Board meetings or meetings of committees of the Association. In addition to the power conferred by the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, the president shall exercise the powers of the Board in cases of emergency where it is not possible to obtain a Board vote. The President or appointed designee(s) shall have the power to adjust any matters pertaining to MH activities which seem to be in the best interest of MH and shall perform those acts in the public realm that are deemed necessary for the good of the organization.

Interim President: In the event that the President is unable to perform the responsibilities of the position, the Executive Committee shall meet within 15 days to appoint a member of the Executive Committee to serve as Interim President. During The interim period, the Interim President shall have all of the rights and responsibilities of the President as well as continuing to serve in his/her original position, but shall be entitled to only one vote. If the President's incapacitation is temporary, he/she may resume his/her duties upon notification of the Interim President and concurrence of the Executive Committee. If the President's incapacitation is permanent or lasts more than one year, an election for President shall be held at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Vice Presidents: The four Vice Presidents shall be responsible for Marketing/Communications, Hockey Operations, Gold Division Coordinator and Maroon Division Coordinator. Each VP shall be elected to their specific position and ensure their area is organized and expanded with the assistance of the District Directors.

Secretary: Maintains the records of MH, issues notices of board meetings, records minutes of board meetings, preserves all official documents and performs other duties customary of the office of Secretary.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for all MH financial activities and perform other duties customary to the office of Treasurer, in accordance with MH financial policies.

Conflict of Interest: Members of the Board of Directors shall not coach or manage any traveling team and shall not accept jobs or roles in their areas of responsibility in order to avoid any possibility of a conflict of interest in the performance of their duties. Exceptions to this rule can be made upon two-thirds (2/3) vote of the MH Board of Directors. Additionally, members of the Board of Directors shall not serve on grievance or appeal boards where they are reviewing a decision they previously made.

Committees: The President shall have the right to require the formation of committees to handle various aspects of MH activities and operations. For each committee, the President shall appoint (or consent to the committee's appointment of) a chairperson(s). Committee Charters will be listed in the handbook or posted on-line. It is recommended that each committee have at least one Maroon and one Gold District Director as members, with the exception of the Adult, Disabled, Girls' League, Handbook, Juniors, and Women's committees. Committees shall meet and discuss matters under their purview on an as-needed basis. In general, committees are responsible to ferret through details, make reports to the Board on their activities, and make requests for official Board action as required. The President may assign certain items to the entire Board of Directors, in which case the Board acts as a Committee of the Whole.

Elections:

1. No less than two months prior to any regularly scheduled MH election, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee Chairman who shall be a Board member (preferably a Director Emeritus). Individuals interested in being a candidate in an upcoming MH election shall notify the Nominating Committee Chairman. The Nominating Committee Chairman shall record contact information for interested candidates, and the date individuals expressed interest.
2. The Nominating Committee Chairman shall notify all current Board members of the candidates that have been identified not less than two weeks prior to the annual meeting or other meeting at which an election will be held. The information shall also be posted on the MH website. If the two-weeks prior

notice indicates that there is at least one identified candidate for a position, any additional individuals interested in being a candidate for that position must be nominated from the floor at the time of the election.

3. In the event that no candidates have been identified for a position in an upcoming election when the two-week notice is generated, the Nominating Committee Chairman shall convene a Nominating Committee consisting of two District Directors, one maroon and one gold, and at least two Directors Emeriti. The Nominating Committee shall solicit candidates, ensuring that there is at least one candidate for each open position, and notify all current Board members of candidates that have been identified at least two days prior to the annual meeting or other meeting at which an election will be held. Website info shall also be updated, preferably as candidates are identified.
4. Candidates meeting the deadline to express interest in running for positions being elected, and additional candidates identified by the Nominating Committee as described above, shall be placed into nomination by the Nominating Committee Chairman. Candidates may also be nominated from the floor by a Board member. Voting for new officers and representatives shall take place as the last order of business at the annual meeting or other meeting at which an election will be held.

Removal of Officers and Directors: Any Officer, Director or Advisory Board member may be removed from office by a 2/3 vote of the entire Board of Directors at any regularly scheduled meeting or at a meeting called for that purpose, with 30 days written notice to the persons involved.

Vacancies On Board-Elected Positions: Shall be filled for the unexpired term by election by the remaining Board members at a regularly scheduled meeting or special meeting called for that purpose. Until such time as the election is held, the President may appoint one or more individuals to cover the duties of the position.

Vacancies On Constituent-Elected Positions: The constituent organization shall notify MH of the vacancy, fill the unexpired term by election and notify MH of the new person. Until such time as an election is held, the constituent organization may appoint one or more individuals to cover the duties of the position, notifying MH of such appointment(s). All MH notifications must be in writing (e-mail is acceptable).

Voting Quorum: At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a simple majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum with the manner of voting to be established by the presiding officer. Cumulative and proxy voting is prohibited at Board and Committee Meetings.

ARTICLE 8 - ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

The Administrative Management Committee is a standing committee to effect and further the corporation's business affairs. The committee consists of eight members: the President, Past President, Treasurer, Chairs of the Marketing and Communications, and New Program/ Business Development committees, HR Advisor and two District Directors. Non-voting Board members must recuse themselves from Committee items involving compensation packages, HR issues, or other items as determined by the President.

The Committee has the authority to employ, on a part or full time basis, an Executive Director of the corporation, upon such terms and conditions as shall be mutually agreeable. The Committee shall also have the authority to add other part- or full-time positions, as approved by the Board. The Executive Director shall be responsible for hiring and compensation administration for any such additional positions (staff) under the direction and approval of the Committee. Further, the Executive Director shall be responsible for day-to-day management of the staff, under the general direction and oversight of the Committee.

ARTICLE 9 - MEETINGS

Board of Directors Meetings: It is the normal obligation of all voting members to attend official meetings of the Board of Directors. Attendance/ representation is expected for all days of MH state meetings. Failure for voting members to attend at least two Regularly Scheduled Board of Directors Meetings in a fiscal year will result in automatic consideration for removal (refer to paragraph entitled "Removal of Officers and Directors"). All meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees must start with and maintain a quorum. A quorum shall be confirmed each time there is a vote.

Annual Meeting: The Board of Directors shall hold an annual meeting in the spring of each year. The exact date, time and place of each meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings: In addition to the Annual Meeting, meetings shall be scheduled in the Fall, Winter and Summer. Such additional meetings may run for 1, 2 or 3 days, and shall be conducted in the traditional "one room or area" meeting format (not by teleconference or video-conference).

Special Meetings: Special Board of Directors meetings may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or any three members of the Board of Directors for any purpose at any time, as provided below:

1. Any three Board members may make a written request to the President or the Secretary to call a special meeting. Such officer, within seven days, shall give notice of the meeting to be held between ten and sixty days after receiving the request. If the officer fails to give notice of the meeting within seven days from the day on which the request was made, the person who requested the meeting may fix the time and place of meeting, and give notice in the manner provided by the Articles or By-Laws.
2. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be conducted in the traditional "one room or area" format, or via teleconference or video-conference.
3. Special meetings conducted by video- or tele-conference must observe the following requirements:
 - a. The meeting must be conducted by a technology that allows all persons participating to hear each other at the same time (and, if by video-conference, to see each other as well).
 - b. The Secretary or designee must conduct a roll call to confirm that a voting quorum exists. All voting must be done by roll to ensure a quorum is maintained and to ascertain the pass/fail result of the vote.
 - c. A person desiring to be heard must identify him/herself and be recognized by the Chair before speaking.

Voting: In accordance with the Article entitled “Board of Directors” hereinbefore, each Board member is entitled to one vote, excluding Board members indicated as “non-voting”. Individuals holding multiple voting positions on the Board are entitled to a single vote. If a Board Member is unable to attend a Board Meeting, votes on established agenda items may be submitted to the Secretary in advance in writing (e-mail is acceptable) at least one hour prior to the start of the meeting. Such votes are valid so long as the item being considered is substantially the same as indicated on the agenda or in the wording of submitted proposal(s). Absent members submitting their vote(s) in writing do not count for the purpose of establishing a quorum. Agenda Items (Excluding changes to the Governing Documents - See Article 11):

1. Anyone wishing to place an item on the agenda of the Board of Directors meeting must notify the Secretary in writing, not later than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. The specific wording of the proposal must be provided, in writing, to the Secretary not later than 21 days prior to the meeting. Items submitted without the specific, written proposal will not be accepted. The Secretary will publish the complete agenda with copies of the proposals at least 10 days prior to the meeting. Agenda items without properly submitted supporting documentation will be dropped. These proposals may be adopted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
2. Items that have received the approval of a MH Committee may be placed on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting or can be included in the committee report. The specific wording of the proposal must be provided to the members of the Board of Directors at the beginning of the meeting. These proposals may be adopted by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
3. Any item determined by the President to be in the same form or substantially similar form to one which was rejected or withdrawn at the previous meeting of the Board of Directors cannot be placed on the agenda of the upcoming meeting of the Board of Directors unless it has received a two-thirds majority vote of approval by the appropriate Council or committee and the Board of Directors, in that order, recommending that it be placed on the agenda.
4. Any additional items that are to receive consideration of the Board of Directors must receive 2/3 approval of those present at the Board of Directors meeting in order to be placed on the agenda.

The most current version/revision of Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern and control the conduct of all meetings of the Board of Directors, unless modified by these By-Laws.

Minutes: Copies of the minutes of all meetings of this Association, its committees and the Board of Directors shall be distributed by the Secretary using a method(s) as determined by the Board of Directors within twenty (20) days of such meetings to the Directors of the Association.

Committee Meetings: Committee meetings may be called at the discretion of the committee chairperson. The President and Executive Director are ex-officio members of all committees, except the Grievance Committee, and should be notified of all such meetings. Committees can establish internal practices as to their committee structure and procedures that are not otherwise defined in these by-laws. Advance notice of 14 days (suggested) and 10 days (minimum) should be provided for committee meetings.

ARTICLE 10 - CHA RELATIONS

CHA (Canadian) teams playing in the US must have permission to do so. Likewise, US teams playing in Canada must follow a similar procedure. Permission can be obtained from the USAH Minnesota District Registrar. Failure to obtain permission may subject the team to suspension.

ARTICLE 11 - AMENDING/ADOPTING GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

1. MH’s Governing Documents are the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Affiliate Agreement(s), Code of Conduct, Sexual Abuse and Physical Screening Policy, Whistleblowers Policy, and Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Policy, and may be amended/adopted at any meeting of the Board of Directors. The Governing Documents are printed in the Handbook or available on-line.
2. Anyone wishing to adopt or amend a Governing Document must place the item on the agenda of the Board of Directors meeting by notifying the Secretary in writing, not later than 30 days prior to the meeting. The specific wording of the proposed changes must be provided, in writing, to the Secretary not later than 21 days prior to the meeting. Items submitted without the specific, written proposal will not be accepted. The proposed changes must be distributed to the members of the Board of Directors at least 10 days prior to the meeting at which they are presented for adoption. Any additional Governing Document items that are to receive consideration of the Board of Directors require a two-thirds consent of the voting Board Members in order to be placed on the agenda.1. In addition to the requirements of this paragraph, any changes which will result in a change to the USA Hockey Playing Rules must be presented to the Minnesota District referee-in-chief for their review. The Minnesota District referee-in-chief will then submit their recommendation to the USA Hockey Playing Rules Committee who shall make the final decision. All proposed changes must be submitted to USAH prior to the upcoming season and no later than August 15.
3. New or changed Affiliate Agreements, along with sufficient supporting documentation, must be distributed to the Board 30 days prior to the meeting at which they will be considered for approval.
 - a. Whereas the registration season begins on May 1 of the current season, changes to the Governing Documents that materially affect the Registration Process:
 - i. Can be discussed and voted on at any meeting of the Board of Directors.
 - ii. The effective date for these changes will be as follows:
 - iii. Changes made before February 1 become effective for the upcoming season.
 - iv. Changes made after February 1 become effective for the season following the upcoming season.
 - b. 2 Amendments

- i. Proposals to adopt or amend Governing Documents that the Board is slated to consider may be amended or withdrawn by the Rules Committee, or other Committee proposing the change with a 2/3 majority vote of the members of the Committee voting on the proposal or amendment.
 - ii. Once the proposal is on the floor, the language may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of those voting on the amendment.
4. Final adoption or amendment of Governing Documents requires at least a 2/3 majority vote of those voting. Provided, however, that the 2/3 majority vote must consist of a majority of all Board members entitled to vote whether or not present at the meeting.
 5. Unless specifically stated otherwise, changes to Governing Documents approved during a season become effective September 1 of the upcoming season.
 6. Care is taken to ensure that the Handbook is accurate and in agreement with the various content owners' direction. In the event that errors are made or changes are needed to material printed in the Handbook, excluding Governing Documents, corrections or modifications can be made by the group closest to the issue. Such changes would typically be determined at the Committee or Vice President level, and submitted to the President for concurrence (Board approval not required).

ARTICLE 12 - INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

US Teams desiring to travel to and play international matches must receive approval as required by USAH. MH approval will be given if the requesting team is properly registered and the Affiliate member, whose team submits the request, is in good standing.

ARTICLE 13 - ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of MH to provide an equal opportunity to all amateur athletes, coaches and officials to participate in competition without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability or national origin. MH will take all the necessary steps to comply with this policy.

ARTICLE 14 - SEXUAL AND PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL ABUSE POLICY

The policies in this article are subject to any contrary requirements in Minnesota State law or local law applicable to MH Affiliates.

SAFESPORT POLICY – MH has instituted the SafeSport Policy created by USAH in conjunction with the United States Olympic Committee, as addressed in the USAH SafeSport Policy and Handbook. MH is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for its participants' physical, emotional, and social development and ensuring it promotes an environment free from abuse and misconduct. As a part of this program MH has implemented policies addressing certain types of abuse and misconduct, and certain policies intended to reduce, monitor and govern the areas where potential abuse and misconduct might occur.

SEXUAL ABUSE POLICY - It is the policy of MH that there shall be no sexual abuse of any minor participant involved in MH sanctioned programs, Training Camps, Hockey Clinics, Coaches Clinics, Referee Clinics, Invitational, Playoff Tournaments or other MH events by an employee, volunteer or independent contractor. Sexual abuse of a minor participant occurs when an employee, volunteer or independent contractor touches a minor participant for the purpose of causing the sexual arousal or gratification of either the minor participant or the employee, volunteer or independent contractor. Sexual abuse of a minor participant also occurs when a minor player touches an employee, volunteer or independent contractor for the sexual arousal or sexual gratification of either the minor participant or the employee, volunteer or independent contractor, if the touching occurs at the request or with the consent of the employee, volunteer or independent contractor.

Neither consent of the player to the sexual contact, mistake as to the participant's age, nor the fact that the sexual contact did not take place at a hockey function are defenses to a complaint of sexual abuse.

Upon proof of violation of this policy, the violator will be permanently banned or suspended from MH sanctioned programs and/or the programs of its Affiliate Associations.

Complaints concerning violations of the provisions of this policy shall be in writing addressed to the MH SafeSport Coordinator, and although preferably signed by the complainant, may be submitted anonymously. The complaint shall state in full and complete detail the basis of the complaint concerning the alleged violations. Upon receipt of such written complaint, the SafeSport Coordinator shall review the complaint and determine who will conduct the ensuing investigation of the allegations pursuant to the USAH SafeSport Policy Handbook. As a mandatory reporter, all credible complaints of sexual, emotional and/or physical abuse shall be referred to the appropriate law enforcement officials by the SafeSport Coordinator. The SafeSport Coordinator may initiate administrative action involving the member against whom the complaint was made pursuant to applicable sections of the By-laws and Rules of MH and USAH.

SCREENING POLICY - MH requires all its volunteers and employees to comply with the provisions of USAH's Safesport Handbook.

ARTICLE 15 - USA HOCKEY MINNESOTA DISTRICT OPERATIONS

1. The Minnesota District shall be governed by the MH Board of Directors.
2. It is MH's intent that its president be a USAH Director and serve as an ambassador for MH at the national level. Accordingly, MH shall nominate its president as a candidate for USAH Minnesota District Director.
3. Elections for the USAH Minnesota District positions shall normally occur at the Spring meeting.
4. The number of USAH Minnesota District Directors is determined by USAH rules. The votes will be

cast by representatives of the affiliate, as determined by the affiliate. The USAH Minnesota District Registrar will determine the number of votes that each designated representative will cast. Directors will be elected to a three year term. A vacancy can be filled at either the fall or spring meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose. In the event that two or more Directors are being elected, there shall be one election in which each voting member casts vote(s) based on the number of Directors being elected (i.e. two Director openings; three candidates; vote for two) with the successful candidates being those receiving the most votes and at least a simple majority of the votes cast. The number of votes cast for any one individual can-not exceed the number of votes as determined by the USAH Minnesota District Registrar. In the event of a dispute, a committee consisting of the USAH Minnesota Directors in attendance not standing for re-election shall make a determination. In a situation where multiple positions are being elected and not all of the positions are filled on the first ballot, any candidate receiving a simple majority is elected and a subsequent election shall take place among the remaining candidates. If none of the candidates have a simple majority, the candidate receiving the least votes shall be dropped and the position re-voted. If more than one new director is being elected, seniority will be ordered by the number of votes with the one elected first or receiving the most votes being the most senior director, etc. The term of office for newly elected Director(s) shall begin following the completion of the next or upcoming USAH Annual Congress.

5. The above process shall also be used to elect individuals to represent the Minnesota District on the USAH Women's and Girls' Section and High School Section.
 6. MH Representatives indicated below shall cast votes in USAH Minnesota District Director elections based on their number of USAH-registered participants. The USAH Registrar will determine the number of votes each designated representative will cast. In the event of a dispute, a committee consisting of the USAH Minnesota Directors in attendance not standing for re-election shall make a determination.
 - a. District Directors Registered Youth and Girls players and coaches in their Districts
 - b. Adults Director Registered Adult program players and coaches
 - c. Women's Director Registered Women's program players and coaches
 - d. Disabled Hockey Director Registered Disabled Hockey program players and coaches
 7. The MH President shall cast votes for registered participants not fitting any of the above categories.
 - a. The USAH Girls' and Women's Section Representative shall be elected based on the number of registered Girls' and Adult Women players and coaches, allocated to representatives as indicated above.
 - b. The USAH High School Section Representative shall be elected based on the number of registered high school aged players and coaches, allocated to representatives as indicated above.
 - c. In the elections above, the USAH Registrar will determine the number of votes each designated MH Representative will cast. In the event of a dispute, a committee consisting of the USAH Minnesota District Directors in attendance not standing for re-election shall make a determination. The MH representatives listed above may designate an alternate person to cast their votes, provided such designation is provided in writing (e-mail is acceptable) to the MH Secretary.
 - d. The USAH Disabled Hockey Section Representative shall be elected based on a caucus of the Disabled programs, weighting votes by the number of registered Disabled players and coaches.
 - e. The seniority and the term of office of each of the elected USAH positions shall be included in this document. In the event that there is a reduction in the number of USAH directors from the Minnesota District, the least senior director's position shall be eliminated. The seniority shall apply to the individual and not to the position. If a director resigns or otherwise leaves his/her position, a new director will be elected to the remainder of the three year term and will be less senior than existing directors.
- | USAH Minnesota District Positions | (Updated June 2023) | Election To Be Held |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Minnesota District Director (by seniority) | Jeremy Reed | April/May 2025 |
| Minnesota District Director (by seniority) | Kevin Suoja | April/May 2025 |
| Minnesota District Director (by seniority) | Doug Kephart | April/May 2024 |
| Minnesota District Director (by seniority) | Steve Gapinski | April/May 2024 |
| Disabled Section Representative | Antonia Gillen | April/May 2025 |
| Girls' and Women's Section Representative | Doug Foster | April/May 2024 |
| High School Section Representative | Chris Lonke | April/May 2025 |
8. Individuals serving in the above positions must have their principal place of residence within the Minnesota District. If any of these individuals becomes ineligible to serve because of a change of residence, an election to replace that position will be held at the next Minnesota Hockey Meeting.

ARTICLE 16 - INDEMNIFICATION AND EXCULPATION

Indemnification: MH shall indemnify each person who is or was a director, officer or employee of MH, or a volunteer acting on behalf of MH and/or its affiliates, such person's heirs, executors and legal representatives, against all liabilities and expenses, including judgments, fines, penalties and reasonable attorneys' fees and all amounts paid, other than to MH, in compromise or settlement, imposed upon or incurred by such person in connection with, or arising out of, the defense or disposition of any action, suit or other proceeding, whether civil or criminal, which such person may be a defendant or with which such person is threatened or otherwise involved, directly or indirectly, by reason of such person's holding or having held such position. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to any person who has been adjudicated in such action, suit or proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that his or her action was in the best interests of MH. MH shall provide no indemnification with respect to any matter settled or compromised, pursuant to consent decree or otherwise, unless such settlement

or compromise shall have been approved as in the best interests of MH by (1) a disinterested majority of the board of directors of MH or (2) if there are no disinterested directors, by independent legal counsel representing MH and appointed by a majority of the directors then in office.

The right of indemnification provided in this Article shall not be exclusive of or affect any other rights to which any director, officer, employee or volunteer may be entitled under any agreement, statute or otherwise. MH's obligation to provide indemnification under this Article shall be offset by and to the extent of any other source of indemnification. Nothing contained in this Article shall affect any rights to which MH personnel other than directors or officers may be entitled by contract or otherwise.

Exculpation: No MH director, officer, employee or volunteer acting on behalf of MH and/or its affiliates shall be personally liable to MH for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as an officer, director, employee or volunteer notwithstanding any provisions of law imposing such liability; provided, however, that the liability of a director, officer, employee or volunteer to the extent that such liability is imposed by applicable law, shall not be eliminated (1) for any breach of such person's duty of loyalty to MH; (2) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve an intentional or knowing violation of law, or (3) for any transaction from which such derived an improper personal benefit. The directors, officers, employees and volunteers of MH shall not be personally liable for any debt, liability or obligation of MH. All persons, corporations or other entities extending credit to, contracting with, or having any such claims against MH, may look only to the funds and property of MH for payment of such contract or claim, or for payment of any debt, damages, judgment or decree, or any amount that may otherwise become due or payable to them from MH.

ARTICLE 17 - DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

1. The District Director shall ensure that district administrative matters are handled. The Director may perform such duties personally, assign them to an assistant(s), or delegate them to an advisory group/board. Regardless of how they are performed, the Director retains responsibility and authority for these duties.
2. Districts may organize as 501(c)(3) non-profit corporations, shall account for all funds collected by the District or its programs, and shall annually (prior to August 31) submit to the Treasurer a complete financial report of all operations under the District's control. MN Hockey, at its discretion, can request additional verification of all District financial matters, subject to the terms of MH Financial Management Policies.
3. District Boards operate as an adjunct part of MH. They are critical to the operation of the district and are entrusted to handle many of the administrative details of running a district. However, they are inherently advisory in nature as it would relate to hockey operations in the District. District Boards have the authority to make District Rules, as authorized by the District Director, but the Director is the final authority.
4. For Districts which have a District Board, each member association shall elect a representative. Refer to Affiliate Agreement paragraph 1.2 regarding Affiliates participating with other Affiliates in their district with respect to affairs of the district, and Affiliate Agreement Article III Paragraph C. regarding voting.
5. For Districts which have a District Board, each member association shall have one vote in voting matters. Certain other positions on the District Board may also be voting positions, with the following conditions:
 - a. Such additional votes shall constitute less than half of the total available votes.
 - b. A quorum shall not exist for any individual meeting unless at least 50% of the association representatives are present, and their votes constitute at least 50% of the eligible votes.
 - c. The District Director shall not participate in District Board voting, with the exception that he/she may break ties in the event he/she is running the meeting.
6. District Directors shall be elected for 3-year terms by the affiliate representatives in the district, by giving each representative a weighted vote based on the number of in-season registered players and coaches.

End of By-Laws

YOUTH RULES AND REGULATIONS

(YOUTH JUNIOR GOLD AND YOUNGER – GIRLS 19 & UNDER AND YOUNGER)

Includes Revisions as of September 2023

For the purposes of these rules and regulations:

- Youth Midget and Youth 16 & Under (Jr Gold 16) classifications follow all provisions specified for the Youth Jr Gold classification
- Girls 19 & Under and Girls 16 & Under classifications follow all provisions specified for the Youth Jr Gold classification
- Girls 15 & Under and Girls 14 & Under classifications follows all provisions specified for the Youth Bantam classification
- Girls 12 & Under classification follows all provisions specified for the Youth Peewee classification
- Girls 10 & Under classification follows all provisions specified for the Youth Squirt classification
- Girls 8 & Under classification follows all provisions specified for the Youth Mite classification.

Youth and Girls teams playing at the same competitive level (A, B, C, House) are considered to be equal competitive levels, and these like competitive playing levels shall receive equal treatment.

MH strongly recommends that association rules and/or district league rules reflect the written reason for any different treatment between Youth and Girls teams of similar competitive playing levels. These rules should be based on fact (not opinion) and reflect reasons why teams are treated differently. This includes any voluntary waiver of equitable treatment by the affected team or teams.

I. TEAM REGISTRATION

- A. **TEAM ROSTERS:** A USAH Roster Form must be completed for each team and submitted along with proof of date of birth, proof of legal residency for non-US citizens and other required documentation (refer to paragraph entitled Credentials hereinafter) to the USAH Registrar or designee for approval. Players on teams categorized as "Recreational" are exempt from submitting proof of date of birth or proof of legal residency for non-US citizens. Documentation may be required by the Director, Registrar or local association on an exception basis where citizenship, gender or age is questioned.
- B. The MH Regular Season begins Sept. 1 and ends at the completion of all youth/girls state tournaments.
- C. **The MH Off-Season begins after the completion of all Youth/Girls state tournaments and ends:**
 - a. The first day after Labor Day for Youth 16U and Girls 14U and younger classifications.
 - b. At the beginning of the MSHSL Boys hockey season for Youth 18U.
 - c. At the beginning of the MSHSL Girls hockey season for Girls 16U and 19U classifications
- D. Off-season teams shall not have more than 20% of players who reside outside of Minnesota. Non-Minnesota resident players must comply with the "Inter-Affiliate Player Transfer Protocol".
- E. Teams formed for post-season play, regardless of age classification, cannot be registered or sanctioned prior to completion of the MH regular season. Players shall not be contacted regarding participation on such teams during MH-sanctioned activities. Any individual(s) violating this rule shall not be allowed to coach or manage a MH registered team for a period of one year. No off-season youth or girls team may recruit or solicit player or offer contract to players for the off-season, or hold development camps, tryouts, player selections or any activity that could be construed as a tryout/solicitation or recruitment of the off-season until 48 hours after the last game of the Minnesota Hockey State Tournament.

II. REGISTRATION

- A. The USA Hockey and MH Player Registration fees and dates shall be set on an annual basis by USAH and the MH Board. The fees and dates are published on the inside front cover of the MH Handbook.
- B. No Player shall be registered with two or more MH/USA Hockey teams at the same time regardless of league division or classification, except:
 - a. Players on house teams may play with both their house team and an association traveling team.
 - b. Players on Minnesota Hockey Tier 1 (pre-post season) National Championship eligible teams may also be registered with a team which is not National Championship eligible.
 - c. Special Events approved by the MH Board by a 2/3 majority. Such events must be on the Winter Meeting agenda at the latest, observing Bylaw provisions for putting items on the agenda, and are subject to requirements imposed by MH.
- C. **HOUSE LEAGUES:** Where a league exists within an association, a team representing the association may be formed of players from any of the league teams providing ALL the teams are properly registered as house teams by the proper dates, and the twenty (20) player squad to represent the association in district tournament play is declared by December 31st.
- D. **COMMITMENT TO TEAM:** Players are expected to participate in all team activities (practices, games, tournaments, etc). An allowance for an "excused absence" upon notice that is reasonable under the circumstances may be established by teams and associations. However, an unexcused absence is grounds for consequence to a player, as determined by the team or association, up to and including suspension. A team or association rule and/or policy as to "excused absences" or as to consequences for unexcused absences must be reasonable and may not be implemented in a manner that discriminates between player participation in one outside program versus another.

III. CITIZENSHIP AND AGE REGULATIONS

- A. Youth Junior Gold and younger, and Girl's 19 & Under and younger - Restricted to US citizens only, and limited to amateurs. The Classifications and their respective cutoff dates as established by the MH Board of Directors are published on the inside front cover of the MH Handbook.
- B. Players in the Junior Gold, Midget and 16 & Under Classifications must be enrolled in high school during the current season. Players on Girls 19 & Under teams are not required to be attending high school.
- C. **Exception:** Non-United States citizens that are legal residents of the United States as evidenced by such documentation as a non-expired Resident Alien card, a non-expired Visa of the Type/Class that allows for residency, or who are resident students from outside the United States, are eligible to compete.
- D. **AGE CLASSIFICATIONS:** Teams are to be formed observing the established age classifications, with players following the age range established for each classification.
 - a. Each association shall have a policy on whether players are allowed to "play up" to the next classification and conditions that apply. These policies must accommodate players with July/August birthdates so they can "peer up" and participate with their classmates if they desire. Players that "peerup" to participate with their classmates (June/July/August birthdates) shall be fully eligible, unless affected by another MH rule. If a player elects to "peer up" such an election shall be made prior to participation or tryouts for the current season, and once the decision has been made, it shall apply to the entire season.

- b. Players approved to play down, per the USAH Registrar's policy, must participate at the lowest division the association offers.
 - c. Players waived to another association are not allowed to play up unless approved by both association presidents and the cognizant District Director(s).
 - d. Two-thirds of the players on teams at the Squirt level and above must be within the age classification in which the team is registered. Players who "peer up" as a result of a June/July/August birthday qualify for purposes of satisfying the two-thirds requirement and are not considered play ups. Exception: In case of low player numbers, players from multiple age groups may be combined on a single team, with the approval of the cognizant District Director and the USA Hockey Minnesota District Registrar.
- E. **AGE CERTIFICATION:** Government issued (state/county) birth certificate or passport must be presented for all players for inspection by the proper authority at the time a player registers (except as provided in para. I-A herein) unless the player is already on the age/citizenship verification list provided by USAH.

IV. PARTICIPATION

- A. **PARTICIPATION POLICY:** MH is a community-based amateur hockey program. Members in good standing are to participate on teams from their local association (local affiliate) based on the residence of their parent(s) or legal guardian(s). The exclusive boundaries of the geographical area served by each local association are determined by MH and recorded in the Affiliate Agreements. In some circumstances, players may participate in another association by requesting a formal waiver from this policy.
- B. **PARTICIPATION RULE**
- a. Players must register and participate with the association whose boundaries incorporate the player's residence. To participate on any other association's team, the player must obtain a waiver.
 - i. All waiver requests must be submitted on a current Waiver Form provided by MH.
 - ii. Indicate the reason for the request on the Waiver Form (school attendance, play on travel team, co-op team, etc.).
 - iii. The releasing and receiving associations may add conditions or restrictions to the waiver. Conditions must be indicated on the Waiver Form and initialed by all parties executing the waiver.
 - iv. The releasing and receiving association presidents must both sign Waiver Forms; then submit to the District (both Districts if two are involved). District Director approval is required on discretionary waivers, but is optional or as required by the District Director on mandatory Waivers.
 - v. Non-Minnesota residents desiring to play for MH must follow the Inter-Affiliate Transfer Protocol.
 - b. **DEFINITIONS:**
 - i. **Residence** - the legal dwelling of the player's parent(s) or court-appointed legal guardian(s) having custody of the player as substantiated by sufficient evidence to establish the location of the legal dwelling such as a valid driver's license, lease, voter registration card, court filed marital termination custody agreements (if applicable), school enrollment form, cover page of tax return, property tax bill, utility bills or other persuasive evidence as to where the player lives. A pending relocation is not considered to be the player's residence until the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) have completed the purchase or executed a lease and moved into the new residence. For foreign exchange students, the place the player resides while in the USA shall be considered the player's residence. Players moving after tryouts begin can be assigned to teams on a space-available basis.
 - ii. **Association of Residence** - the association whose boundaries include the player's residence.
 - Association of School Attendance** - the association whose boundaries include the location of the school the player attends. Note: A player attending a public school that encompasses the boundaries of more than one youth hockey association has the following options:
 1. Participate in his/her Association of Residence
 2. If the player doesn't live within the boundaries of the associations the school feeds, the player may pick one of the associations as his/her Association of School Attendance on a one-time-choice basis.
 - iii. **Home Association** - either the Association of Residence, or the Association of School Attendance to which a player has been properly waived and continues to attend school.
 - iv. **School** - the primary educational provider of the student to achieve progress towards a high school diploma, the equivalent of a high school diploma, or any post high school degree. If the provider does not instruct the student at a physical facility, the location of the school shall be the student's primary residence. High school students taking post high school classes shall not be deemed to be attending school at the post high school provider's location.
 - v. **Mandatory Waiver** - neither the releasing nor the accepting association can decline to approve a school attendance waiver that meets the requirements as described below.
 - vi. **Discretionary Waiver** - an agreement between associations to transfer a player for reasons as agreed to by the affected associations and District Director(s). Any of the approving parties have the authority to reject such a waiver.
 - c. A Mandatory Waiver shall be granted to any player enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade, in good standing, without conditions except as described below, who wishes to participate in the

MH association whose boundaries incorporate the school in which the player is enrolled and is attending, as follows:

- i. For purposes of this rule, the school shall be located where the player attends the majority of their academic classes, unless agreed otherwise by the affected District Director(s).
 - ii. Players waived based on school choice shall be deemed to be members of their Association of School Attendance and shall have full rights and privileges accorded to all members of that association, including voting rights. (Exception – see “Changing Schools” below.)
 - iii. Players receiving a waiver based on school attendance shall register with their Association of School Attendance for as long as they continue to attend that school (including the first year). If they stop attending school in that association’s area, they revert back to their Association of Residence for participation or waiver.
- d. Players waived for non-school attendance reasons are subject to the receiving assn’s policies in accordance with MH governing documents (may not be eligible for the highest team, may be assigned to the lowest team, etc.). They shall remain members of their Home Association, not the assn. they were waived to, with full rights and privileges accorded to all assn. members including voting rights.
- e. **CHANGING SCHOOLS:**
- i. Players not living in the attendance area of the school they attend shall elect one of the following:
 1. Have full eligibility to compete at any division in their Association of Residence; or
 2. Be eligible at all except the highest division in their Association of School Attendance for one year beginning with the first day of attendance in the new school, with full eligibility thereafter.
 - a. **Exception:** Players enrolling in 9th Grade for the first time are immediately eligible to compete at any division in their Association of School Attendance.
 - ii. Players who have participated in their Association of School Attendance and desire to return to their Association of Residence without a related change of school shall elect one of the following:
 1. Have full eligibility to compete at any division with their Association of School Attendance for one year beginning with the first day that they notify in writing both associations of their intent to return to their Association of Residence; or
 2. Be eligible at all except the highest division in their Association of Residence for one (1) year beginning with the first day that they notify in writing both involved associations of their intent to return to their Association of Residence.
 - iii. For purposes of this rule, a team that is eligible to participate in “AA” level playoffs at the end of the season will be considered a higher division than a team within the same association that is eligible to participate in “A” level playoffs.
 - iv. Submit unusual circumstances to the District Director Committee for a decision.
- f. A waiver must be obtained before a player can participate outside of their Home Association. During a season, a player that registers or participates with one assn. can’t participate with any other assn. without a waiver. Trying out in an assn. is considered participation. A player that participates without a necessary waiver is considered an ineligible player. Refer to the Section entitled Eligibility Provisions.
- g. Players denied a waiver or given a waiver with conditions by their Home Association may appeal in writing to the Home Association’s District Director Committee. The Committee’s decision is final.
- h. District Director Committee: In cases indicated above where decisions are to be made by a District Director Committee, the District Director shall appoint two other persons beside themselves as the designated committee, one of which will be either the Maroon or Gold Vice President. This is to hear appeals pursuant to USAH Bylaw 10 E (1) (b).
- i. Players having dual citizenship, one being the United States, must conform to this participation rule.

V. ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS

- A. Any team found to have an ineligible player that participates in any MH sanctioned game, exhibition game or controlled scrimmage will be suspended from MH District, Region and State Tournament play for the current season. The head coach of a team that knowingly plays an ineligible player shall, as a minimum, be suspended from coaching for the remainder of the season. These suspensions may be reviewed by the cognizant District Director to determine if the severity of the suspension is appropriate and a less severe penalty may be imposed if the facts so dictate.
- B. Any high school player who participates with their high school hockey team after December 31st is not eligible for MH teams for the balance of the playing season. Refer to the Minnesota State High School League rules for future High School eligibility.
- C. In the Junior Gold and 16 & Under classification a player must have played 5 games before January 25th in order to be eligible for participation in District, Region and State playoffs.

VI. TEAM COMPOSITION

- A. Up to twenty players can be rostered on a team. A maximum of twenty players can dress for a game, with a maximum of eighteen of those players dressed as skaters.
 - a. **Exception:** If a player(s) would be denied opportunity to participate, teams may roster over twenty players to a maximum of twenty-three with approval of the District Director and the USAH

Minnesota District Registrar. Such rosters will be approved only at the lowest competitive level the association offers. Maximum of eighteen skaters and total of twenty players may dress for each game. Rostered players in excess of the dressed limit are not allowed on the players bench. Further, such rosters must be reduced to a final set of twenty players for District, Region, State and National tournaments if the team is participating at a level in which MH teams compete in USAH National Tournaments.

- B. All teams shall roster at least one adult coach. A rostered coach must be present at all team events.
- C. It is recommended that each team in state and region tournaments dress two goalies. If the team doesn't have two goalies, an Emergency Backup Goalie (E-BUG) may be chosen from a team in its league or association, and such an E-BUG may be chosen from the same or a lower but not higher playing division. If a team has played its games with players from its own team, the E-Bug is not available.
 - a. Failing the above, an E-BUG may be chosen from within the team's district or finally from the vicinity in which the tournament is being played.
 - b. The E-BUG may play ONLY in case the regular goalie is unable to play, as determined by the tournament host District Director or Tournament Director.
 - c. The E-BUG shall wear the light or dark jersey of the in-season team on which they are rostered which is the opposite color from the team they are playing for if from the same association.
 - d. The E-BUG retains their eligibility with their parent team or organization at their original classification for the balance of the playing season whether or not they actually play as an E-BUG.
 - e. The E-BUG must be properly registered on a MH team for the current season to be eligible to participate in a region or state tournament. Proof of registration, such as a copy of their parent team's registration roster will be required during tournament check-in. NOTE: the objective of the rule is to allow a team to obtain a back-up goalkeeper during region and state MH play. The rule is not intended to permit teams to improve their goaltending by drafting an additional player.
 - f. The releasing/receiving District Director(s) must approve, using the MH E-BUG Goalie Form.
- D. If a team carries only one goalie on its roster and that goalie is not available for region or state tournament play, a REPLACEMENT goalie may be chosen from a team in its league or association. Such a "replacement" goalie may be chosen from the same or a lower but not higher playing division.
 - a. If a "replacement" goalie is not available from within a team's league or association, a "replacement" goalie may be chosen from among the teams in its district; or failing the above, from its region.
 - b. The "replacement" goalie shall wear the jersey of the in-season team on which they are rostered with is the opposite color from the team for which they are acting as a replacement if from the same association.
 - c. The "replacement" goalie retains eligibility with their parent team at their original classification for the balance of the playing season whether or not they actually play as a "replacement" goalie.
 - d. The "replacement" goalie must be properly registered on a MH team for the current season to be eligible to participate in a region or state tournament. Proof of registration, such as a copy of their parent team's registration roster will be required during tournament check-in. Note: the objective of the rule is to allow a team to obtain a back-up goalkeeper during region and state MH play. The rule is not intended to permit teams to improve their goaltending by drafting an additional player.
 - e. The releasing/receiving District Director(s) must approve, using the MH Replacement Goalie Form.

VII. LEVELS OF PLAY

- A. "Classifications" means Mite, Squirt, Peewee, 10 & Under, 12 & Under, Junior Gold, etc.
- B. "Divisions" means A, B, C, House, etc.
- C. To encourage development and expansion of hockey within the State and to provide for uniformity of competition, all youth hockey shall be divided into five competitive divisions as herein provided. Each District Director has the responsibility to maintain the integrity of each division within his/her district.
 - a. "A" The highest competitive division – a development program designed to enhance team and individual skills. MH will provide district, region and state tournaments at this division. Every association has the right to enter teams in the A division.
 - b. "B" The intermediate competitive division – also a development program, but primarily intended to provide a uniform competitive experience for smaller communities and programs that are not able to compete effectively at the A division. Every association that has an A division team shall also have the right to enter teams in the B division.
 - c. "C" The lowest competitive division – also serves as an entry level for new communities/programs to provide a competitive experience until they are ready to advance to a higher competitive division. There shall be no region or state tournaments at the C level. All associations that have teams in A or B divisions shall also be entitled to have teams at the C level.
 - d. "House" Similar to "C", but limited to an in-house program (no participation outside of the association).
 - e. "Recreational" Similar to "C", but limited to two activities per week (maximum) within a recreational league or organization (teams do not participate in any way outside of their recreational league or organization). No tournaments are allowed at this level, but a year-end playoff is permitted.
- D. **INTERLEVEL PLAY:** Except in special circumstances approved by the affected District Director(s), Interlevel play (games/exhibition games) is not permitted between classifications (Peewee vs Bantam, 15U vs 12U) or between divisions (A vs B, B vs C or A vs C teams), except for Jr Gold 16 vs Jr Gold B, and 15UA vs B. Interlevel play is not permitted in MH sanctioned invitational or playoff tournaments, with the exception that Jr Gold 16 teams may participate in Jr Gold B invitational tournaments and

15UB teams may participate in 15UA invitational tournaments. Teams violating this provision may be declared ineligible to compete in any invitational tournaments and in MH district, region and state tournaments for the current season, and, in case of flagrant violations, for such further period of time as the district director shall deem appropriate. House league and city recreational league teams must be registered as C teams if they intend to play other teams outside of their hockey community. District Directors may permit a B or C division team from small cities or newly developed programs to play in a higher division league if there is no comparable division league available.

- E. **TEAM LEVELS:** The district director shall review and finalize the division of all teams. Associations shall submit the proposed division for each team to the district director prior to Nov. 15. The director's decision may be appealed to the Gold or Maroon Coordinator whose decision shall be final.
- F. **MITE HOCKEY:** MH strongly encourages skill development for all players. This is particularly critical at the Mite level so that players are provided with the foundation to enjoy and have success in the game.
- a. To reduce expense and promote development rather than competition, Mite teams shall participate within their home association and district only. However, the District Director(s) may allow exceptions for convenience or to maintain continuity. The District Director's decision is final.
 - b. Mites are generally organized into levels based on age, skill and number of players. As a guideline, Mites should be divided into two levels: Mini-Mites (6 & Under) - the younger, beginner and less skilled players; and Mites (8 & Under) - the older, experienced, more skilled players.
 - c. The focus for Mites is to teach/develop basic skills: skating, puck handling, shooting and passing. Cross-ice, half-ice and small area games are the standard of play to maximize ice utilization, increase puck touches and increase competition and fun. The American Development Model (ADM) and Minnesota Development Model (MDM) provide blueprints for player development.
 - d. At the Mini-Mite (6 and Under) level – all games shall be played cross or half ice.
 - e. At the Mite (8 and Under) level – the standard playing surface for all games is cross- or half-ice. Recognizing that associations may want to deviate from the standard, after January 15th up to ten full-ice games are allowed with the District Director's approval. The Director's decision is final.
 - f. Local hockey associations are in the best position to design programs so their players can develop and have fun. This should be based on the principles of the MDM and ADM, the number of players in their program, the skill of their players, the availability of ice and their coaching staff.
 - g. Recognizing the need for flexibility and differences between associations, the District Director will monitor the standards outlined in #4 and #5 above. Abuses will result in sanctions against the association(s) at the sole discretion of the Director.
 - h. MH permits cross/half ice Mite Tournaments; full ice Mite Tournaments aren't permitted. Guidelines for sanctioned Mite Cross/Half Ice Tournaments are in the Tournament Supplement. MH Mite teams can't participate in out-of-state tournaments, except cross/half ice as approved by the District Director.
 - i. Jamborees may be conducted at the Mite level. A jamboree is defined as a low-key full participation event where players have an enjoyable learning experience in a non-competitive environment. Jamborees need not be registered as tournaments, but must follow the "Team Rest" provisions as provided under "Playing Rules". The format for a Jamboree shall be as follows:
 - i. The District Director must approve a proposed Jamboree at least thirty (30) days in advance.
 - ii. All teams must be from one MH District, unless approved in writing by the MH Directors involved.
 - iii. Information referring to the event must state "Jamboree", not tournament.
 - iv. Team fees can cover only costs for ice time, officials, medical attendants and participant awards.
 - v. There can be no gate fee. A free-will donation box will be permitted.
 - vi. USA Hockey certified officials are recommended.
 - vii. No score may be kept, no winners, no losers, no standings. This will generally require a predetermined round-robin format to be followed.
 - viii. No statistics may be kept, such as shots, saves, goals, assists, time of possession, etc.
 - ix. Participation awards, if given, shall be the same for all participants. No team awards or trophies.
 - j. **SQUIRT AND GIRLS 10 & UNDER HOCKEY:** MH strongly encourages the skill development of all players especially at the entry levels. Therefore, the following is effective for the Squirt and Girls 10 & Under levels.
 - i. Limit number of games (league/tournament/exhibition games excluding district playoffs) to a maximum of 35 per season.
 - ii. A three to one practice to game ratio shall be supported by all associations.
 - iii. A and B squirts and A and B Girls 10 & Under must be allocated an equal quality and number of ice hours.
 - iv. Coaches should strive for approximate equal playing time among all players, excepting reduced time for disciplinary reasons.
 - v. The above policies will be monitored by each local association and district. Failure to comply will result in sanctions against the respective Association as determined by MH.
 - vi. There shall be no region or state tournaments at the Squirt and Girls 10 & Under levels.

VIII. PLAYING RULES

The playing rules in this section apply to all games unless modified elsewhere in these rules.

- A. USA Hockey playing rules as modified by MH shall be used.
- B. The length of periods during regular season play shall be at the discretion of the individual leagues and teams in all classifications. (NOTE: For time requirements for District, Region and State tournament play, see paragraph entitled "District, Region and State Tournaments", "Playing Time" hereinafter.)
- C. Districts, leagues and invitational tournaments may reduce the duration of minor penalties from 2 minutes to 1½ minutes for games with periods of 15 minutes or less.
 - a. The Fair Play penalty-minute thresholds by level per Playing Rule Q-3 are in effect regardless of whether 2 minute or 1½ minute minor penalties are assessed.
 - b. The standard minor penalty duration shall be one and a half (1.5) minutes for Peewee/12U and two (2) minutes for Bantam/15U and up, per USA Hockey rules, at MH Region/State Tournaments, and in all District Tournaments that determine teams progressing to Region/State Tournaments, effective for the 2023 MNH Region and State.
 - c. For the purposes of Fair Play "equivalency" minutes, minor penalties will be counted as 2 minutes per playing rule Q-4, regardless of whether 2 minute or 1½ minute minor penalties are assessed
- D. No jewelry except for religious/medical needs. Tape medals to the body under the uniform so not visible. Penalty: first offense, warning. Returning to the game without correction: Game Misconduct.
- E. The penalty for fighting will be a major penalty and a three-game misconduct penalty. For a second violation the player will be suspended from all participation for 30 days. For a third violation the player will be suspended for the remainder of the season.
- F. At the Junior Gold and 16 & Under classifications, a Game Ejection may be called on any player/team official. A player/team official receiving this penalty will be removed only from the game being played.
- G. At the Junior Gold and 16 & Under classification, a Game Ejection shall be automatically assessed when a player receives a third penalty during a single game. The player shall immediately be removed from the ice and another player shall serve the penalty. Enforcing this penalty is the joint responsibility of the referees, the scorekeeper, the coach and the player.
 - a. If it is determined during a game that a team allowed a player to continue to participate after receiving their third penalty, the game will be immediately forfeited to the other team.
 - b. A completed game may be protested if it is suspected that a team allowed a player to continue to participate after receiving their third penalty. The protest must be filed with the proper authority within one hour for tournament games, and within 24 hrs for league games. The protesting party must provide substantiating evidence. If verified, the subject game will be forfeited.
- H. Only the players (maximum 20) and coaches (maximum 4) listed on the official USAH Roster or replacement coaches approved by the district director are allowed to be on the bench during MH sanctioned competition. Replacement coaches must be currently registered and rostered on a MH team and can use their current team roster for purposes of credential verification. In order to participate in team activities, all coaches (head and assistant) must be certified at the proper Coaching Education Program (CEP) level according to USAH requirements. Coaches of pre-season High School teams must be CEP certified at the proper level when the team is registered or no later than two weeks before the end of their season. Managers are not allowed on the bench. All Players on the bench, including players not dressed to play, must wear a helmet/face mask and team jersey.
- I. Players or team officials suspended because of a Match penalty cannot participate in any team activities including being in the locker room or on the players' bench. Refer to USAH Rules 404(B) and 404(C).
- J. **TEAM REST:** Teams/players shall not participate in more than two on-ice activities per day, nor shall they participate in more than one tournament at a time (no overlapping days). On-ice activities include games (league, tournament, exhibition, etc.) and/or practices. There shall be a minimum of two hours between on-ice activities on the same day and ten hours between on-ice activities on consecutive days. The time is from the end of one on-ice activity to the beginning of the next. Exceptions:
 - a. The rest-time for Mites can be reduced to 1.25 hours for on-ice activities of 60 minutes or less. For half/cross-ice activities of 45 minutes or less, up to four on-ice team activities can occur in a day, with a minimum of 45 minutes rest between activities.
 - b. Teams may schedule practices before or after games, without the two hours of rest, at the discretion of the coach and assn.
- K. **CONCUSSIONS:** (refer to Minnesota Statute 121A.37)
 - a. MH must make concussion information accessible to all coaches, officials, players and parents/guardians, including the effects and risks of continuing to play after receiving a concussion. This includes the nature and risks of concussions associated with athletic activity, concussion symptoms, the need for urgent diagnosis and treatment when a player is suspected or observed to have received a concussion, and the need for concussed players to follow proper medical direction before returning to play. All coaches and officials must receive initial training regarding concussions, and participate in refresher training every two years thereafter. Each coach shall complete and provide a coach concussion acknowledgement form to the association prior to participating in any team activities.
 - b. Coaches, officials and/or medical attendants shall and are authorized to remove a player from participating if the player exhibits concussion signs, symptoms or behaviors, or is suspected of sustaining a concussion. A player removed from participation for this reason may not again participate until they no longer exhibit concussion signs, symptoms or behaviors and a "health care provider" evaluates the player and gives the player written permission to again participate, using

MH's Return To Play Form. "Health care provider" means a third-party health care professional who is registered, licensed, certified or otherwise statutorily authorized by the state to provide medical treatment, and is practicing within their training and experience to evaluate and manage pediatric concussions. No coach, team doctor, team trainer, parent, guardian or relative can execute the Return To Play Form as a healthcare provider.

- c. A head coach or coach in charge of any team activity who has knowledge of a player sustaining a concussion or exhibiting concussion type symptoms shall complete a Minnesota Hockey Concussion Reporting and Return to Play form relating to the injury and ensure that the form is delivered to the team manager within 48 hours of receipt of information that a player sustained a concussion or exhibited concussion type symptoms. The team manager shall provide a copy of the report to the player's parent or legal guardian, District Director and association president or other delegated representative tasked with monitoring reports under this rule. Until the completed Return to Play Portion of the form is received by the team manager or coach, the coach and team manager shall ensure that the player does not participate in any team physical activities. A completed Return to Play form shall be kept by the team manager during the season and a copy provided to the USA Hockey Minnesota District Risk Manager and association president or delegated representative at the end of the year.
- d. The penalty for a knowing violation of this rule by a coach who fails to report a concussion or symptoms of a concussion, fails to timely complete and return a Minnesota Hockey Concussion Reporting and Return to Play form, or allows a player removed from team activities as a result of a concussion or who exhibited concussion type symptoms to participate in team physical activities prior to receipt of assigned medical clearance shall be as follows: for a first violation the coach shall be suspended for the next two games and any events between the two games; for a second violation the coach shall be suspended for two weeks; for a third violation the coach shall be suspended for a full calendar year.
- L. All players, including goalkeepers, are required to wear a colored (non-clear) internal mouthpiece, which covers all remaining teeth of one jaw, customarily the upper.
- M. A blaze orange "Stop Patch" must be displayed in the upper center on the back of all players' jerseys in all Youth and Girl's classifications, except Mites and Mini Mites. This octagonal patch must be a minimum of 3" high/wide and may be sewn or silk-screened on the jerseys.
- N. **EXHIBITION GAMES & CONTROLLED SCRIMMAGES:**
 - a. An Exhibition Game is defined as a contest between two teams that is not held in MH sanctioned league or invitational tournament play. To be considered an exhibition game, all applicable rules of USAH and MH, including those pertaining to rest periods and the use of certified officials, must be followed. If either of the participants is subject to a maximum number of games rule, imposed by USAH, MH or the Affiliate Association governing the participant's activities, the exhibition game shall be counted towards the maximum number of games allowed.
 - b. Coaches-on-Ice scrimmages or "controlled scrimmages" are allowed as a coaching tool for teaching position play and to address various game situations, subject to the following minimum criteria. All of the criteria must be met for the event to be considered a Coaches-On-Ice scrimmage.
 - i. At least one coach from each team must be on the ice for the purpose of instruction.
 - ii. No official scorekeeper, timekeeper or "game clock" can be used.
 - iii. Teams can switch ends at some point, if desired.
 - iv. The event is conducted as a practice, with the coaches stopping play from time to time to make observations and provide instruction on player positioning, etc.
- O. All coaches involved in on-ice activities, practices and scrimmages must wear a HECC-approved hockey helmet. The chin strap must be buckled at all times. Compliance rests on the local associations and the local District. Failure to comply shall result in a mandatory 30 day suspension.
- P. **SCORESHEETS:** A scoresheet shall be used for all games; league, tournament and exhibition.
 - a. The scoresheet shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
 - i. Date, time and location of the game.
 - ii. The division and classification of the teams.
 - iii. The home and visiting team player rosters including player names and numbers.
 - iv. The home and visiting team coaches names, USA Hockey Coach Education Program (CEP) card numbers, CEP level attained and the year of certification.
 - v. Scoring and penalty information.
 - vi. Printed names of the referee(s) and the linesmen and the signature of the referee(s).
 - b. For MH District, Region and State Tournaments, the scoresheets shall be signed by all participating coaches attesting to the accuracy of the player roster and the CEP Information.
 - c. If a game misconduct or match penalty is assessed, the on-ice officials shall receive the top copy of the scoresheet to accompany a game report to the cognizant district supervisor of officials.
- Q. **FAIR PLAY:**
 - a. All leagues administered by MH shall use Fair Play rules to determine league standings. League standings will be determined using the following Fair Play point system: Win = 2 points, Tie = 1 point, Loss = 0 points, plus 1 Fair Play point. In the event that teams play an unequal number of games, the standings can be determined by a percentage of available points in the games played. The following delineates the recommended Fair Play rules. Leagues may amend these rules by submitting changes in writing for approval by the District Directors Committee prior to the start of the league.
 - b. Each team will earn their Fair Play point if none of the following occurs:

- i. Total Fair Play penalty minutes criteria is exceeded.
 - ii. Per Conduct Rule XIV.C.2, spectator conduct becomes so abusive that, in referee(s)' opinion, it is distracting from the game or inciting players, requiring the referee(s) to stop play and request specified individuals leave the arena.
 - iii. Coach is assessed a Game Misconduct or Match Penalty.
 - iv. An off-ice official (timekeeper, scorekeeper, penalty box attendant) provided by one of the teams exhibits conduct that results in the person being removed from their position by the referee(s).
 - v. A player on the team receives a match penalty under USAH Rule 601 e2/e3 for obscene gesture or offensive/hateful/discriminatory language.
- c. Fair Play total "equivalent" penalty minute criteria. (Criteria based on 1 hour games for Pee wee/12 & Under and below and 1½ hour games for Bantam/15 & Under and up.)
- | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|---|------------|
| i. Squirt | 10 minutes | vi. Girls 10 & Under..... | 8 minutes |
| ii. Pee Wee..... | 12 minutes | vii. Girls 12 & Under..... | 10 minutes |
| iii. Bantam..... | 14 minutes | viii. Girls 14 & Under and 15 & Under | 12 minutes |
| iv. Jr. Gold 16 | 16 minutes | ix. Girls 16 & Under..... | 14 minutes |
| v. Jr. Gold | 16 minutes | x. Girls 19 & Under..... | 14 minutes |
- d. For the purposes of total Fair Play penalty minutes, the following outlines the penalty "equivalency" minutes associated with each of the following classifications of penalties:
- | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|---|------------|
| i. Minor/Bench Minor | 2 Minutes | v. Match | 5 Minutes |
| ii. Major..... | 5 Minutes | vi. Minor plus Misconduct (2 & 10)..... | 12 Minutes |
| iii. Misconduct | 10 Minutes | vii. Misconduct for no mouth guard..... | 2 Minutes |
| iv. Game Misconduct..... | 10 Minutes | viii. Penalty Shot.. Equivalent minutes to penalty assessed | |
- Note – See special provisions in paragraph C above.*
- R. If two or more teams are tied in the final standings, the following process shall be used to determine position in the standings. If the tied teams played an unequal number of games, the formula results stated below must be determined by a percentage of available points in the games played. When the tie involves two teams, the tie breaking formulas shall be used in succession until the tie is broken beginning with 5.a. When the tie involves three or more teams, their position in the standings shall be determined using the same process, except when one formula establishes a position for one or more teams, each team is placed in the applicable position. Once a team(s) is placed, the tie-breaking process shall be restarted at formula 5.a for the remaining tied teams.
- a. Total points from head to head competition among tied teams including Fair Play points.
 - b. Most wins in league play.
 - c. Fewest losses in league play
 - d. Most Fair Play points earned in league play
 - e. Largest goal differential among tied teams. (six max. per game)
 - f. Greatest quotient; goals for divided by goals against among tied teams.
 - g. Largest goal differential for all league play. (six max. per game)
 - h. Greatest quotient; goals for divided by goals against for all league play.
 - i. Flip of a coin by a league official in the presence of the District Director.
- S. **Forfeits:** A team initiating a forfeit does not receive a Fair Play point. The team not forfeiting receives the Fair Play point, unless the forfeit is mid-game and they have already lost the Fair Play point.
- T. **LEAGUES:**
- a. Teams may participate only in leagues recognized and approved by the Board or its designate(s).
 - b. Leagues formed within a MH district consisting solely of teams from within that district and approved by the cognizant district director shall be deemed as approved leagues.
 - c. Leagues of teams from two or more MH districts can be formed with the consent of the participating teams' District Directors. Playing rules for such leagues shall be those of the district of the home team, and administrative rules shall be those of the district administering the league, unless agreed otherwise by the involved District Directors.
 - d. Leagues not formed under district or multi-district supervision (non-district leagues) that are approved by the applicable District Director(s) will operate under the jurisdiction of the cognizant Region Vice President. The Board may establish stipulations under which non-district leagues can be formed.
 - e. All leagues; intra-district, inter-district or otherwise; must follow USAH and MH rules and regulations.
 - f. Only teams participating in leagues under district jurisdiction are eligible for MH post season play.
- U. **COLD WEATHER POLICY:**
- It is required that all Minnesota Hockey Districts have a written policy regarding players playing and practicing at outside rinks. Policies should indicate the minimum temperature, including wind chill, that is safe for players to participate outside. Policies should account for the opportunity for participants to warm up should they become cold. No player should be required to remain outside in extreme weather if they indicate they are uncomfortable. Each District's policy shall be provided to the Minnesota Hockey Player Safety Coordinator prior to the season for review and approval and anytime thereafter when a change in the policy is adopted.
- V. **PROHIBITION ON ALTERING UNIFORMS:**
- Any uniform shall not contain any statement, logo, advertisement or other alteration other than information, names, logos or sponsor information approved by MH or the applicable affiliate. Any political statement, advertisement for political candidate or legislative law shall be prohibited on any MH Youth or Girls uniform.

IX. PROTESTS:

No protests relating to the playing of the game are allowed in any MH play. This includes scrimmage games, league games, invitational tournament games and MH tournament games with the following exceptions:

- A. Districts or Leagues may establish a protest policy/process for their district or league games. If such a policy/process is adopted, the district director shall be the final authority - no further appeals are allowed.
- B. Ineligible player protests will be accepted in MH sanctioned competition. The protesting team must furnish evidence substantiating the ineligibility of the player in question. The protest must be made to the cognizant district director or tournament director who will rule on the player's eligibility and whose decision shall be final. If the player is ruled ineligible, all games in which the ineligible player participated will be forfeited. If the officials fail to assess an in-game suspension to a player who should have received one under USAH or MH rules, the player is not considered an ineligible player. The protest must be filed within one hour for tournament games and twenty-four hours for league games after the completion of the game in which the alleged violation occurred. Video submissions to any game official are not allowed and will not be viewed unless requested by the game official or the other investigating authority.

X. DISTRICT, REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

- A. **DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS:** District tournaments are the responsibility of and at the expense of the districts, and shall comply with MH Rules and Regulations. Special district league rules or penalties shall not apply to or carry over to region tournaments. District representatives to region tournaments must be determined by the Sunday prior to the start of Regions.
- B. **INTENTION TO ENTER DISTRICT TOURNAMENT:** Teams or leagues wishing to participate in state tournament play-down shall notify their district director no later than December 31 of the playing season. Each District Director may require any team within his/her district, that desires to enter State Tournament play-offs, to participate in that district's league play to determine that team's eligibility for such play-offs according to the rules of that district or league. (Note: Under the provisions of this rule, a District Director may require the district's league to accept a team(s) for participation in that league).
- C. **DISTRICT "C" TOURNAMENTS:** Each district director is responsible to supervise arrangements for their C-level district tournament. A city recreational league representative is eligible to enter district tournaments provided that all teams in the league are properly registered with USA Hockey.
- D. **REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENT FEES:** The MH Board shall set tournament entry and spectator fees on an annual basis. The fees will be published on the inside front cover of the MH Handbook. Any fee in excess of the adopted amount must be approved by the cognizant section vice president and the Tournament Committee no later than the preceding fall meeting. Once fees are established for a given year, there will be no financial reimbursements by MH, except for State Tournament subsidies.
- E. **STATE TOURNAMENT SUBSIDY:** MH will provide a \$1500 subsidy to State Tournament hosts. This payment will be made only after the host completes and submits the MH State Tournament Financial Report to MH within 30 days of the completion of the State Tournament. Hosts not completing and submitting the form within the established timeframe will not receive the subsidy.
- F. **STATE TOURNAMENT FORMAT:** MH State youth tournaments shall consist of eight teams using a championship single elimination format with a consolation division unless approved otherwise by the Tournaments Committee. There shall be games to determine third place, consolation champion and State champion, but no game to determine seventh place. The tournaments shall start on Friday and conclude on Sunday, with each team playing one game on Friday and one game on Saturday. On Sundays, no games shall be scheduled to begin before 9 AM or start after 5 PM.
- G. All players on each team in region and state tournament play shall have similarly colored jerseys with numbers conspicuously displayed and each player and team must wear matching socks, if available. Two Sets of jerseys with contrasting colors should be available. In the event that a team has only one set of jerseys available, this shall be communicated to the tournament director not less than 24 hours before the start of the tournament. The tournament director will advise the opposing teams to wear a contrasting color (the designation of Home and Away teams would be unaffected).
- H. Host associations are only required to give out a maximum of four (4) passes to team officials (coaches), and at their discretion may give an extra pass to the team manager.
- I. **PLAYING TIME:**
 - a. In region and state tournament play, games for Junior Gold and younger will consist of three 15 minute periods of actual playing time. Start times shall be scheduled at one hour and 45 minute intervals (minimum). In district tournament play, games for Junior Gold and younger will consist of three 12 to 15 minute periods of actual playing time as determined by the cognizant district director.
 - b. Running time shall be used in district, region and state tournaments whenever a goal differential of six occurs in the 3rd period. Stop time shall resume if the goal differential becomes less than six.
 - c. Where running time is used in district, region or state tournaments, the clock shall not be stopped for any reason except for injuries or rink problems and only at the discretion of the referee. Penalties shall begin at the face-off immediately following the assessment of the penalty. Do not post penalties on the scoreboard unless they can be entered without stopping the clock.
- J. **BREAKING OF TIES:**
 - a. For Region and State Tournament games, the following overtime format shall be used. The teams shall change goals after the third period and stay that way through all overtime periods.
 - i. A two minute rest, then a first sudden victory overtime period – ten minutes – five on five

- ii. A two minute rest, then a second sudden victory overtime period – ten minutes – five on five
 - iii. Resurface the ice, then conduct additional ten-minute sudden victory overtime periods, as needed, five on five, with two-minute rests between periods and resurfacing after every three periods.
 - iv. Refer to paragraph entitled “Ice Resurfacing” herein for additional resurfacing requirements.
 - v. This plan of play shall continue until one team scores. If the teams remain tied after three ten-minute periods of sudden victory overtime, the tournament director, in the best interest of the tournament, has the option of suspending the game and completing it at a later time.
- b. Method of determining a champion in round robin tournament play: The standings shall be determined on the basis of two (2) points for a win, zero (0) points for a loss, and one (1) point for a tie. (During district, region and state tournaments, regardless of format, all games will be played to a win/lose situation. There will be no ties.) If two or more teams have an equal number of points, their position in the standings shall be determined by:
- i. The results of the games played between the tied teams in the following order:
 - 1. The points acquired in these games
 - 2. Subtract goals scored against from goals scored (position by greatest surplus)
 - 3. Divide goals scored by the goals scored against (position by greatest quotient)
 - ii. If after applying the formulas of a.1, a.2, or a.3 the tie still exists, a.2 and a.3 shall be applied using all the games played by each team. When the tie involves three or more teams, their position in the standings shall be determined as follows: If one tie-breaker establishes a position for one or more teams, each team is placed in the applicable position. Once a team is placed, the remaining tied teams shall start the tie-breaking process again at step 3.a.1.
 - 1. If the above procedure does not break the tie, the team that scored the first and fastest goal in a game will be the tie breaker. If the teams are still tied, the teams shall use a shoot out procedure. This will involve each team selecting five (5) players who will alternate taking penalty shots. A toss of the coin will determine which team will take the first shot. If after five (5) players from both teams have completed this procedure, the tie still has not been broken, it shall be repeated with five (5) different players until the standings are determined.
- K. **ALL STARS:** No all-star team may be selected or awards given to individual players in MH District, Region and State tournaments.
- L. **MEDICAL ATTENTION:** A Certified Athletic Trainer, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), paramedic or medical or osteopathic physician shall be on site for each one or two games in progress, except such medical attention shall not be required for Mite games. This group shall include licensed health care professionals, Certified Athletic Trainers, Emergency Medical Technologists (EMT) and any additional persons who have successfully completed and maintained certification for programs conducted by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association, specifically AFORE (Advanced First Aid), CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation), and BLS (Basic Life Support). Registered Nurses currently certified for AFA/CPR/BLS are included. The retained medical personnel have the final say on whether an injured player can return to the game. Refer to the paragraph entitled “Concussions” for additional information.
- M. **STATE TOURNAMENT SITE ROTATION:**
- a. The Peewee and Bantam State Tournaments will rotate annually from Gold to Maroon. In 2014, Peewees will be in the Gold division; Bantams will be in the Maroon division; in 2015, Peewees will be in the Maroon division; Bantams will be in the Gold division and so forth.
 - b. The Junior Gold A State Tournament will rotate four years in the Maroon division and one year in the Gold division starting with the 2012 tournament (2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 in the Maroon and 2016 in the Gold and so forth). The number of teams seeded to the tournament will be based on the total percentage of teams; however, a minimum of two Gold teams will be seeded when Gold is host.
- N. **LOCATION/FORMAT/GAME SCHEDULE:** The location (community and arena) of each region and state tournament must be submitted by the hosting District Director or the cognizant Divisional Vice President to the Tournaments Committee Chair on or before the MH Summer Meeting. Schedules must be arranged so that no team playing their second game of the day is competing against a team playing their first game of the day. Teams in Region/State games shall have at least three hours rest between games on the same day. The tournament formats, including tournament dates and game times must be submitted to the Tournaments Committee Chair no later than December 31 in the year preceding the tournament. If the above requirements are not met, the Tournaments Committee Chair shall notify the cognizant Divisional Vice President within five days following the deadline. The cognizant Divisional Vice President is responsible for resolving the problem. This resolution must be accomplished within fifteen days and the Tournaments Committee Chair is to be so notified. For Region and State tournaments with elimination brackets, the team on the top of the bracket is home. For round-robin tournaments, the home team shall be clearly indicated.
- O. **MINIMUM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS:** The following minimum requirements shall apply to facilities used for MH Region and State Tournaments. Any exceptions to these requirements must be requested in writing to the Tournaments Committee Chair for consideration by the Tournaments Committee.
- a. The ice sheet shall be a minimum of 200’x85’, refrigerated (artificial), enclosed in a building which seats a minimum of 500.
 - b. The facility must have a mechanical resurfer (Zamboni) in good operating condition. If propane or gasoline powered, a catalytic muffler should be installed and adequate building ventilation provided.

- c. Four dressing rooms (minimum) are required. They must be of sufficient size to accommodate 20 players, their equipment, and four adults with easy access to lavatory facilities.
- d. A separate dressing room for the on-ice officials is required, sized for four adults with their equipment, and with easy access to lavatory facilities.
- e. Penalty boxes must be separate for each team, with separate doors for each that open into the box.
- f. Players' benches must have a minimum of two doors which open into the bench area, and be sufficiently sized for twenty players plus three adults. Players' benches and penalty box doors should be positioned so that players entering the ice surface are not placed offside.
- g. Scoreboard with capacity to show period, time remaining in period and two penalty times remaining per team is required. A backup stop-watch time keeping device must be available at the arena.
- h. All lines on the ice (red/blue/goal lines, goal crease, face-off circles) are clearly visible and in accordance with USAH rules.
- i. A public address system in the arena is required.
- j. A full service concession stand is recommended. Miscellaneous supplies such as mouthguards, tape, sticks, and skate laces should be available for sale, as well as skate sharpening service.
- P. **SCHEDULE CHANGES:** Only in cases of emergency should the announced game schedule be changed. Game schedules for region and state tournaments will not be changed without prior approval of the Tournaments Committee Chair. Often, teams wish to change the time for the consolation and/or third place game. The changing only results in additional problems. All teams entering the tournament will know in advance the game schedule and are expected to play the games when scheduled.
- Q. **CREDENTIALS:** A Credentials Committee, including an official of MH such as a District Director or his/her designee, shall check each team's credentials prior to their playing of any games in accordance with the Team Credentials Package section in the Handbook. A meeting with each coach and manager of the participating teams should be held before their first game. For MH District, Region and State tournaments, the Coaching Education Program certification requirements shall be checked for all coaches prior to the first game of the tournament.
- R. **TOURNAMENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:** A committee comprised of three people must be appointed by the host District Director to hear protests and grievances. This committee is considered the "authority having jurisdiction" to hold hearings for match or gross misconduct penalties, make determinations on player eligibility questions, and deal with other issues which may arise. The host District Director or another MH Director or Officer must serve as the committee chairperson. A. The Committee shall have the authority to issue discipline on an immediate basis. The committee shall have the ability to suspend a player, coach, spectator, or referee without a hearing if such conduct falls within USA Hockey Bylaw 10C (3) or 10D.
- S. **ICE SURFACING:** In region and state MH tournaments the ice shall be resurfaced before each game and at intermission between the 2nd and 3rd periods. If the game goes into overtime, **resurfacing** shall occur at the end of the 2nd overtime period and at the end of every three overtime periods there-after. The tournament director may use discretion as to whether resurfacing is needed after an overtime period before the beginning of the next scheduled game. District tournaments may reduce resurfacing requirements to between every two periods of play.
- T. **AWARDS:** MH Districts are responsible for awards for district tournaments. MH will provide appropriate team/individual awards for region and state tournaments.
- U. **TOURNAMENT OUTLINE:** Region tournament information must be provided to the Districts from which teams will be sent, including the site, dates, game times, bracketing, pairing, rules and lodging arrangements if applicable. Similar State tournament info must be provided to the Region tournament hosts. Give this info to advancing teams as soon as they are determined.
- V. **REPORTING RESULTS:** The following must be reported to the MH staff during each MH District, Region or State tournament:
 - a. For Districts, report the names of teams advancing to the next tournament. (Also report to the host for the next tournament.)
 - b. For Regions, report the participants and scores of all the games immediately following the conclusion of each game.
 - c. For State, enter game scores and statistics for each game on the online scoring platform determined by MH.
- W. **Region Tournaments:** The number and location of Region Tournaments may be adjusted by the Tournament Committee based on the team numbers in a particular year.

XI. INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING

- A. All invitational tournaments involving teams from more than one MH district, including tournaments played outdoors on natural ice, must be sanctioned by MH. If the tournament will include teams from outside MH, then USA Hockey sanction is also required.
- B. An Association and/or a MH District may conduct special events as authorized by the District Director, provided that only teams from within that district participate. In special circumstances, the involved District Directors can approve participation by neighboring associations outside of the District. Special events must follow all rules for sanctioning invitational tournaments except that there is no sanction fee and these events are not subject to the February 1st sanctioning deadline. Any event involving three or more teams, excluding regularly scheduled league games, is considered to be an invitational tournament, unless the teams are all from the same district and/or the event has been authorized as a special event.

- C. The conditions for sanctioning invitational tournaments are as follows:
- a. All teams participating must be registered with USA Hockey or another International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) affiliate such as the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA).
 - b. Guaranteed Gate tournaments are allowed, with the understanding that the single team payment includes all tournament entry and spectator admission fees with no additional charges.
 - c. Invitational tournaments of the same age group and division cannot be held on the same weekend within a 50 mile radius of a MH state tournament. If more than one ice sheet is available at an arena complex, no invitational tournament may be held at that arena complex on the same weekend that a MH Region Or State Tournament is being held. If there is a conflict in dates, Invitational sponsors agree to refund entry fees of all teams which qualify for district, region or state MH tournaments.
 - d. Officials must be USAH registered, and USAH playing rules and age classifications as modified by MH must be used.
 - e. MH Youth Rules and Regulations paragraphs entitled "Credentials" and "Medical Attention" in the District, Region and State Tournaments section apply to all invitational tournaments.
 - f. The MH fee for a MH Affiliate to sanction an invitational tournament is \$100 for each division and classification (e.g. - for a tournament with Squirt A, Peewee A, and Peewee B levels, the sanction fee is \$300). The fee for non-MH-Affiliates is listed on the inside front cover of the Handbook.
 - g. If team(s) from outside of MH participate, a USAH invitational tournament sanction fee of \$250 is also required. All teams must be registered with USA Hockey or another IIHF Federation (i.e. Canada). Note that the USA Hockey fee is per tournament, not per division/classification.
 - h. The following items must be submitted by a sponsoring MH Association to the cognizant district director or the district tournament coordinator for preliminary approval:
 - i. Completed tournament application on the official MH sanction application form
 - ii. Copy of proposed tournament rules, including tournament entry fee information
 - iii. Tournament bracketing, with ice times
 - iv. One check, payable to MH, for each application that includes the MH and USAH sanction fees. Applications submitted without the above items will be returned. Once preliminarily approved, applications will be forwarded to the MH Tournaments Committee Chair for final approval.
 - i. Applications to host invitational tournaments must be received by the District Director or the district tournament coordinator no less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day of the tournament. Applications will not be accepted after February 1.
 - j. **LATE APPLICATIONS:** The MH tournament sanction fee for applications received less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the scheduled first day of the tournament will be \$200 for each level. Additionally, sanction applications received less than ten days prior to the start of a proposed tournament are subject to outright rejection or a fine of up to \$500 (in addition to the \$200 per level fee), as determined by the MH Tournaments Committee Chair.
 - k. Modifications to approved applications (changes in tournament rules, ice times, bracketing, teams participating) must be submitted for review and approval by the MH Tournaments Committee Chair at least ten days prior to the start of the tournament.
 - l. The completed and approved sanction form and accompanying materials (tournament rules and bracketing) serve as a contract between the sponsoring affiliate and MH/USAH as to how the tournament will be conducted. Un-approved changes to this contract (such as changing brackets, game time, or rule substitutions) will be considered a sanction violation, subject to penalties defined below.
 - m. Invitational Tournament hosts shall respond within ten business days of the receipt of any application and inform the applicant whether the application is accepted, incomplete, declined or wait listed. Responses shall include the following:
 - i. If incomplete, identify the reason it is deemed incomplete and the date by which any deficiencies are to be corrected.
 - ii. If wait listed, the date a final decision will be made to accept or decline the application. If wait listed the applicant shall be allowed to withdraw the application any time before acceptance and receive a full refund.
 - iii. If declined, refund of all tournament fees. Acceptance of an application will be deemed a final decision; the host will not be permitted to decline a previously accepted application unless the tournament is canceled. Penalties for violating this rule, such as excluding the host team, will be determined by the District Director.
 - n. In the event of a tournament cancellation, notify the District Director or Tournament Coordinator for the district in writing no less than ten days before the start date of the tournament. USAH fees and late fees will not be returned. The host may request a refund of MH tournament fees from the MH Tournaments Committee Chair, in writing, no later than 30 days after the start date of the tournament.
 - o. Hosting unsanctioned tournaments or violating MH/USAH tournament rules will be cause for penalty to the host association:
 - i. For the first offense, the association will not be allowed to host invitational tournaments at the division/classification (Bantam A, Peewee B, etc.) at which the violation occurred for the balance of the current season and the following season. Monetary fines may also be assessed.
 - ii. For the second offense within a three year period, the association will not be allowed to host or participate in invitational tournaments and MH playoffs at any level for the balance of the current season and the following season. Monetary fines may also be assessed.

- iii. In the event that the violation is considered a minor or inadvertent error, a penalty may be reduced at the discretion of the Tournaments Committee Chair and the cognizant District Director.
 - iv. Penalized Associations may not have another association host tournaments at their sites. Evaluation of circumstances and assessment of penalties shall be the joint responsibility of the District Director and the Tournaments Committee Chair. The Tournaments Committee shall decide disputes regarding penalties to be assessed. Committee decisions shall be considered a "decision of MH". (Bylaws Article 7, Board of Directors, District Directors Duties)
 - p. Teams participating in unsanctioned tournaments will be subject to disciplinary action by the District for the balance of that season and the following season, up to and including suspension from MH activities.
 - q. All Tournaments hosted and sanctioned by off-season affiliates and non-affiliates shall pay a deposit of \$5,000, per level, at the time of the application for the tournament. The fee shall be forfeited if any rules violation occurs in connection with the conduct of the tournament. The host of the tournament shall provide a profit and loss statement with respect to the conduct of the tournament and shall receive a return of the deposit upon receipt of the profit and loss statement and verification that no rules violations occurred in connection with the tournament.
- D. **EXEMPT EVENTS:** Sanction Applications and sanction fees are not required for the following events:
- a. MN Hockey District, Region, and State Tournaments.
 - b. Events involving teams from a single MN Hockey District, except the involved District Directors can approve participation by neighboring associations outside of the District. Provide rules and bracketing for either of the above events to the Tournaments Committee Chair or the District Director.
 - c. Special Events involving up to 6 teams are allowed, subject to following criteria:
 - i. All teams must be MH-registered teams. No non-MH teams except with District Director approval.
 - ii. Play among teams is PREDETERMINED. All teams will be aware of who they will be playing and when, prior to the first game.
 - iii. Subsequent play between teams is not determined by results of prior games.
 - iv. No team event points are accumulated as a result of games.
 - v. No awards for teams or individual players.
 - vi. All rules regarding team rest and number of on-ice events will be followed
 - vii. Participating teams will provide necessary volunteers to assist with the game. Host association may not charge for off-ice officials unless that is their common practice.
 - viii. No gate entry fees may be assessed to participating teams or spectators.
 - ix. All game costs will be divided equally among teams playing.
 - x. Host association may charge a nominal administrative fee, not exceeding \$50 per team. This type of event cannot be conducted as a fundraising event.
 - xi. The Host Association is responsible for:
 - 1. Keeping complete financial and game format records of the event.
 - 2. Complete accountability to the cognizant District Director upon request.
 - 3. Adherence to the rules set forth above. Violations could result in sanctions including not being allowed to play in the postseason at the level of the event.
 - d. No pre-approval is required to conduct "Special Events". However, complete financial and game format records must be provided to the Tournaments Committee Chair or cognizant District Director on request.
- E. Interstate, National and International tournaments, refer to the MH By-Law Article entitled "Registration" and the Article Entitled "International Competition".
- F. Other than the traditional holiday break at the end of December, no Invitational Tournament is to be scheduled on a Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday (unless it is a holiday and school is not scheduled to be in session). Games scheduled for Thursday may not be scheduled to start before 6:00 p.m. or after 9:00 p.m. When preparing invitational tournament schedules, consideration shall be given to schedule games in a manner that does not require a player to miss any school time.
- a. Associations hosting invitational tournaments wherein there are games scheduled when school is in session shall advertise this fact in any promotional material used to recruit tournament participants.
 - b. No team traveling more than fifty miles, one way, from the tournament site shall be required to play a game that starts prior to 6:00 PM on a school day, unless the team indicates their willingness to do so, in writing, on their invitational tournament entry form (email acceptable), and the host team plays in the same or an earlier game on the same day.
 - c. If it becomes necessary to change a tournament schedule and such change requires that a team must involuntarily play a game that will take its players away from school, that team will be allowed to withdraw from the tournament, and any fees paid by that team shall be fully refunded by the tournament host, within seven (7) days after the date of withdrawal.
 - d. Minnesota Hockey affiliates who authorize others within their affiliate to conduct sanctioned tournaments shall be responsible for compliance with this rule.
 - e. Tournament host associations who violate this rule, or any portion thereof, will lose tournament sanctioning privileges and/or the right to host a Minnesota Hockey tournament for a period of not less than one (1) year from the end of the season in which the violation occurred. Violations could also result in monetary fines to the Association(s).

XII. USAH National Championship Eligibility

Tier I, Tier II and High School Classifications

The Tier I and Tier II designations are restricted to classifications (Youth 14U, 15, 16U, 18U and Girls 14U, 16U, 19U) for which USA Hockey conducts National Championships. The High School classification is restricted to teams that comply with the requirements outlined in the USA Hockey Rules and Regulations.

Players on Tier I, Tier II and High School National Tournament bound teams must be Minnesota residents (see "Participation Rule"). Tier I, Tier II and High School National Championship bound teams must comply with the eligibility requirements established in the USA Hockey National Championship Guidebook and USA Hockey Rules and Regulations.

A. Tier I

- a. **Purpose:** Provide Minnesota players the opportunity to develop, compete at the highest level and showcase their skills while enhancing and strengthening Minnesota's community-based youth/girls and high school structure. After the Fall pre-season, participants will be allowed to play for their community association or high school team and then come back together on completion of that season to participate in a USA National Championship.
- b. **Leagues:** Tier I Leagues shall be administered by the MH High Performance (HP) Program or affiliate leagues as approved by the MH Board of Directors. League operations include player and coach selection, financial operations, scheduling and dispute resolution. The Tier I Committee Chair with the support of Hockey Operations shall annually provide recommendations for any such affiliate leagues at the MH Spring meeting for MH Board of Directors approval. The Tier I Committee shall have responsibility for all matters pertaining to the Tier I Leagues as authorized by the MH Board of Directors.

c. Tier I Season

Youth 14U/15 Only
Girls 14U
Youth 16U/18U
Girls 16U/19U

Pre-season

August 1 - October 15
August 1 - October 15
August 1 - start of Boys High School season
August 1 - start of Girls High School season

Post-season

MH State Tournament thru USAH Nationals
MH State Tournament thru USAH Nationals
MSHSL Boys State Tournament thru USAH Nationals
MSHSL Girls State Tournament thru USAH Nationals

Maximum Number of Tier I Teams

- i. Youth 14U, 15 Only, 16U & 18 U - 8 teams each classification
 - ii. Girls 16U - 7 teams
 - iii. Girls 14U - 8 teams
 - iv. Girls 19U - 5 teams
- d. **Tier I Tryouts:** Tryouts must be announced publicly at least 30 days in advance of tryouts, providing details of place and time. Personal invitations to tryouts are permissible with a maximum of 80% of tryout participants being by invitation. Tryouts shall not be scheduled before 48 hours after the last Youth/Girls National Championship Game.
 - e. **Minnesota District Tier 1 Playoffs:** The Tier 1 Committee Chair in cooperation with the USA Hockey Minnesota District Directors is responsible for conducting and establishing the playoff formats. The Youth 14U/15 and Girls 14U Playoffs will be completed before October 15, Girls 16U/19U before the beginning of the MSHSL Girls hockey season and the Youth 16U/18U before the beginning of the MSHSL Boys hockey season.
 - f. **Note:** Shattuck St Mary's teams, as a legacy program, will be classified as Tier I National Championship eligible and participate in the MN District Playoff. SSM players are exempt from the MN residency requirement for Tier I.

B. Tier II

- a. **Applications:** MH HP Program, association and geographically defined affiliates teams shall make application for Tier II status to the Minnesota Hockey VP Hockey Operations by June 1. Tier II certification for Tier II National Championship eligibility shall be subject to approval by the Minnesota Hockey Board of Directors at the Summer BOD meeting.
- b. **Tier II State Playoffs:** The Minnesota Tournament Committee Chair in cooperation with the USA Hockey Minnesota District Directors are responsible for conducting and establishing the State Tier II playoff format. The scheduling and format will be dependent on the applications for Tier II classification that are approved.

C. High School

- a. **Eligibility:** Affiliates with High School teams as defined in USAH Rules and Regulations (Pure and Combined) desiring eligibility to participate in the USAH National High School Championship must declare such to the MH Vice President Hockey Operations by June 1. Eligibility of High School National Championship bound teams will be subject to Board of Directors approval at the Summer BOD meeting.
- b. **High School State Playoffs:** The Minnesota Tournament Committee Chair in cooperation with the USAH Minnesota District Directors are responsible for conducting and establishing the State High School playoff format. The scheduling and format will be dependent on the applications for High School National Championship bound teams that are approved.

XIII. ON-ICE OFFICIALS

- A. The four-official (2 referees, 2 linesmen), three-official (1 referee; 2 linesmen) or two-official systems will be used.
 - a. The three- or four-official system is mandatory for all Jr. Gold A, B and 16 Playoffs, Region and State Tournament games.

- b. The three-official system is the minimum for all Bantam AA/A, Girls 15 & Under A and Women's 19 & Under Playoffs, Region and State Tournament games.
- c. The three-official system is mandatory for all Bantam B, Peewee AA/A and Girls 12 & Under A State Tournament games. The three-official system is recommended for Bantam B, Peewee AA/A and Girls 12 & Under A Playoffs and Region games.
- d. The two-official system will be used for all Peewee B, Girls 15 & Under B, Girls 12 & Under B and Sr. Women Playoffs, Region and State Tournament games.
- e. If a scheduled official for the three-official system fails to appear or is injured during the game and no replacement official is available, the game may continue using the two-official system.
- f. A minimum of two officials is required for all District, Region and State Tournament games.
- B. All officials must be registered with USAH and their respective affiliate to officiate MH sanctioned games.
- C. USAH Level 3 or 4 officials must be used at MH District/Region/State tournaments. Level 2 officials may be used at the "B" level with approval of the District Director and the Referee Section Director.
- D. All on-ice officials must wear the USAH crest on their sweaters and carry their USAH registration card.
- E. All Level 3 or 4 officials must complete registration by Dec. 31.

XIV. MOOD-ALTERING CHEMICALS

The use, consumption or possession of mood altering chemicals, regardless of quantity, is expressly prohibited during the entire playing season. Included are: (1) beverages containing alcohol, (2) tobacco (including chewing tobacco), (3) E-Cigarettes, (4) controlled substances defined by law as drugs (including marijuana), and (5) buying, selling or giving away controlled substances. It is not a violation for a player to possess a controlled substance specifically prescribed for the player's use by the player's physician.

A. PENALTIES:

- a. After confirmation of a first violation, the player shall be suspended for the next two games or two weeks, whichever is greater.
- b. After confirmation of a second violation, the player shall be suspended for the next six consecutive games.
- c. After confirmation of a third or subsequent violation, the player shall be suspended for the next twelve consecutive games.
- d. In (2) and (3) above, no exception is permitted for a player who participates in a treatment program.
- e. If after the third or subsequent violations the player on her/his own volition becomes a participant in a chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in MH activities after a minimum period of six weeks. Such certification must be issued by the director or counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center.

- B. **INTERPRETATION:** "Game" in this rule means regular league or playoff contest (not practice games or scrimmages). Associations or individual teams may adopt a more prohibitive rule and/or more severe penalties for violation of this Rule.

XV. CONDUCT

- A. All players, coaches and fans must maintain an environment that encourages mutual respect and promotes respectful and congenial relationships between players, coaches and fans and that is free from all forms of harassment by anyone.
 - a. All hockey players that are involved in an incident involving language, a gesture or conduct that is offensive, hateful or discriminatory in nature ("Occurrence") must inform their coaches as soon as reasonably possible after such an Occurrence, whether it is on or off the ice.
 - b. If a player notifies the coach of an Occurrence during a game, the coach must communicate the Occurrence to the officials as soon as is reasonably possible.
 - c. Upon notification, the official must inform the opposing team and coaches of the report of the Occurrence and warn them that such behavior will result in a Match penalty against each responsible involved player if observed by an official.
 - d. If at any time, with or without notification, an official observes an Occurrence, a Match penalty must be assessed against each offending player.
 - e. The officials must note a reported or observed Occurrence on the game scoresheet upon completion of the game, and a copy of the scoresheet shall be provided to the District Director of each offending player's team. For observed Occurrences, a Game Report must be filed.
 - f. The District Director will maintain the scoresheet as a record of the Occurrence and may conduct any additional investigation and impose any additional discipline the District Director deems necessary.
- B. Each team is responsible for the conduct of its spectators. Coaches should advise their parents and fans of the conduct rules.
- C. If spectator conduct becomes so abusive that, in the official's opinion, it is distracting from the game or inciting the players, the referee(s) will stop play and ask the coach(es) to control their spectators, and/or ask the coach(es) to request specified individuals to leave the arena.
- D. Use of artificial noisemakers and devices such as laser pointers that could be detrimental to the game are considered abusive conduct and are prohibited at all games. Use of any such device that could be detrimental to the players or the conduct of the game, is considered abusive conduct and may be reported to local law enforcement.
- E. During MH playoffs or invitational tournaments, the District Director, designated district personnel

or the tournament director shall have the authority to take actions as necessary to control spectator conduct.

- F. Any spectator removed under Para. C, D or E above will incur a mandatory minimum 3-game suspension from that team's games and may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body.
- G. Failure of a coach to cooperate with a referee's request within two minutes will result in a bench minor penalty and a warning from the referee that after an additional two minutes, the game will be suspended. The game suspension will be immediately reported to the Supervisor of Officials who will then inform the cognizant MH District Director.
- H. Spectators standing by the boards behind the goalkeeper shall not deliberately distract the goalkeeper. The referee may request anyone in violation of this rule to move or leave the arena. In an appropriate case, the referee may declare the game to be forfeited to the team of the goalkeeper being distracted.
- I. MH acknowledges the Locker Room Monitoring Policy as established by USA Hockey. Monitors must be the same gender as the players, safesport trained and undergo background screening by MH to serve in this capacity. When coaches are not the same gender as the players, coaches may not be in the locker room while players are changing unless the players have a base layer on or come to the rink in a base layer.
 - a. No team or player shall be allowed to enter a locker room prior to a scheduled event until a locker room monitor is present in the locker room and such monitor shall remain in the locker room until the last player leaves the locker room unless coaches are present. When coaches are present in the locker room, they may serve as locker room monitors.
 - b. Any coach's(es) meeting(s) with an individual, minor player shall be conducted on the ice, on the bench, in the locker room with the other team members and/or locker room monitor(s) present, or in an observable and interruptible setting.
 - c. When a player is ejected from a game there must be at least two adults consisting either of locker room monitors or coaches in the locker room with the suspended player. If there is a break and players go to the locker room without coaches, a locker room monitor must be inside the locker room.
 - d. Alleged violations of these rules shall cause a mandatory hearing to be held in accordance with MH Bylaw Article 6. If warranted, a suspension penalty may be levied upon the head coach or person in charge of the team if the head coach is not present. The penalty for violations of this rule shall be \$500 for the first offense, \$1,000 for the second offense, and \$2,500 for the third offense. These fines are the responsibility of the offending team and shall be paid to the applicable district.
- J. Coaches, managers, minor officials, or players exuding the scent of alcohol, or while using any tobacco products (including chewing tobacco) or while using E-Cigarettes, shall not be allowed within the players bench area or the penalty box area.
- K. Coaches/players/managers/spectators may not enter the game official's room without an invitation before, during or after a game. Coaches/players/managers/spectators may not approach or confront a game official inside a rink or in the parking lot of a rink for purposes of confronting, harassing, challenging or otherwise taking any aggressive or inappropriate attitude towards a game official with respect to any aspect of the game official's role as game official. This Rule shall not prohibit the head coach or acting head coach from respectfully questioning game officials during the course of the game. The following actions will take place for violation of this rule:
 - a. For coaches and players a first violation of this Rule will result in a game misconduct. A second violation of this Rule will result in a three game misconduct. A third violation of this Rule will result in a suspension for the remainder of the year which may be carried to the next year by the District Director and the involved association.
 - b. For a manager or spectator (fan) - the game official(s) will report the circumstances to the Supervisor of Officials who will notify the District Director. A mandatory hearing will be held with the team coach and a representative of their association's governing board to discuss possible disciplinary action. For managers or spectators, a violation of this Rule will result in a suspension and/or financial penalty of up to \$1,000.00 as determined by the District Director.
- L. No person shall possess any gun, pistol, rifle, weapon, or firearm in any ice arena, hockey rink, building or structure during an MH activity.
- M. Sportsmanship Monitor. Associations are encouraged to appoint a sportsmanship monitor to monitor the conduct of its coaches, players, managers, and fans for conduct inconsistent with these Rules.
- N. Procedures for Responding to Reports of Offensive, Hateful or Discriminatory Conduct. Any player, parent, coach, volunteer, manager, board member or spectator that would like to report alleged offensive, hateful, or discriminatory conduct prohibited by MH or USA Hockey rules may do so in any of the following ways:
 - a. MH Safe Sport reporting form
 - b. USA Hockey Safe Sport reporting form
 - c. MH Safe Sport Coordinator
 - d. MH Diversity Equity and Inclusion ("DEI") & Girls Growth Coordinator
- O. **Reporting**
Reporting parties are encouraged to utilize the MH reporting form on their association website (if applicable), the MH website, or the USA Hockey website. The responses to this form will be submitted electronically to the MH Safe Sport coordinator, the MH DEI & Girls Growth Manager, the association/district DEI coordinator, and the appropriate District Director.

P. **Intake**

Once a complaint has been made, the MH Safe Sport coordinator and MH DEI & Girls Growth Manager will begin their investigation. Every complaint or report of offensive, hateful, or discriminatory conduct made or forwarded to the listed positions will be investigated. If the complaint is made through USA Hockey or directly to Safe Sport, the complaint will be forwarded to the MH Safe Sport Coordinator, the applicable Association President(s), the MH President, and the appropriate District Director. The report will then be forwarded to the MH DEI & Girls Growth Manager and if applicable, the association/district DEI coordinator.

Q. **Intra-Association Complaint**

If the alleged offense was committed by another association's teammate, player, volunteer, coach, or parent, the responding association will be notified in writing by the MH DEI & Girls Growth Manager, or by the MH Safe Sport Coordinator, when a complaint is submitted. During the investigation process, the association/district DEI coordinator should be used as a resource for both the family and the association. The DEI coordinator must be made aware of the details of the investigation, and steps being taken by the association to investigate the report.

R. **Outcome**

If the investigation determines that conduct violating MH or USA Hockey rules has taken place, Safe Sport suspension/discipline protocol will be followed, including MH Bylaw Article 6 and USA Hockey Bylaw Article 10 procedures. Discipline may include suspension or possible removal from the association for repeated or egregious violations. After an offense, the team of an offending player will receive training regarding Safe Sport policy, as well as their association code of conduct. Subsequent offenses will result in either virtual or in person discussion and training from the association DEI coordinator or MH DEI & Girls Growth Manager. Refusal to attend training will result in further discipline, including suspension.

End of Youth Rules and Regulations

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Region Host Districts

Flip PW A/B 2023-24 W region to 5/3

	2023-2024				2024-2025				2025-2026			
	N	S	E	W	N	S	E	W	N	S	E	W
PW AA	16	9	2	3	11	4	3	5	11	9	6	15
PW A/B	12	8/9	2/10	5/3	11	6/4	8	15/5	16	4/9	6/2	15/10
BAN AA	12	8	10	5	12	4	3	15	11	4	2	10
BAN A/B	16/12	9/8	2/10	3	12	6/4	3/8	5	11	4/9	2/6	10/15
15U A/B	12/16	8	2/10	5/3	11/12	1/6	1/8	15/5	16/11	9/4	6/2	10/15
12U A/B	16	1/9	1/10	5	12/11	4/6	3/8	15	16	1/4	6/2	1/10

	2026-2027				2027-2028			
	N	S	E	W	N	S	E	W
PW AA	12	8	2	5	12	6	8	5
PW A/B	12	9/8	10	5/3	11/12	3/4	8	16
BAN AA	16	8	10	3	11	6	3	16
BAN A/B	16	9	10/2	3/5	12	4	8	5
15U A/B	16/12	8/9	1	3/5	12/11	6/4	8/3	16/5
12U A/B	16/12	9/8	10/2	3/5	11	6/4	1	5/16

If two districts are listed, the 1st has the A Region and the 2nd has the B Region.

A&B Region Tournament Seeding

District ID	North			South			East			West			
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	
Districts	12	16	15	8	9	4	2	10	11	5	3	6	2023-2024
Districts	11	12	10	4	6	9	3	8	2	5	15	16	2024-2025
Districts	16	11	12	9	4	5	6	2	8	10	15	3	2025-2026
Districts	12	16	15	8	9	4	2	10	11	5	3	6	2026-2027
Districts	11	12	10	4	6	9	3	8	2	5	16	15	2027-2028

"A" and "B" columns send three teams to regions. "C" column sends two teams to regions.

If warranted, the number of Region seeds will be adjusted annually based on number of teams.

Region First-Round Pairings

	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
Game 1	A1 vs C2	B1 vs A2	C1 vs B3	A1 vs C2
Game 2	B1 vs A3	C1 vs A3	A1 vs B2	B1 vs A3
Game 3	C1 vs B3	A1 vs B3	B1 vs A3	C1 vs B3
Game 4	B2 vs A2	C2 vs B2	A2 vs C2	B2 vs A2

Teams listed first in pairings are 'home'

2024 MINNESOTA HOCKEY TOURNAMENTS

Tournament Dates

District Tournaments..... Completed by February 26
 Region Tournaments March 1-3
 State Tournaments March 15-17

Jr Gold A/B/16 Region/Playdown Site Rotation

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jr Gold A/B (Gold)	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Jr Gold A JGHSL Playdowns	2	3	6	2	3	6
Jr Gold B JGHSL Playdowns	2	3	6	2	3	6
Jr Gold 16 JGHSL Playdowns	2	3	6	2	3	6

Junior Gold Playdowns

Seeding to be developed after team counts and locations are determined.

Junior Gold A State Pairings

Two Gold Teams
 G1 vs M6
 M2 vs M5
 M1 vs G2
 M3 vs M4

One Gold Team:
 M1 vs M7
 M3 vs M4
 M2 vs M6
 G1 vs M5

Jr Gold B/16 State Girls 15U B State

Seeding to be developed after team counts and locations are determined.

Peewee, Bantam, 12U & 15U B State Tournaments Quarter inal Pairings

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
E1 vs N2	W1 vs E2	N1 vs W2	S1 vs W2	E1 vs W2	W1 vs N2
S1 vs W2	S1 vs N2	S1 vs E2	E1 vs N2	N1 vs S2	E1 vs S2
W1 vs S2	N1 vs S2	E1 vs S2	W1 vs S2	S1 vs N2	N1 vs W2
N1 vs E2	E1 vs W2	W1 vs N2	N1 vs E2	W1 vs E2	S1 vs E2

Note: Teams listed first in pairings are "home."

Girls 15U A State Tournament Quarterfinal Pairings

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
N1 vs A3	N2 vs A2	A1 vs O2	O1 vs A3	N1 vs A3	N2 vs A2
O1 vs N3	N1 vs O2	A2 vs N2	A1 vs N3	O1 vs N3	N1 vs O2
A1 vs O2	O1 vs A3	N1 vs A3	N1 vs O2	A1 vs O2	O1 vs A3
A2 vs N2	A1 vs N3	O1 vs N3	N2 vs A2	A2 vs N2	A1 vs N3

Note: Teams listed first in pairings are "home."

State Tournament Site Rotation

(2019-20 State Tournaments were canceled due to Covid-19)

Season	JGA	JGB	JG16	BAA	BA	BB	PAA	PA	PB	19U	15A	15B	12A	12B
18-19	6	6	6	15	15	3	2	2	3	10	10	10	12	11
19-20	8	8	8	6	6	4	5	5	4	3	15	9	2	9
20-21	8	8	8	6	6	4	5	5	4	6	15	9	2	9
21-22	3	5	4	3	16	16	10	8	8	10	45	2	5	2
22-23	10	10	10	6	6	16	4	4	16	8	2	8	2	9
23-24	3	3	3	12	12	11	6	6	11	10	4	10	4	2
24-25	6	6	6	4	4	3	15	15	3	5	8	5	8	10
25-26	3	3	3	5	5	8	9	9	8	6	16	6	16	2
26-27	6	6	6	9	9	2	12	12	2	11	4	11	4	8
27-28	6	6	6	3	3	15	10	10	15	2	11	2	11	12
28-29	3	3	3	8	8	6	11	11	6	16	15	16	15	10
29-30	6	6	6	11	11	12	3	3	12	10	2	10	2	9
30-31	3	3	3	15	15	5	2	2	5	8	6	8	6	10
31-32	8	11	8	2	2	9	16	16	9	12	10	12	10	3

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Includes Revisions as of July 2017

Peewee & Bantam AA Region/State Tournaments

Peewee A and Bantam A teams will be split into "A" and "AA" sub-divisions at the end of the season for the purpose of State Tournaments and associated playdowns. The process to do this will be as follows:

1. The AA sub-division started with the 2012-13 season. The default sub-division for teams (A or AA) was determined by the Minnesota State HS League classification of the boys' HS programs that the association served. Associations were allowed to request a change from AA-to-A or A-to-AA sub-divisions.
2. Going forward, teams will be assigned to the same sub-division as they were the previous season - the process as indicated below can be used to request a sub-division change. For new teams, the subdivision will be assigned by default as indicated above subject to a requested change. Any team that by default qualified to be AA, petitioned down to A, and then won the A state tournament will need to justify continuing to participate at the A level, or upgrade to AA the following season.
3. Associations may request to change their sub-division from AA-to-A or A-to-AA. Bantams and Peewees can be in different sub-divisions (one at A – the other at AA).
4. Associations can have multiple AA teams, or one AA team and one or more A teams. If an association having an AA team wants to have multiple A teams, the A teams have to be picked equal.
5. Any request found to have false information will be cause to have the decision reversed.
6. All Sub-Division changes must be received by the cognizant District Director by a date established by the District but in all cases no later than November 25th.
7. The District Director will make a final determination by the start of their league scheduling meeting, consulting with the Associations as needed.
8. NOTE: The A and AA sub-divisions are sub-groups of the "A" division – both are considered "A" teams through the regular season. AA and A teams may play in the same district league, using a balanced or unbalanced schedule, or may be split into separate leagues at the District Director's discretion.
9. The Peewee and Bantam AA Regions will use double-elimination bracketing and each will advance two teams to State. However, the Regions will be configured differently than the "A" and "B" Regions.

Peewee & Bantam AA Regions – North Format

The North Region will consist of Districts 11, 12, 15 & 16, with pairings as indicated below. If a district has less than (2) teams, the North Directors will determine how to bring in add'l seeds or modify the tournament.

North AA Region Pairings

2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
15#1 vs 12#2	16#1 vs 12#2	11#1 vs 12#2	12#1 vs 15#2	15#1 vs 11#2
16#1 vs 11#2	11#1 vs 15#2	15#1 vs 16#2	11#1 vs 16#2	12#1 vs 16#2
11#1 vs 16#2	12#1 vs 16#2	16#1 vs 15#2	15#1 vs 12#2	11#1 vs 15#2
12#1 vs 15#2	15#1 vs 11#2	12#1 vs 11#2	16#1 vs 11#2	16#1 vs 12#2

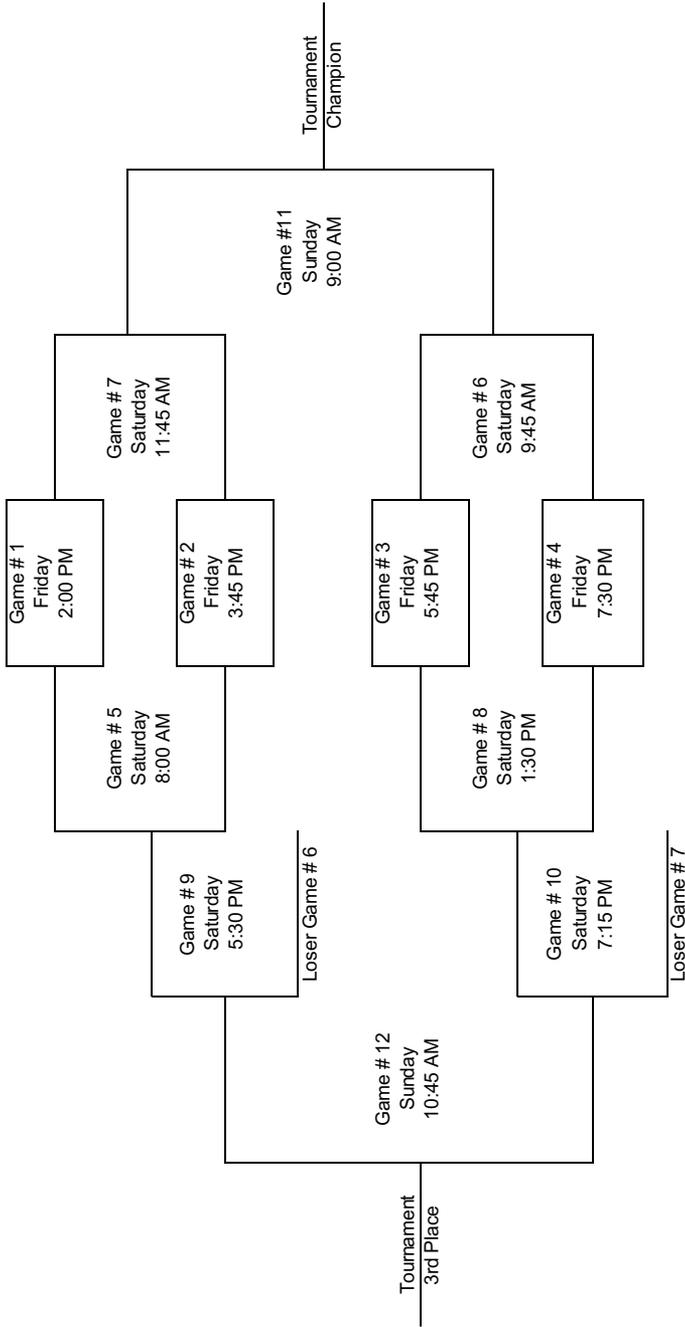
- Teams listed first in pairings are "home"

Peewee & Bantam AA Regions – South/East/West Format

1. The South/East/West Regions will consist of Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 & 10. Each of these districts will advance at least one team to regions (assuming they have AA teams). Additional region seeds will be awarded proportional to the number of AA teams in each district to fill out the 24 teams. When the total number of teams is finalized, the Competition Committee will determine district allocations and seeding based on criteria below. Districts will be notified of seeding to the three region tournaments after all district tournaments are concluded. Tournament hosts must block rooms if the location is not in the metro area.
2. The host districts will have their #1 seeds in the tournaments they are hosting.
3. The other districts' #1 seeds will be placed in a region via a blind draw.
4. The remaining teams will be seeded according to the following:
 - Districts will not have their #1 and #2 seeds in the same region
 - #2 seeds will be placed in a region via a blind draw
 - A district's #3 seed won't be placed in a region with that district's #1 or #2 seed. If required, adjustments will be made to assignment of #2 and #3 seeds to maintain equal relative strength among the regions.
 - As possible, a District's #4 seed will be placed with their #1, a district's #5 seed will be placed with their #2, and a district's #6 seed will be placed with their #3
5. First round pairings will be set up according to the following:
 - #1 seeds will be placed via a blind draw. If there are two #1 seeds, they will be placed in the 1st and 3rd quarterfinal games. If three #1 seeds, they will be placed in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarterfinal games.
 - A district's #1 seed will play the highest numerical seed in the region
 - A district's #4 / #5 seed will be in the opposite half of the bracket as their #1 seed
 - The remaining #2 seeds will be placed in quarterfinal games via a blind draw
 - The #2 seeds will play the highest remaining numerical seeds in the region

Minnesota Hockey Double Elimination Format

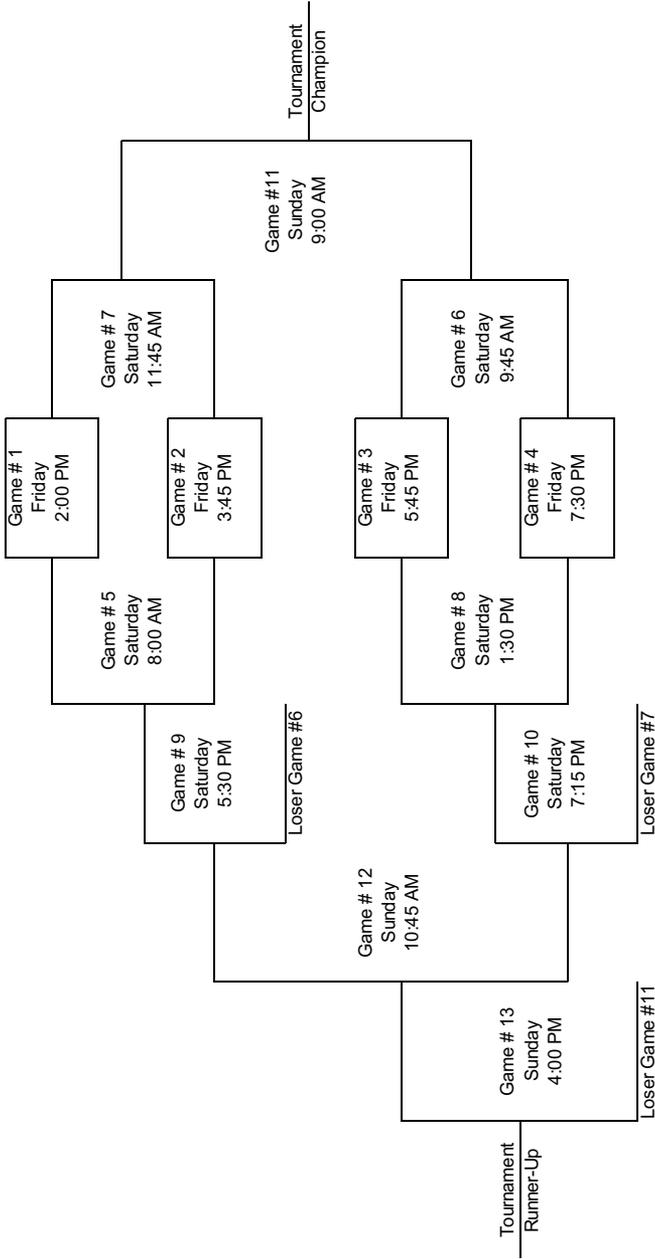
Regions - 3 Teams Advancing



Winner Game #11 Advances as #1 Seed
 Loser Game #11 Advances as #2 Seed
 Winner Game #12 Advances as #3 Seed

Note: Teams listed first in pairings are "home." The times listed are the "standard" times, but are subject to change. Refer to mnesotahockey.org website for final schedule.

Minnesota Hockey Double Elimination Format Regions - 2 Teams Advancing



Note: Teams listed first in pairings are "home." Times listed are the "standard" times, but are subject to change. Refer to minnesotahockey.org website for final schedule.

Winner Game #11 Advances as #1 Seed
Winner Game #13 Advances as #2 Seed

TOURNAMENT SUPPLEMENT

Includes Revisions as of June 2013

(Also refer to Sections in the Youth Rules and Regulations entitled

"District, Region and State Tournaments" and "Invitational Tournament Sanctioning".)

1 - GENERAL

- A. This Supplement offers general information on how to conduct sanctioned invitational tournaments, as well as information that may be helpful in conducting Minnesota Hockey District, Region and State tournaments. Following these guidelines will promote consistency in the operation of tournaments, and provide a meaningful hockey experience for the players.
- B. "Rules and Regulations" for the classification (Adult, Adult Women, Squirt, Peewee, Bantam, 12U, 15U, etc) or division (A, B, C) of players involved are found elsewhere in this Handbook.
- C. The requirements of this Supplement apply to all invitational tournaments and jamborees, whether indoor or outdoor, but excludes Mite jamborees. All such events are referred to generically herein as "tournaments".
- D. SUB-LEVELS – USA Hockey does not officially recognize sub-levels within an established division. B1 or B2 teams are considered "B" teams, and only "B" tournaments are sanctioned (not B1 or B2). This system is sometimes used to advertise that higher or lower caliber teams are desired for a particular tournament. Any "B" team can attend a "B" tournament, but hosting organizations may reject applications from teams which are considered too strong or too weak for the anticipated competition.
- E. OFFICIALS MEETING – It is strongly recommended that a meeting of the team coaches and managers, tournament chairperson, and an official's representative be held before the tournament begins.
- F. FIRST AID EQUIPMENT - Locate equipment to be used in case of medical emergency, such as first aid kit and stretcher, before the start of each game. Such equipment should be readily accessible and used only under the direction of the Medical Attendant or other qualified medical professional.

2 - PLANNING

- A. Proper planning is critical to the success of any tournament. Many details must be worked out in advance, and the responsible group and/or affiliate must get organized early so they are prepared to handle common issues before they become problems.
- B. BRACKETING – Determine the type of bracketing to be used: Single Elimination with Consolation, Double Elimination, Round Robin, 6-team, 8-team, 16-team, etc. This will affect ice time requirements, and teams playing (or considering playing) in the tournament will want to know how it will be bracketed.
- C. ICE TIME – Develop a tournament schedule and make sure adequate ice time has been set aside. Numerous factors affect the time required, including length of periods, run time or stop time, resurfacing schedule, time outs, tie breaking procedures, time off for players rest, and the level of game involved (Junior Gold and Bantam games take longer than Squirt games due to more stoppages in play). It is a good policy to set aside ice time at the end of the day if the format is susceptible to delays.
- D. COORDINATION WITH ARENA – Contact the arena manager to ensure that the game times and resurfacing requirements are feasible. Events before and after the tournament should also be reviewed for potential conflicts with tournament operations. Other related facilities, such as hospitality rooms or team check-in areas, should be reserved in advance.
- E. LODGING RESERVATIONS – Make advance arrangements to secure lodging for tournament participants. Each out-of-town team will generally require 10-12 rooms, although well attended tournaments such as Regions or State may require more. Most hotels will hold blocks of rooms up to 30 days before the check-in date. Due to short notice of teams participating, special arrangements are needed for Region or State Tournaments.
- F. MANDATORY RULES – The following must be included in each tournament's rules:
 - 1. USA Hockey registered referees will be used
 - 2. Medical attendants will be provided for each game (not mandatory for Mites)
(See paragraph in Youth Rules, entitled "Medical Attention")
 - 3. USAH rules as modified by MH for the classification involved must be adopted
(may be modified as indicated below)
 - 4. Canadian teams must wear protective equipment as designated by CAHA.
- G. OPTIONAL RULES – Decide which rules will be followed for the tournament. The USA Hockey Rules as modified by MN Hockey for the classification involved serve as the baseline, but additional rules (generally more restrictive) can be added as needed. Following are examples of rules which are typically determined for each tournament.
 - 1. Length of periods, stop/run times.
 - 2. Method of resolving tie games at the end of regulation time
 - a. Fair Play point
 - b. Sudden death overtime - Length and number of OT periods; Number of players by OT period
 - c. Shots in OT
 - d. Shootout
 - 3. Time outs allowed or disallowed
 - 4. More restrictive ejection rules (such as the Three-penalty EJ Rule)
 - 5. Will goal Judges be used?
 - 6. Procedure if the team roster exceeds 20 players (such teams generally set a 20-player roster prior to each game).

- H. The following is an example of breaking ties in a Round Robin tournament, using the Minnesota Hockey tie-breaking procedure (Refer to Youth Rules).

EXAMPLE

GAME 1	GAME 2	GAME 3	GAME 4	GAME 5	GAME 6
Team A - 3	Team C - 3	Team A - 6	Team B - 2	Team B - 6	Team A - 4
Team B - 5	Team D - 2	Team D - 5	Team C - 6	Team D - 3	Team C - 1

After all games have been played there are three teams tied with 4 points each. If two or more teams have an equal number of points, their position in the standings shall be determined by –

- a. The results of the games played between the tied teams in the following order:
 1. The points acquired in these games (games among the tied teams only).
Take out the games played with team D.
The teams A-B-C are still tied with 2 points each.
 2. Subtracting goals against from goals scored in these games.

Team A	Goals for 3 + 4 = 7	Against 5 + 1 = 6	Net +1
Team B	Goals for 5 + 2 = 7	Against 3 + 6 = 9	Net -2
Team C	Goals for 6 + 1 = 7	Against 2 + 4 = 6	Net +1

This tie-breaker places Team B behind Teams A and C. So Team B is placed third, and the process would be restarted between Teams A and C to determine first and second placement.
 3. If the teams had still been tied, the next step would have been to divide the goals scored in these games by the goals scored against. For this example:

Team A	Goals for 3 + 4 = 7	Against 5 + 1 = 6	7/6 = 1.1667
Team B	Goals for 5 + 2 = 7	Against 3 + 6 = 9	7/9 = 0.7778
Team C	Goals for 6 + 1 = 7	Against 2 + 4 = 6	7/6 = 1.1667

Team B places behind Teams A and C, so (if step 2 above had not placed one of the teams) this step 3 would have placed Team B third, and the process would be restarted between Teams A and C to determine first and second placement.
- b. If the tie still exists after applying formulas a1, a2 & a3, then a2 & a3 shall be re-applied using all the games played by each team.
 2. Subtracting goals against from goals scored in all games.

Team A	Goals for 3 + 4 + 6 = 13	Against 5 + 1 + 5 = 11	Net +2
Team B	Goals for 5 + 2 + 6 = 13	Against 3 + 6 + 3 = 12	Net +1
Team C	Goals for 6 + 1 + 3 = 10	Against 2 + 4 + 2 = 8	Net +2

This tie-breaker places Team B behind Teams A and C, so Team B is placed third, and the process would be restarted between Teams A and C to determine first and second placement.
 3. Dividing the goals scored in all games by the goals scored against.

Team A	Goals for 3 + 4 + 6 = 13	Against 5 + 1 + 5 = 11	13/11 = 1.1818
Team B	Goals for 5 + 2 + 6 = 13	Against 3 + 6 + 3 = 12	13/12 = 1.0833
Team C	Goals for 6 + 1 + 3 = 10	Against 2 + 4 + 2 = 8	10/8 = 1.2500

If the process went this far, Team C would be placed first, Team A second, and Team B third.
- c. If the above procedure does not break the tie, refer to MN Hockey Youth Rules and Regulations – District, Region and State Tournaments – Breaking of Ties.

3 - TOURNAMENT OPERATIONS

- D. PUCKS - Pucks should be those which are approved for use by the National Hockey League. These pucks are harder (less bounce) and slide easier than practice pucks.
- E. Ipad/SCOREBOOKS – Official MH (or MH District) scorebooks must be used for District, Region, or State tournaments and are provided by MH. These scorebooks may also be used for invitational tournaments, and are available at a reasonable cost from the MH Vice President for Tournaments or the District Director. The host must retain a copy of the completed scoresheet, and provide a copy to each team.
- F. DRESSING ROOM ASSIGNMENT AND SECURITY – Dressing rooms should be pre-assigned and the host should provide a means to lock the rooms or provide someone to monitor them at all times. If neither can be provided, the host should instruct the teams to take their belongings with them to the players' bench.
- G. PENALTY REPORTING – In all cases where a game misconduct, gross misconduct, match penalty or fighting penalty is assessed, the incident must be reported to the District Director and the Supervisor of Officials to the District that the team is from. This is primarily the responsibility of the referees officiating the game, but the Tournament Director should verify this notification.

4 - GUIDELINES FOR MINOR OFFICIALS

- A. Minor officials, including timekeeper, scorers, penalty box attendants, announcers, and goal judges, are an important part of a well-run tournament. Their support of the on-ice officials is critical to the efficient and proper handling of the game.
- B. CONDUCT – The conduct of minor officials must be professional and objective:
 1. All minor officials must be mature and competent adults.
 2. Minor officials must never be biased or exhibit partiality towards either team.
- C. No persons other than minor officials and on-ice officials may be allowed at the timekeepers/scorers table, penalty box or goal judges' area during any portion of a game. (Exception – the Medical Attendant may be located in a penalty box area if that provides the most direct access to the ice.)

D. TIMEKEEPER

1. Arrive at the arena thirty minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.
2. Should be experienced and familiar with the operation of the clock.
3. If not familiar with the clock, get clock operating instructions from arena staff.
4. Check the clock before the game to verify it is operating properly.
5. Become familiar with the tournament rules and game format (length of warm-up, length of periods, running/stop time, resurfacing schedule, overtime, time-outs, etc.)
6. Be attentive to the game, ensure the clock is stopped/started at the proper times.
7. Must be familiar with playing rules as they relate to penalties. Assist the Scorer in communicating with the officials on penalties reported. Ask the official to repeat the call if it is not understood, or it is not clear when players are to return to the ice.
8. Ensure the Scorer accurately records goals scored, assist(s), penalties and time remaining in the period when they occurred.
9. Inform Penalty Box Attendants when players can return to the ice. Assist Scorer to ensure the proper recording of the expiration time.
10. Alert the Announcer when remaining time approaches one minute (each period).
11. Distribute iced pucks to on-ice officials as requested.

E. SCORER

1. Arrive at the arena thirty minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.
2. Responsible for keeping an accurate written record of the events which occur during the game.
3. An official Ipad/score sheet must be used, and a copy provided to each team and the sponsoring affiliate. MN Hockey score sheets (or District score sheets) are preferred.
4. Obtain rosters and starting lineups from team coaches or managers, and the team sponsor. Record this information on the score sheet.
5. Be attentive to the game. Communicate with officials on goals scored, assist(s), and penalties. Ask the official to repeat the information if it is not clear.
6. Record all goals scored and assists, and the time remaining in the period when they occurred. (Elapsed time is not recommended.)
7. Record all penalties, and time remaining in the period when they occurred. Do not record the time they return to the ice until the actual time. (may be less than two minutes if a goal is scored, more than two minutes if coincidental and waiting for a whistle).
8. Record all penalties assessed to non-players.
9. Indicate on the score sheet the time at which each team takes their time out (if time outs are allowed).

F. ANNOUNCER

1. Arrive at the arena thirty minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.
2. Assist the Scorer to obtain team rosters and starting lineups.
3. Review pronunciation of players, coaches, assistants and managers names. If uncertain, check with a member of the respective team.
4. Test the public address equipment for proper function.
5. Check the tape player and tape of the National Anthem (unless live music is provided).
6. Announce starting line-ups, head coaches, assistants, managers, and sponsors.
7. Request all to rise, remove hats and join in singing the National Anthem (generally before the first game of the day and Championship game).
8. Announce all goals scored and assists, giving player names and numbers, with elapsed time (calculated from time remaining).
9. Announce penalties assessed, and when a team returns to full strength following a penalty.
10. Announce when there is one minute left in a period.
11. After each period, announce shots on goal for that period, and the total for the game to that point.

G. PENALTY BOX ATTENDANT

1. Arrive at the arena fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.
2. Do not allow unauthorized personnel into penalty boxes.
3. Open and close the door as penalized players enter and leave the penalty box.
4. Affirm when penalties expire and which player is to return to the game with Timekeeper and Scorer.
5. Penalized players must wear helmets/face mask and remain seated while in the penalty box.
6. Do not engage in a discussion with penalized player about the penalty which was assessed.

H. GOAL JUDGES

1. Arrive at the arena fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled game.
2. Remain seated and attentive while in the goal judge area.
3. Do not allow unauthorized personnel in the goal judge area.
4. Do not carry on discussions or become distracted while the Game is in progress.
5. If the ENTIRE puck crosses the ENTIRE goal line, turn on the goal light or give the appropriate predetermined signal as requested by the officials.
6. Remember it is not your responsibility to determine if a legal goal has been scored – only that the puck crossed the entire goal line. Remember also that you may miss a goal which is signaled by the referee.

I. SHOTS ON GOAL/SAVES

1. A "save" occurs when a puck would have legally entered the goal had the goalie not stopped it.
2. A "shot on goal" occurs when a puck legally enters the goal, or a puck would have legally entered the goal had it not been stopped by the goalie (goals + saves).

3. Goal judges or another designated person may be requested to keep the record of goaltender saves or shots on goal.

5 - GUIDELINES FOR MITE TOURNAMENTS

- A. Sanctioning of Mite (not Mini-Mite) and 8 & Under Girls Cross/Half Ice Tournaments is permitted. The following guidelines must be observed.
- B. Tournament Rules: Specific tournament rules are to be submitted with the application for approval.
- C. Tournament Format: Pool Play, Bracket or a combination thereof.
- D. Tournament Fee: A minimal team entry fee may be charged to cover expenses. No gate fee is allowed.
- E. Teams: A minimum of nine skaters and a goalie is recommended for 3v3 (10 skaters + goalie for 4v4).
- F. Officials: Recommend using one USAH certified official. See USAH Cross-Ice Officiating Guide.
- G. Medical Attendants: Not required.
- H. Team Rest: Rest rule applies as stated in MH Youth Rules, Playing Rules.
- I. Rink set up:
 1. Create cross-ice or half-ice playing surfaces using soft bumpers or solid ice dividers.
 2. Cross-ice, dividers on blue lines creating two cross ice surfaces in the two end zones. Center zone is for the players box.
 3. Half-ice, divider on the center ice line. Teams use player's box, one team for each door.
 4. Line drawn at the middle of the playing surface as a "tag up" line, as determined by the official.
 5. Standard goal nets are used
- J. Basic Playing Rules:
 1. 3 skaters (3v3) and a goalie or 4 skaters (4v4) and a goalie.
 2. There are no off-sides or icing.
 3. Game time: two 25-minute halves, running time. Five minute warm up; one minute between halves.
 4. Play is started with a face off at the beginning of first and second half.
 5. When a goal is scored all three (or four) players from the scoring team must leave the zone and tag up on the "tag up" line. All three (or four) players must be tagged up at the same time before any attacking player re-enters the zone.
 6. When the goalie freezes the puck the three (or four) offensive team players must leave the offensive zone and tag up on the "tag up" line. Each attacking player can tag up independently. Any player that does not tag up is ineligible to play the puck until the puck leaves the zone or the player leaves the zone. A player that starts outside of the line may enter the offensive zone immediately.
 7. Players will change on the fly or on sound of buzzer horn or whistle at designated time increments (60 seconds). When using set time for line changes, the players must leave the puck where it is on the rink when the buzzer sounds. Penalty may be assessed if the puck is shot into the offensive zone after the buzzer by a player leaving the ice.
 8. A maximum of 10 goal differential allowed. If the goal differential returns to 9, scoring will resume.
 9. If the puck leaves the ice surface (over the dividers or glass) there shall be a face off at center ice. If the puck leaves the ice but kept in the ice surface by the safety netting the puck shall be played live. The official should carry extra pucks.
- K. Penalties: USA Hockey playing rules apply. Offending player is not required to leave the ice. When a penalty occurs, a penalty shot shall be awarded. All players will line up ten feet behind the "tag up" line and cannot leave until the shooter touches the puck. It is acceptable for the shooter to pass the puck or be caught by a defender. Once the shot is taken, if the player scores the "after a goal rule" applies. If the player doesn't score, the puck will be played live, and the player who shot the puck cannot shoot on goal again until another player plays the puck.
- L. Team Eligibility: Teams may travel no more than 30 miles or be from their own District. Teams leaving their district must get approval from their District Director.

End of Tournament Supplement

YOUTH HOCKEY AFFILIATES BY DISTRICT

Updated 2023

DISTRICT 1

City of Lakes
Dino Mights
East Side
Edgcumbe
Langford Park

DISTRICT 2

Chisago Lakes
Forest Lake
Irondale
Mahtomedi
Moundsview
Roseville
St. Paul Capitals
Stillwater
Tartan
White Bear Lake

DISTRICT 3

Armstrong/Cooper
Delano
Hopkins
Minneapolis
Mound/Westonka
Orono
Osseo/Maple Grove
St. Louis Park
Wayzata

DISTRICT 4

Fairmont
Luverne
Marshall
Redwood Falls
New Ulm/Sleepy Eye
Windom
Worthington

DISTRICT 5

Buffalo/Annandale
Hutchinson
Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato
Monticello/Maple Lake
River Lakes
(Cold Spring/Paynesville)
Sartell
St. Cloud
St. Michael/Albertville
Sauk Rapids
Willmar

DISTRICT 6

Bloomington/Richfield
Chaska/Chanhassen
Eden Prairie
Edina
Minnetonka

New Prague
Prior Lake/Savage
Shakopee
Waconia

DISTRICT 8

Apple Valley/Burnsville
Cottage Grove
Eagan
Eastview
Farmington
Hastings
Inver Grove Heights
Johnson/Como/
No. St. Paul
Lakeville
Red Wing
Rosemount
So. St. Paul
West St. Paul
Woodbury

DISTRICT 9

Albert Lea
Austin
Dodge County
Faribault
La Crescent
Mankato
Minnesota River
Northfield
Owatonna
Rochester
Tri-City United
(Le Center/Lonsdale/
Montgomery)
Waseca
Winona

DISTRICT 10

Andover
Anoka
Becker/Big Lake
Blaine
Cambridge/Isanti
Centennial
Champlin Park
Coon Rapids
Elk River
Hinckley
Mora
North Branch
Pine City
Princeton
Rogers
Spring Lake Park
St. Francis

DISTRICT 11

Carlton
Cloquet
Cook County
Duluth
Esko
Hermantown
Moose Lake
Proctor
Silver Bay
Twig
Two Harbors

DISTRICT 12

Ely
Eveleth/Gilbert
Grand Rapids
Greenway
Hibbing
Int'l Falls
Mesabi East
Virginia

DISTRICT 15

Alexandria
Benson
Brainerd
Detroit Lakes
Fergus Falls
Little Falls
Long Prairie
Moorhead
Morris
Northern Lakes
Park Rapids
Perham
Sauk Centre
Wadena

DISTRICT 16

Bagley
Bemidji
Blackduck
Crookston
E. Grand Forks
Hallock
Lake of the Woods
Red Lake Falls
Roseau
Thief River Falls
Walker
Warroad

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CODE OF CONDUCT

(Approved June, 2009 – Includes revisions as of June, 2021)

1. Purpose. The purpose of this policy is to establish general standards of conduct required of members of the Minnesota Hockey (MH) Board of Directors (Board). Board members (“Members”) are required to annually sign MH’s Conflict of Interest Policy. Any other applicable federal, state and/or local law, including MH Bylaws, shall govern in the event of any conflict between such applicable law and this policy.

2. General Standards of Conduct. In order to fulfill its responsibility and support the vision, mission, values and goals of MH, the Board functions as a collegial unit. The Board functions well as a unit when the individual members act ethically, are committed to working together, operate in a non-partisan manner and speak with one voice. The Board creates a positive climate when it focuses on the future, acts with integrity and civility and uses its influence appropriately.

3. Authority To Act. Each Member is strongly encouraged to contribute his or her perspectives and talents to the Board. Although Members are free to respectfully voice their personal opinions, no Member has the authority to act on their own to further a personal agenda. Further, no Member has the authority to direct MH employees, volunteers or operations, unless otherwise provided for in the MH Bylaws.

4. Informed Decision-Making. Members strive to make informed decisions based on sufficient information, thoughtful deliberation and comprehensive understanding of issues. To achieve that goal, Members gather information by listening, asking questions, analyzing materials and exploring issues thoroughly in conjunction with other Members, employees, volunteers and other constituency groups.

5. Support for MH Rules As Presented in the MH Handbook. MH administrative and playing rules are detailed in the MH Handbook under Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Youth Rules and various policies and procedures. In addition, MH, as an affiliate of USA Hockey, follows the USAH rules as outlined in its handbook. Members are to uphold the rules adopted by both organizations and outlined in each handbook. However, as MH evolves, changes to the rules outlined in these handbooks may be necessary and, to that end, expression of ideas and opinions are also necessary. Expression of such ideas and opinions should be done with respect for the existing rules, their creators and current board members.

6. Official Spokesperson. Members are the stewards of the organization and advocates of its policies and programs. The official spokesperson for the Board is the President of the Board or the President’s designee. Whenever a Member issues a statement verbally, in writing or via a social media platform that could conceptually become public information, the statement should be identified as the personal opinion of the Member and not the official position of MH, unless specific permission to speak officially was granted by the Board. In the case of social media, the above holds true regardless of whether the Board member’s or representative’s name is visible on the account or not.

7. Removal. If the Board determines that the conduct of a Member has violated the member’s professional or fiduciary responsibilities, Board policies or other governing law, the Board may recommend that the member be removed from the Board, for cause, under MH Bylaws, Article 7, or establish such other discipline as the Board deems appropriate. Any three Members of the Board of MH may bring to the President, or immediate past president if the situation involves the President, in an anonymous manner an allegation that a Member has violated the standards of conduct in this Code of Conduct. The President shall discuss the allegations with the Member alleged to have violated this Code of Conduct. If the President or the three initiating Members do not believe that the conduct has been rectified, either may bring the matter to the full Board for a determination of whether the Member should be removed from the Board for cause or other appropriate discipline. In addition, if any other person believes a member has violated this Code of Conduct, such person may bring to the President, or immediate past president if the allegation involves the President, in an anonymous manner such allegation to be addressed in the same manner as if the allegation was raised by a Member.

8. Standards of Personal Conduct. Each Member should conduct themselves in a manner that exhibits respect, concern, courtesy, and responsiveness in carrying out the Board’s mission and responsibilities. Members shall demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, truthfulness, honesty, and fortitude in all activities related to inspire confidence and trust in our activities. Violation of such conduct includes, but is not limited to: (a) the use of abusive language to other Members, affiliate representatives, players, parents or others while conducting MH business; (b) consumption of or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage

or illegal drug during Board or committee meetings or while conducting MH business; (c) possession of unauthorized materials such as explosives, firearms, weapons or similar items during Board meetings or while conducting MH business; (d) discourtesy, rudeness to a fellow Board Member, staff member, affiliate member, volunteer, player or parent; (e) verbal, physical or visual harassment of another Board Member, staff member, affiliate member, volunteer, player or parent; (f) actual or threatened violence toward any individual or group; (g) conduct endangering the life, safety, health or well-being of others; (h) failure to follow any MH policy or procedure; and (i) bullying or taking unfair advantage of any other Member, staff member, affiliate member, player or parent.

9. Attendance at Board Meetings. Members are expected to regularly attend Board meetings, and to participate in Board meetings in a constructive and positive manner. Members should be prepared to discuss the issues and business on the agenda and read all background materials provided. Members should cooperate and respect the opinions of fellow Members and leave personal prejudices out of all Board discussions. Members are expected to attend Board meetings in a condition that enables them to participate in the meeting in compliance with the standards and ideals set forth in this policy.

10. Support of Board Actions. Members must support Board decisions even when the Member does not personally support the action taken.

WHISTLEBLOWERS POLICY

(Approved September, 2011)

Minnesota Hockey has a Whistleblowers Policy in compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

If any employee, volunteer, player, coach, official, officer or director of Minnesota Hockey ("Members") reasonably believes that some policy, practice, or activity of MH is in violation of law, a written complaint may be filed by that member with the President or Executive Director of Minnesota Hockey.

It is the intent of MH to adhere to all laws and regulations that apply to the organization, and the underlying purpose of this Policy is to support the organization's goal of legal compliance. The support of all employees, volunteers, officers, or directors is necessary to achieve compliance with various laws and regulations. A Member is protected from retaliation only if the Member brings the alleged unlawful activity, policy, or practice to the attention of MH and provides MH with a reasonable opportunity to investigate and correct the alleged unlawful activity. The protection described below is only available to members that comply with this requirement.

Minnesota Hockey will not retaliate against a Member who, in good faith, has made a protest or raised a complaint against some practice of MH, or of another individual or entity with whom MH had a business relationship, on the basis of a reasonable belief that the practice is in violation of law, USAH/MH rules or bylaws, or a clear mandate of public policy.

MH will not retaliate against a Member who: (a) discloses or threatens to disclose to a supervisor, officer or a public official any activity, policy, or practice of MH that the Member in good faith reports a violation, suspected violation, or planned violation of any federal or state law or common law or rule adopted pursuant to law to an employer or to any governmental body or law enforcement official; (b) is requested by a public body or office to participate in an investigation, hearing, inquiry; or (c) refuses an employer's order to perform an action that the employee has an objective basis in fact to believe violates any state or federal law or rule or regulation adopted pursuant to law, or the employee informs the employer that the order is being refused for that reason. Any Member making a report concerning a violation or suspected violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates an actual or potential issue addressed by this Policy.

Whistleblower protections cover two important areas – confidentiality and retaliation. To the extent possible, the confidentiality of the whistleblower will be maintained. However, an individual's identity may have to be disclosed for prosecution, provided that the Member shall be informed prior to disclosure.

If a Member believes they are being retaliated against, they must contact the President or Executive Director immediately.

All Board Members are required to sign-off that they received a copy of this policy and understand it. Further, Board members shall be provided with an opportunity to ask questions about the Policy.

MINNESOTA HOCKEY

Inter-Affiliate Player Transfer Protocol

(Adopted June, 2010)
(Includes revisions as of June, 2018)

Minnesota Hockey, Inc., an affiliate of USA Hockey, requires that any player who resides in another state and wishes to play hockey with a team in the Minnesota Hockey program, without changing his/her residence to Minnesota, must first obtain a properly executed Inter-Affiliate Player Release and a copy of the USAH registration confirmation page from the player's resident state.

Conversely, Minnesota Hockey requires that any Minnesota resident wishing to play hockey in another state, while remaining a resident of Minnesota, must first obtain a properly executed Inter-Affiliate Player Release from Minnesota Hockey.

This protocol is consistent with the terms and conditions of the USA Hockey Affiliate Agreement that grants each affiliate the right of "exclusive jurisdiction" within its geographical boundaries.

The Minnesota Hockey Board of Directors will designate one person who will act upon all Inter-Affiliate Player Release requests from those who submit them, using the following criteria:

1. This protocol applies to all Youth (18 years old & younger) and all Girls (19 years old & younger) programs that are conducted during the Minnesota Hockey "regular season", which extends from the date players are permitted to register for a given year through the end of the Minnesota Hockey Youth/Girls State Tournaments in March, and is intended to be used for season-long transfers. Players in the Adult or Women classifications are excluded from this protocol.
2. Prior to submitting a request for transfer, all players must first register with their resident state. For players coming into Minnesota, an approved Inter-Affiliate Player Release and a copy of the USAH registration confirmation page from the player's resident state must be obtained, then submitted to and approved by the Minnesota Hockey designee before the player may be placed on a Minnesota Hockey team roster. Minnesota players desiring to play outside of Minnesota must provide a copy of their USAH registration confirmation page, verifying they are registered for the current playing season in Minnesota.
3. Transfer of players who live in contiguous border communities and desire an Inter-Affiliate Player Release based upon geographical proximity of their residence, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Approval of such requests will not be unreasonably withheld.
4. Only Youth (18 years old & younger) and Girls (19 years old & younger) players in good standing with their releasing state affiliate will be considered for an inter-affiliate player release.
5. If another USAH Affiliate elects not to follow this Protocol, Minnesota Hockey may accept players from that Affiliate without following this Protocol.

AFFILIATE AGREEMENT

This Agreement, made and entered into this ____ day of _____, _____, by and between Minnesota Hockey, Inc., a Minnesota non-profit Corporation with its principal place of business located in, St Paul, MN (hereinafter referred to as MH) and the

(Name of Association)

(Address)

(Town and Zip Code)

a _____ with its principal place of business located in the city of _____
(type of legal entity) (Name of City)

in the State of Minnesota, (hereinafter referred to as the Affiliate) for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained.

Whereas, MH is the state Affiliate of USA Hockey, Inc. which is the duly authorized representative of the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) with exclusive jurisdiction over the conduct of the play of the sport of ice hockey as sanctioned by the IIHF within the United States of America, as sanctioned above, in the State of Minnesota; and

Whereas, Affiliate and MH wish to associate in the interest of developing and administering the sport of amateur ice hockey within Affiliate's geographical jurisdiction, as provided herein, and consistent with the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules and decisions of the Board of Directors of MH;

Now, therefore, intending to be legally bound hereby, MH and Affiliate hereby mutually covenant and agree as follows:

I. JURISDICTION

1.1 MH hereby grants to Affiliate, subject to the limitations contained herein and federal law, the exclusive jurisdiction (as an "Affiliate Association" under MH's By-Laws) to conduct certain of the affairs of MH, to assist in the governance of the members of MH, and to regulate the sport of amateur ice hockey within the geographical area of

(School District or Natural Hockey Community)

Further, MH hereby authorizes the Affiliate to do the following:

- A. To assess and charge a reasonable membership fee for members within its jurisdiction, in addition to the regular MH and USA Hockey fees;
- B. To operate fund-raising programs to support its functions as an affiliate association of MH, including special charge on paid gate tournaments, games or events sponsored by the Affiliate;
- C. To perform and/or provide certain other authorized services or functions to promote and regulate the play of the sport of amateur ice hockey as an Affiliate Association of MH.

1.2 MH hereby agrees that it will accept and recognize only those individuals and teams within Affiliate's jurisdiction which hold and continue membership in good standing with Affiliate. Further, MH, in accord with the exclusive jurisdiction herein granted, agrees to cooperate with and assist Affiliate in the administration of the play of the sport of amateur ice hockey within Affiliate's jurisdiction, when such cooperation and assistance is deemed necessary and/or advisable by Affiliate and MH. MH hereby agrees to assign Affiliate to one of its districts and Affiliate is hereby entitled to participate with any other affiliate associations within its district with respect to the affairs of the district pursuant to the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of MH.

1.3 This Agreement establishes certain obligations of and grants certain rights to Affiliate as an "Affiliate Association" of MH. MH acknowledges that Affiliate is and shall remain a separate entity with complete authority to conduct its affairs and programs, subject only to the express obligations and restrictions contained in this Agreement.

II. BY-LAWS AND/OR POLICIES WHICH MUST BE ADOPTED BY AFFILIATE

2.1 Affiliate, in consideration of the grant of exclusive jurisdiction, hereby agrees to adopt as official policy and/or By-Laws of its organization, the following:

A. MH Preeminence

The Affiliate, an affiliate association of MH, shall abide by and act in accord with the Articles of Incorporation,

By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules and decisions of the Board of Directors of MH, and such documents and decisions shall take precedence over and supersede all similar governing documents and/or decisions of the Affiliate. Further, Affiliate (i) shall assist MH in the administration and enforcement of the provisions of the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules and decisions of the Board of Directors of MH, within and upon its members and/or within its jurisdiction and (ii) agrees to be guided by the following core values of USA Hockey and MH:

SPORTSMANSHIP - Foremost of all values is to learn a sense of fair play. Become humble in victory, gracious in defeat. We will foster friendship with teammates and opponents alike.

RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL - Treat all others as you expect to be treated.

INTEGRITY - We seek to foster honesty and fair play beyond mere strict interpretation of the rules and regulations of the game.

PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE AT THE INDIVIDUAL, TEAM AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEVELS - Each member of the organization, whether player, volunteer or staff, should seek to perform each aspect of the game to the highest level of his or her ability.

ENJOYMENT - It is important for the hockey experience to be fun, satisfying and rewarding for the participant.

LOYALTY - We aspire to teach loyalty to the ideals and fellow members of the sport of hockey.

TEAMWORK - We value the strength of learning to work together. The use of teamwork is reinforced and rewarded by success in the hockey experience.

B. Indemnity

The Affiliate, an affiliate association of MH, shall indemnify and hold harmless MH, the Board of Directors of MH and each member thereof, the Executive Committee of MH, and each member thereof, councils and committees of MH and each member thereof, and all other elected, appointed, employed or volunteer representatives of MH from any and all claims, liability, judgments, costs, attorneys' fees, charges and expenses whatsoever, arising from the acts and omissions of Affiliate, except to the extent (i) that MH or its aforescribed representatives caused such claims, liability, judgments, costs, attorneys' fees, charges or expenses by their own intentional neglect or default or (ii) that such acts or omissions were the direct result of compliance with the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules or decisions of the Board of Directors of MH. Further, the Affiliate understands and acknowledges that MH and its aforescribed representatives have assumed such assignment, function, office or capacity upon the express understanding, agreement and condition that they be so indemnified and held harmless to the extent described in this provision.

2.2 MH shall reasonably cooperate with Affiliate in any litigation and provide reasonable support in connection therewith, including but not limited to advice and testimony upon reasonable request; provided, however, that such cooperation shall not require MH to incur any out of pocket expense not reimbursed by Affiliate.

III. ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES WHICH MUST BE CONTAINED IN AFFILIATE'S BY-LAWS OR OFFICIAL POLICY

Affiliate hereby understands and agrees that the organization, structure, policy, By-Laws and/or operation of Affiliate shall reflect, and shall not violate, the following principles:

A. Team Membership

All teams of Affiliate shall register with MH.

B. Government

The government and authority of Affiliate shall be vested in a Board of Directors composed of at least three representatives, as determined by Affiliate, selected through an annual democratic election process. A majority of the Board must always be composed of representatives selected by such an election process. The officers of Affiliate, selected by the membership or the Board of Directors, shall include at least a president, vice president and secretary/treasurer. It is recommended that the terms of directors and officers be staggered.

C. Voting

Each member of Affiliate shall be entitled to one vote in the process adopted by Affiliate for the election of its Board of Directors. The governing documents of the affiliate shall clearly define membership in the affiliate. Voting for the members of the Board of Directors shall be a democratic process wherein each member is entitled to one vote. In the absence of other criteria, each family that participates in the activities that are provided under the jurisdiction of the affiliate shall be deemed to be a member and shall be entitled to one vote.

D. Annual Meetings

Any action(s) or policy(s) adopted or requested to be adopted by the Board of Directors or the officers of Affiliate shall be reported to its membership, or their duly authorized representatives, at least once each year at a meeting called for such purpose, with notice and agenda of such meeting being given to all members of Affiliate no less than fifteen (15) days in advance of the holding of the meeting, which meeting shall be open to all members of Affiliate.

E. Financial Reports/Dues and Assessments

Affiliate shall provide to its membership an annual financial report of operations. All dues and assessments by Affiliate shall be reasonable in relation to the programs it offers to its members.

F. Publication of Constitution and By-Laws

If the Affiliate is a non-profit corporation, it shall annually distribute to its members, upon request, copies of its constitution, By-Laws and other governing documents, and all amendments thereto.

G. Equal Opportunity

Affiliate must provide an equal competitive opportunity, taking into account ability, physical size and other athletic criteria, to amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate, consistent with the requirements of the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, as amended, in amateur athletic competition without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin.

H. Grievance Resolution

Affiliate shall provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of grievances of its members, including fair notice and opportunity for a hearing to any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, or official before declaring such individual ineligible to participate.

I. Insurance

Affiliate agrees, at all times throughout the term of this Agreement, to be covered by the general liability insurance policy maintained by USA Hockey. The Affiliate shall be informed of the limits of that policy, and of any changes to those limits which may be made by USA Hockey at its sole prerogative. Affiliate retains the right to obtain whatever additional insurance coverages it may desire, at its own expense, but agrees to name MH as an additional insured thereof. By purchasing and maintaining the aforementioned general liability insurance policy, MH does not assume, and indeed disclaims, any liability for any actions or omissions of Affiliate.

J. 501(c)(3) Status

Minnesota Hockey strongly recommends that the Affiliate maintain its tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code during the term of this Agreement.

K. Abuse

Affiliate shall adopt policies prohibiting sexual and physical abuse which meet certain minimum criteria established by MH (subject to any contrary requirements contained in state or local law applicable to Affiliate).

L. SafeSport

Affiliate shall require that all programs, officers and volunteers of Affiliate agree to comply with all SafeSport Policies of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, the United States Center For SafeSport and USA Hockey.

M. Adoption

Affiliate shall adopt, as amendments to its By-Laws or as official policy, the foregoing principles set forth in Sections II and III within 180 days of the date of this Agreement. It shall be a condition of the continuation of the grant of affiliate status contained herein for Affiliate to deliver, upon request, written proof of such adoption to MH. If Affiliate does not adopt the foregoing principles as required herein, its members shall not be entitled to the benefits of membership in MH.

IV. TERM

The term of this Agreement shall be for one (1) year, from September 1, _____ to August 31, _____ and renewed annually thereafter, unless (i) either party shall notify the other of an intention to terminate the relationship herein created no less than sixty (60) days prior to the end of the term provided for above or (ii) earlier terminated for breach as hereinafter provided.

V. BREACH

In the event that Affiliate shall breach any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, or any of the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules or decisions of the Board of Directors of MH (which provisions are incorporated herein by this reference as though fully set forth herein), then MH shall have the right to impose sanctions pursuant to By-Law Article 6 of MH's By-Laws and/or terminate (subject to a 30 day right to cure) this Agreement and the status herein granted to Affiliate.

In the event that MH shall breach any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, then Affiliate shall have the right to terminate (subject to a 30 day right to cure) this Agreement and the status herein granted.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

For the purposes of consistent administration of this Agreement, the following shall govern and control the relationship between MH and Affiliate:

A. Notice

Each party hereby designates (and agrees to notify the other party hereto promptly in the event of a change in such designation) the following official representative to whom notice should be given of any and all matters involving MH and Affiliate as provided for in this Agreement:

- 1. Minnesota Hockey
317 Washington Street
St Paul, MN 55102
- 2. Affiliate

B. Amendment

This Agreement is not subject to any addition, alteration, modification, or amendment, unless and upon condition that said addition, alteration, modification or amendment is in writing, and signed by both parties hereto.

C. Severability

In the event that any article, section, or clause of this Agreement shall be declared illegal or void by a court of competent jurisdiction, then the article, section or clause so declared shall be deleted from this Agreement to the extent that it violates the law, or has been declared void. The remaining articles, sections and clauses shall remain in full force and effect throughout the entire term hereof.

D. Entire Agreement

This Agreement shall be binding upon both parties hereto, and supersedes all other agreements and understandings by and between the parties hereto.

E. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be construed, administered, enforced and interpreted pursuant to the laws of the State of Minnesota.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their respective representatives, and attested to by their respective representatives on this ____ day of _____, _____.
(Month) (Year)

MH

AFFILIATE

By: _____

By: _____

Its: _____

Its: _____

(Printed Name)

(Printed Name)

Date: _____

Date: _____

Created 11/26/94 Adopted 1/29/95 Rev. 1/23/2000, 7/17/06, 4/21/13, 4/17/2016, 6/24/18, 1/26/20

ADULT RULES AND REGULATIONS

Revised June 2006

- A. Team and Player Registration. All teams must be properly registered with USA Hockey and MH (Team Membership Applications and Rosters) on or before February 15th of the current season to be eligible to participate in MH State Age-Based or Skill-Based Tournaments in the various classifications as set out herein. A team may roster up to twenty-five (25) players, including two (2) goalies.
- B. Age Classifications. All Adult teams shall be classified as Adult Elite, Adult U.S. and Adult Non-Checking. The teams participating in the non-checking classification may be further classified as Adult Non-Checking, Adult Non-Checking 30 and Over and Adult Non-Checking 35 and Over, etc. Refer to the USA Hockey Annual Guide, Rules and Regulations, Section III Classifications, (A) Adults.
- C. National Tournament Classifications. For those teams wishing to participate in USA Hockey National Adult Tournaments please refer to the USA Hockey Adult Council's Adult Regulations for National Championships.
- D. Skill Classifications. For the Adult Hockey Association (AHA) and other Novice Adult Non-Check Leagues, teams shall be classified based on skill. This is necessary in order to create parity within levels of play and to help create a standard of competitiveness across non-check adult hockey associations. Skill based levels of play shall include:
- D2. Beginner players having recently been introduced to the sport of ice hockey, typically 1-3 years of experience. Individual and team skills in early development.
 - D1. Advanced Beginners with approximately 1-5 years of ice hockey experience. Individual and team skills progressing.
 - C2. Intermediate with approximately 3-7 years of ice hockey experience. Basic understanding of all aspects of the game.
 - C1. Bronze. Advanced intermediate with approximately 5-10 years of experience. Teams may consist of some players with high school level of experience as a youth but are more comfortable in a more relaxed level of competition.
 - B. Silver. Teams consist of players with advanced skills and experience. This may consist of some players with college level experience.
 - A. Gold. Open to players of any experience level.
- The AHA and other Novice Adult non-check leagues shall organize playoffs and championships at their direction. Minnesota Hockey supports the creation of a statewide Novice Non-Check Championship tournament separate but not exclusive to Age based tournaments.
- E. State Tournaments. All registered Adult teams are eligible to participate in MH State Tournaments either Age based or Skill based. Depending on the number of teams and/or leagues involved each season in Adult classifications, all teams desiring to participate in a state tournament may face the possibility of having a playoff with another team in order to gain a berth in the state tournament.
- 1. Adult tournaments are under the direct supervision of the MH Adult Committee. MH directors in the area of the tournaments may assist whenever possible. The USA Hockey playing rules shall guide all State Tournaments.
 - 2. The Adult Committee, in its discretion, may appoint a local tournament director with such powers and duties as are established by the committee. The Adult Committee has the authority to adjust matters pertaining to state tournament play at any time in the best interest of hockey. The Adult Committee shall be responsible for adopting detailed tournament rules consistent with the provisions of these regulations.
- F. Authority, Appeals, Suspensions and Court Actions
- 1. Authority: The affiliate, local governing body or league has the authority to make decisions in the management of their local program in the event of a dispute. The vested authority shall promptly and equitably attempt to resolve the grievance, allowing affected parties to have input which may require conducting a hearing.
 - 2. Grievable Decision: If a decision is viewed to be a violation of existing rules, that decision may be appealed. In all appeals, the appealing party is required to establish the merits of the appeal.
 - 3. Appeals: Any person, team or league may appeal a grievance decision, in writing, to the Adult Grievance Committee, the members of which shall be designated by the Adult Director, for a period of ten (10) calendar days, after a decision was rendered or a hearing being refused within its own league. Such appeal must state that it is an appeal, state the rule that is claimed to be violated, and why the grieved action is a violation. The Adult Grievance Committee shall make a written determination within twelve (12) calendar days of receipt of a valid appeal. The written decision of the Adult Grievance Committee may be appealed, in writing, for a period of ten (10) calendar days to the MN Hockey Grievance Committee which must make a written determination within twelve (12) calendar days of receipt of a written appeal. The decision of the MN Hockey Grievance Committee shall be final except as noted in MN Hockey Hand Book under Article 6, paragraph G.
 - a. The Adult Grievance Committee shall have the same options as the MN Hockey Grievance Committee in making its determination. See MN Hockey Hand Book, Article 6, Paragraph C, 1.
 - 4. Hearing Representation: The person, team or league making an appeal shall be permitted to be represented at a hearing conducted by the league, Adult Grievance Committee or MN Hockey Grievance Committee. Such representation may consist of the appealing individual plus one representative, or two representatives, for the individual, team or league. Said representative(s)

may, without a personal appearance, present their position through written statements and letters not to exceed 5 letter sized pages of single spaced text.

5. Suspension: Players, Teams or League officials and Others. The power to suspend any person shall be with the local governing body in accordance with their rules and regulations. Whoever is vested with the authority at the local level may conduct a hearing in situations where the facts of the case are in dispute. All parties involved in the incident and witnesses shall be given the opportunity to give their version of the facts. Automatic suspensions involving violations of US Hockey or MN Hockey playing rules do not require a hearing.
6. Court Actions: Any recourse to the courts of any jurisdiction by any member or individual before all the rights and remedies available under the Articles and By-Laws of MN Hockey have been exhausted, shall be deemed conduct detrimental to the best interests of hockey and a violation of the Articles and By-Laws of MN Hockey and USA Hockey and therefore grounds for suspension and or expulsion.

End of Adult Rules

WHAM MISSION STATEMENT

The Women's Hockey Association of Minnesota ("WHAM") is a non-profit, recreational hockey association open to all women players ages eighteen (18) years and older.

WHAM recognizes and encourages participation among members with a broad range of commitment and ability, from the true beginner to the elite, Olympic-caliber athlete.

WHAM strives to provide organized, recreational ice hockey competition at all levels that is challenging, instructional, fun and affordable.

WHAM's hockey experience offers opportunities for women to socialize and improve fitness, while promoting the values of teamwork, good sportsmanship and mutual respect.

WHAM HANDBOOK AND INFORMATION

WHAM creates an annual League Handbook, which includes WHAM's operating rules, procedures, and bylaws, that is distributed to each member of WHAM at the fall meeting of its members. Non-members interested in accessing WHAM's League Handbook, and persons interested in learning more about WHAM, should visit our website: www.whamhockey.org.

2023 STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Peewee AA at New Ulm

Quarterfinals

Chaska Chan 7 - Andover 0
Osseo-MG 3 - Hermantown 2
Minnetonka 6 - Rogers 0
Moorhead 5 - Woodbury 1

Semifinals

Moorhead 5 - Minnetonka 4
Osseo-MG 5 - Chaska Chan 4
Consolation
Woodbury 2 - Rogers 1
Andover 3 - Hermantown 2

Championship

Moorhead 2 - Osseo-MG 1
Third Place
Chaska Chan 3 - Minnetonka 2
Consolation Champion
Woodbury 5 - Andover 21

Peewee A at New Ulm

Quarterfinals

Delano 9 - River Lakes 3
Hibbing-Chisholm 8 - Roseville 7
Minneapolis 4 - Mankato 2
Warroad 9 - Woodbury 6

Semifinals

Hibbing-Chisholm 8 - Delano 3
Warroad 8 - Minneapolis 5
Consolation
Roseville 5 - River Lakes 1
Woodbury 2 - Mankato 1

Championship

Hibbing-Chisholm 8 - Warroad 2
Third Place
Delano 6 - Minneapolis 3
Consolation Champion
Roseville 8 - Woodbury 2

Quarterfinals

Blaine 5 - LDC Blue 2
Woodbury 5 - North Shore 4
Osseo-MG Black 9 - Rochester Gold 3
Hermantown 4 - Roseville

Semifinals

Woodbury 4 - Blaine 2
Hermantown 2 - Osseo-MG Black 0
Consolation
North Shore 4 - LDC Blue 3
Roseville 15 - Rochester Gold 3

Championship

Woodbury 3 - Hermantown 0
Third Place
Osseo-MG Black 6 - Blaine 2
Consolation Champion
North Shore 7 - Roseville 6

Bantam AA at Prior Lake

Quarterfinals

Edina 3 - Minnetonka 2
Grand Rapids 2 - Osseo-MG 1
Rogers 4 - Stillwater 0
Moorhead 4 - White Bear lake 3

Semifinals

Edina 3 - Grand Rapids 1
Moorhead 6 - Rogers 2
Consolation
Minnetonka 2 - Osseo-MG 0
Stillwater 4 - White Bear Lake 3

Championship

Edina 3 - Moorhead 2
Third Place
Rogers 3 - Grand Rapids 1
Consolation Champion
Minnetonka 4 - Stillwater 0

Quarterfinals

Delano 4 - Northfield 2
Roseau 7 - St Paul Capitals 5
Monticello 6 - Armstrong Cooper 3
Hibbing-Chisholm 6 - Chaska Chan 1

Semifinals

Delano 6 - Roseau 2
Hibbing Chisholm 3 - Monticello 1
Consolation
Northfield 7 - St Paul Capitals 3
Armstrong Cooper 8 - Chaska Chan 2

Championship

Hibbing Chisholm 8 - Delano 1
Third Place
Monticello 5 - Roseau 4
Consolation Champion
Armstrong Cooper 4 - Northfield 3

Quarterfinals

Armstrong Cooper 3 - Dodge County 1
Prior Lake Savage 6 - Duluth East 2
Minneapolis 3 - Rochester Red 2
Edina White 5 - Hermantown 1

Semifinals

Prior Lake Savage 6 - Armstrong Cooper 2
Edina White 4 - Minneapolis 1
Consolation
Dodge County 4 - Duluth East 1
Hermantown 4 - Rochester Red 3

Championship

PriorLakeSavage 6 - Edina White 2
Third Place
Minneapolis 4-ArmstrongCooper 3
Consolation Champion
Dodge County 7 - Hermantown 5

Junior Gold A at Blaine

Quarterfinals

Wayzata 6 - Rogers Kings 1
Rosemount 4 - Blaine 1
Edina 4 - St Louis Park 2
Osseo Maple Grove 2 - Minnetonka 1

Semifinals

Wayzata 3 - Rosemount 2
Osseo Maple Grove 4 - Edina 3
Consolation
Blaine 3 - Rogers Kings 1
Minnetonka 5 - St Louis Park 1

Championship

Wayzata 4 - Osseo Maple Grove 1
Third Place
Edina 3 - Rosemount 2
Consolation Champion
Minnetonka 2 - Blaine 0

Quarterfinals

Hill Murray 5 - Shakopee Red 2
Prior Lake 4 - Shakopee Black 1
Minnetonka Black 3 - St Michael Albertville 1
Moorhead 4 - Orono Blue 1

Semifinals

Hill Murray 7 - Prior Lake 1
Moorhead 3 - Minnetonka Black 0
Consolation
Shakopee Red 3 - Shakopee Black 0
Orono Blue 5 - St Michael Albertville 1

Championship

Moorhead 4 - Hill-Murray 2
Third Place
Prior Lake 4 - Minnetonka Black 3
Consolation Champion
Shakopee Red 3 - Orono Blue 2

STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS (Continued)

Junior Gold 16 at Blaine

Quarterfinals

Stillwater 3 - Mahtomedi Gold 1
Mahtomedi Blue 8 - Lakeville 1
Farmington 5 - Rosemount 1
Prior Lake 4 - St Thomas Academy 1

Semifinals

Prior Lake 3 - Farmington 0
Stillwater 2 - Mahtomedi Blue 1
Consolation
Mahtomedi Gold 2 - Lakeville 1
Rosemount 3 - St Thomas Academy 2

Championship

Prior Lake 1 - Stillwater 0
Third Place
Mahtomedi Blue 3 - Farmington 2
Consolation Champion
Mahtomedi Gold 4 - Rosemount 3

12 & Under A Girls at Stillwater

Quarterfinals

Alexandria 6 - Mankato 1
Grand Rapids Greenway 1 - Minnetonka 0
Farmington 4 - Centennial/SLP 3
Woodbury 3 - Thief River Falls 2
Centennial/SLP 4 - Thief River Falls 2

Semifinals

Grand Rapids Greenway 3 - Alexandria 2
Woodbury 5 - Farmington 1
Consolation
Minnetonka 5 - Mankato 0
Minnetonka 4 - Centennial/SLP 2

Championship

Woodbury 3 - GrandRapidsGWY 2
Third Place
Farmington 4 - Alexandria 1
Consolation Champion

12 & Under B Girls at Faribault

Quarterfinals

Wayzata 3 - Marshall 1
Woodbury Black 3 - North Shore 1
Armstrong Cooper 3 - Fairmont 1
Rock Ridge 6 - Edina Green 4

Semifinals

Woodbury Black 4 - Wayzata 0
Armstrong Cooper 5 - Rock Ridge 4
Consolation
Marshall 6 - North Shore 1
Fairmont 4 - Edina 2

Championship

Woodbur Blk 3 - ArmstrongCoop 0
Third Place
Rock Ridge 6 - Wayzata 1
Consolation Champion
Fairmont 1 - Marshall 0

15 & Under A Girls at Stillwater

Quarterfinals

Stillwater Red 5 - Duluth 1
Minnetonka Black 2 - Prior Lake Savage 1
Edina Green 8 - Alexandria 0
Osseo Maple Grove 2 - Wayzata Blue 1

Semifinals

Stillwater Red 1 - Minnetonka Black 0
Edina Green 4 - Osseo Maple Grove 2
Consolation
Prior Lake Savage 2 - Duluth 1
Wayzata Blue 5 - Alexandria 1

Championship

Edina Green 5 - Stillwater Red 1
Third Place
Osseo MG 4 - MinnetonkaBlk 2
Consolation Champion
Wayzata Blue 6 - Prior Lk Sav 1

15 & Under B Girls at South St Paul

Quarterfinals

Brainerd Little Falls 3 - Minnetonka 2
Osseo Maple Grove White 3 - Cannon River 2
Moorhead 4 - Owatonna 2
Osseo Maple Grove Black 3 - Eagan 1

Semifinals

Osseo Maple Grove White 4 - Brainerd Little Falls 3
Moorhead 7 - Osseo Maple Grove Black 2
Consolation
Cannon River 5 - Minnetonka 1
Owatonna 5 - Eagan 2

Championship

Osseo MG White 2 - Moorhead 1
Third Place
Osseo MG Black 2 - Brainerd LF 1
Consolation Champion
Owatonna 1 - Cannon River 0

19 & Under B Girls at South St Paul

Championship

Minnetonka 7 - Edina 1

Check minnesotahockey.org for past years' tournament results

PRESIDENTS' AWARD RECIPIENTS

1966	Lavern Schumack, Mpls Alfred Cray, Minneapolis	Dave Meisner, Oakdale Lynn Olson, Minneapolis	2012	John Perry, Plymouth Susan Miller, Coon Rapids		
1967	Thomas Hofmann, St Cloud Lewis Schmidt, Farmington	Tim Sweezo, Maple Plain George Swentik, Baudette	2013	Ralph Hayne, White Bear Lake Mike Snee, Minneapolis		
1968	Marvey Nelson, Minneapolis John Parker, Warroad	1993	Dick Emahiser, Chaska Dick Haney, Duluth	Tim Sweezo, Maple Plain Mallard Teal, White Bear Lake		
1969	Raymond Schaffer, Austin Gene Roth, Grand Rapids	1994	Art Sprague, Brooklyn Park Jim Bullard, Mankato	2014	Dave Bakke, New Hope Scott Gray, Bayport	
1970	Everett (Buck) Riley, Int'l Falls Cal Marvin, Warroad	1995	Dennis Green, Elk River Tim Sweezo, Maple Plain	Don Krause, Williams Peter Lindberg, Edina		
1971	James H. Claypool, Duluth John Banks, Jr., Superior, WI	1996	Gerry Brown, St Louis Park John Ericson, Orono	John Petersen, Shoreview Tim Timm, Champlin		
1972	John V. Hoene, West St Paul Walter L. Bush, Jr., Edina	1997	Wes Barrette, St Paul Bob Halverson, New Hope	2015	Dennis Bushy, Moorhead Paul Moen, South St. Paul	
1973	Donald Lealos, Aurora Jack Wright, Edina	1998	Bill Leslie, White Bear Lake Bruce Kruger, Plymouth	2016	Rich Rakness, South St. Paul Charles Graves, Apple Valley	
1974	Ed Sampson, Int'l Falls Win Stephens, Jr., Edina	1999	Jack Neveaux, Wayzata Glenn Young, Litchfield	2017	Bob Halverson, New Hope Tom Maeckelbergh, Oak Grove	
1975	Stanley Hubbard, Lakeland Ken Austin, Owatonna	2000	Lloyd Armstrong, Fargo, ND Paul Moen, South St Paul	2018	Tom Mickus, St. Paul Derek Ricke, Park Rapids	
1976	Bob Ridder, St Paul Tom Allen, Minneapolis	2001	Mary Sweezo, Maple Plain Harwood Teal, Shoreview	2019	Diane Ytuarte, Waseca Wes Bolin, Woodbury	
1977	James Tapp, Fifty Lakes Don Clark, Cumberland, WI	2002	Barry Ford, Coon Rapids Charlie Graves, Apple Valley	2020	Scott Hamby, White Bear Lake Doug Foster, St. Michael	
1978	Bob Zywiec, South St Paul Michael Orlovich, Pengilly	2003	Dick Stewart, Duluth Nancy Boyles, Maplewood	2021	David Stigen, Fergus Falls CCM Hockey, Maple Grove	
1979	Jack Marvin, Warroad Jerry Smith, New Brighton	2004	Lynn Brandt, Plymouth Helen Brown, St Louis Park	2022	Greg Gibson, Plymouth Pete Hyduke, Hibbing	
1980	Dick Humleker, Excelsior Dick Tyson, Moundsview	2005	Carol Carlson, Stillwater Joel Carlson, Zimmerman	2023	Cheryl Mechelke, Chisago City Steve Oleheiser, Grand Rapids	
1981	Pete Paulos, Moundsview Cliff Kauppi, Grand Rapids	2006	Pat Fiedler, Eden Prairie Bill McDonald, Grand Rapids		Scott Riopelle, Crookston Glen Andresen, Bloomington	
1982	Don Pavek, Edina Ralph DeYoung, Moundsview	2007	Rich Rakness, South St Paul Glenn Young, Litchfield		Dan Beckman, New Brighton Brad Hewitt, Prior Lake	
1983	Bob Mars, Duluth Glenn Stevens, Duluth	2008	2004	Denny Malarkey, Roseville Tom Slaird, Edina		Doug Kephart, Dassel Rhonda Madsen, Elk River
1984	Dick Johnson, Roseau Jim Foley, Stillwater	2005	2005	Rick Wesp, Anoka David Margenau, Maple Grove		Bill McClellan, Cottage Grove Steve Tatro, Two Harbors
1985	Bob Utecht, Bloomington Mike Killen, St Paul	2006	2006	Diane Margenau, Maple Grove Gerry Brown, St Louis Park		Jeff Zwerdling, Anoka Jason Peterson, Marshall
1986	Stan Wilson, North St Paul Chuck Muhich, Eveleth	2007	2007	John Ericson, Orono Jack Neveaux, Orono		Jeremy Reed, New Ulm Shari Olson, Duluth
1987	Bob Gernander, Coleraine Roger A. Godin, Eveleth	2008	2008	Brian Schoenborn, St Cloud Hal Tearse, Plymouth		Mike Terwilliger, Eden Prairie Mike Schoonover, Eagan
1988	Gerry Brown, St Louis Park (Leadership Award)	2009	2009	Bob Halverson, New Hope Viking Trophy, Brooklyn Park		Marv Burt, Grand Rapids Colleen Donovan, St. Cloud
1989	Rick Finke, Minneapolis Wes Barrette, St Paul	2010	2010	Custom Lettering Mark Jorgensen, Mahtomedi		Becky Ewing, Blaine Kevin Suoja, White Bear Lake
1990	Mike Wold, St Paul John Carter, Roseau	2011	2011	Bill Gable, Isanti Mary Sweezo, Maple Plain		Steve Guider, Blaine Mike Peterson, Alexandria
1991	Carson Hedlund, Roseau Vern Harper, Brooklyn Center			Minnesota Wild Prairie Island Indian		Leif Spears, Thief River Falls
1992	Gerry Brown, St Louis Park Elmer Walls, Brainerd			Community Toni O'Brien, Eagan		
	Jim Stillings, Roseville Ralph Goldhirsch, Crystal			Phil Graber, Andover Jerry DeMeo, Duluth		
	Dale LaRoque Ted Brill, Grand Rapids			Scott Gray, Eagan Bruce Kruger, Plymouth		
	Bill McDonald, Grand Rapids Gary Gibbons, Plymouth			Mike MacMillan, Buffalo Terry Evavold, Sartell		
	John Ericson, Orono Ted Fenske, Roseville			Kathy Hayes, Somerset, WI Let's Play Hockey		
	Bob Backstrom, Duluth Jim Brekke, Moorhead			Touchpoint Publishing		
	Dennis Green, Elk River					

DON CLARK AWARD RECIPIENTS

2000	Everett (Buck) Riley, International Falls	2013	Lynn Olson, Minneapolis
2001	Ken Austin, Owatonna	2014	Tim Sweezo, Maple Plain
2002	Robert (Bob) Utecht, Bloomington	2015	Walter Bush, Edina
2003	Elmer Walls, Baxter		Peter Lindberg, Eden Prairie
2004	Ted Brill, Grand Rapids	2016	Roger Johnson, Fergus Falls
2005	Wally Odell, Elk River	2017	Bob Halverson, New Hope
2006	Dan Smeins, Luverne	2018	Bruce Kruger, Plymouth
2007	Glenn Young, Litchfield	2019	Rick Wesp, Anoka
2008	Louie Schmitz, Farmington	2020	Dennis Green, Elk River
2009	Gerry Brown, St Louis Park	2021	Dave Margenau, Maple Grove
2010	Moose Younghans, St. Paul	2022	Greg Gibson, Plymouth
2011	Dave Hendrickson, Virginia	2023	Richard Rakness, South St Paul
2012	Jim Bullard, Blaine		

TED BRILL AWARD RECIPIENTS

2006	Gary Gregus, Shakopee	2014	Ken Walstad, Burnsville
	Gary Gibbons, Alexandria	2015	Tom Peart, Minneapolis
2007	Larry Morales, Mankato	2016	Pat Westrum, Minneapolis
2008	Joan Shocinski, Minneapolis	2017	Richard Emahiser, Eden Prairie
2009	Terry Shercliffe, Moorhead	2018	Paul Moen, South St. Paul
2010	Doug Messerli, Coon Rapids	2019	Wes Bolin, Woodbury
2011	Kevin Dulin, Orono	2020	Steve Carroll, Minneapolis
2012	Bruce Johnson, Plymouth	2021	Mike MacMillan, Minneapolis
2013	Barry Ford, Coon Rapids	2022	John Perry, Plymouth
		2023	Bill McClellan, St Paul

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS "GROW THE GAME" AWARD RECIPIENTS

2014	Elk River Hockey Association	2018	Wadena Hockey Club
	Ely Blue Line Club		Cottage Grove Hockey Assn
2015	Willmar Hockey Association	2019	Moorhead Youth Hockey Assn
	Osseo Maple Grove Hockey Assn		Sibley Area Youth Hockey Assn
2016	Bemidji Youth Hockey Assn	2022	Eagan Hockey Association
	Mahtomedi Youth Hockey Assn		Proctor Amateur Hockey Assn
2017	Mounds View-Irondale Hockey	2023	Fergus Falls Hockey Assn
	Hallock Youth Hockey		Waconia Hockey Assn

MHOA SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

2015	David Nyquist, Brooklyn Park	2020	Paul Kill, Woodbury
2016	Evonne Fix, Litchfield	2021	Ethan Anderson, Mankato
2017	David Knutson, Madison Lake	2022	Darrell Gedney, Delano
2018	James Albright, Lakeville	2023	Dave Kemp, Apple Valley
2019	Ken Carlson, St. Cloud		

Don Clark Award

The prestigious Don Clark Award is presented annually by Minnesota Hockey to an individual who over a period of many years has been dedicated to the grassroots growth and development of youth hockey in Minnesota.

The ideal candidate has voluntarily and unselfishly given of himself or herself to make the sport of hockey better by providing opportunities for youth to play and enjoy the game.

Ted Brill Award “Think out of the box”

Minnesota Hockey established the Ted Brill Award with great respect and fond memories of one of our most influential leaders. It is presented annually to an individual who has at least ten years of service to any of the various player development programs (such as STP, HEP, High Performance Programs, HS All-Star Series). The Vice President of Hockey Operations will present this award.

Submit nominations for the Don Clark and Ted Brill Awards to Jim Bullard at the address below no later than February 15th of the year of the award. The nomination form is available on the Minnesota Hockey website: www.minnesotahockey.org. The Awards Committee screens nominations and selects the recipients. The awards are presented at the Minnesota Hockey Annual Meeting in the spring.

For more information contact MN Hockey, 317 Washington Street, St. Paul, MN 55102; 651-602-5727

DICK’S Sporting Goods Grow the Game Award

This award is presented to an association(s) in recognition of their dedicated efforts to introduce hockey to the youth in their community.

MHOA Service Award

This award presented by the Minnesota Hockey Officials Association is to honor an individual who has unselfishly made outstanding contributions to the officiating program in Minnesota over many years as an official and/or volunteer.

Player Achievement Awards

Zero Award - For a goalkeeper playing a complete game without allowing a goal

Hat Trick Award - For a player scoring three goals in a game

Playmaker Award - For a player registering three assists in a game

The awards are distributed under the following conditions:

1. Recipient is a registered player.
2. The game was in league competition (not scrimmage or exhibition), a sanctioned tournament or a MH playoff involving only registered USA hockey teams.
3. The game was officiated by a registered USA Hockey Referee.
4. Eligible player categories: All players squirt and above.
5. Copy of the scoresheet is supplied with application.
6. Limit of one of each award per player per season.

**Mail requests with names and awards earned to your Associate Registrar
(See pg 6)**

**Please allow 10 to 14 days for processing.
Be sure to include your return address.**

Minnesota Hockey and Minnesota Amateur Hockey Assn

PRESIDENTS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>
1947-49	Robert B. Ridder	St Paul	1980-83	Ted Brill	Grand Rapids
1949-50	Joseph Nelson	Eveleth	1983-86	Peter Lindberg	Edina
1950-52	Fred W. Edwards	Minneapolis	1986-94	Jerry Chernivec	White Bear Lake
1952-53	Robert B. Ridder	St Paul	1994-02	Elmer Walls	Baxter
1953-54	Hilding Silverston	Duluth	2002-10	Dennis Green	Elk River
1954-57	Donald M. Clark	Farmington	2010-19	Dave Margenau	Maple Grove
1957-58	James Claypool	Duluth	2019-	Steve Oleheiser	Grand Rapids
1958-61	Calvin Marvin	Warroad			
1961-63	Walter Bush, Jr.	St Louis Park			
1963-65	John Banks, Jr.	Duluth			
1965-67	Robert Fleming	Rochester			
1967-69	Kenneth Austin	Owatonna			
1969-71	Henry Dornseif	Edina			
1971-73	Ronald Woodey	Minneapolis			
1973-75	John Heneman	Warroad			
1975-77	Harold Kostka	Newport			
1977-80	Ralph Jasinski	New Brighton			

SECRETARY/TREASURERS

1947-49	Fred W. Edwards	Minneapolis	1960-74	Donald M. Clark	Cumberland, WI
1949-53	Donald M. Clark	Anoka	1974-83	Roger A. Godin	Eveleth
1953-55	Donald M. Clark	Farmington	1983-84	Donald M. Clark	Cumberland, WI
1955-56	Russell McLean	Duluth	1984-05	William P. McDonald	Grand Rapids
1956-58	Warren Johnson	Albert Lea	2005-08	Phil Graber	Andover
1958-59	Donald M. Clark	Farmington	2008-14	Jerry DeMeo	Duluth
1959-60	Donald M. Clark	Green Bay, WI			

SECRETARIES

2014-23	Rhonda Madsen	Elk River
2023-	Carmen Johnson	Little Falls

TREASURERS

2014-	Doug Kephart	Dassel
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DIRECTORS EMERITI

1988-99	Donald M. Clark	Cumberland, WI	2008	Bruce Johnson	Plymouth
2009-10	Bill Gable	Isanti	2013	Jim Bullard	Blaine
2008-11	Phil Graber	Andover	2015	Jerry DeMeo	Duluth
2005-13	William P. McDonald	Grand Rapids	2019	Dave Stigen	Fergus Falls
2004	George Swentik	Baudette	2020	Dennis Green	Elk River
2005	John Carter	Roseau	2020	Bob Halverson	New Hope
2005-18	Wallace C. Odell	Elk River	2022	John Perry	Plymouth

MINNESOTA HOCKEY OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

Amended 2017

ARTICLE I - OFFICE of the CORPORATION

The office of the Corporation shall be located in the City and State designated in the Articles of Incorporation. The Corporation may also maintain offices at such other places within or without the United States as the Board of Directors may, from time to time, determine.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Membership Qualifications. Membership shall be open to hockey officials who have successfully completed the current hockey season registration process with USA Hockey. Additional qualifications may be established by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Voting Rights. Each member is entitled to one vote on any issue requiring the consent of the general membership providing that said member has completed the USA Hockey registration process and has also applied to and paid the registration fee for membership in the Minnesota Hockey Officials Association. Membership in the corporation shall be renewed each year. The President shall have voting rights at all meetings, including committees and elections.

Section 3 - Registration Fees. Registration fees for all registered officials shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III - JURISDICTION

Section 1 - Jurisdiction. Minnesota Hockey (MH, formerly known as Minnesota Amateur Hockey Association) shall have the final jurisdiction over all amateur officials in Minnesota through its rules and applying the membership standards as established by this corporation and the registration rules as established by USA Hockey.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

Section 1 - Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held in the spring of each year at the same time and in conjunction with the meeting of MH, for the purposes of electing officers and for the transaction of any other business which may come before the meeting.

Section 2 - Special Meeting. Special meetings of the members may be called by the President, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors or by not less than one-fifth of all the members of the corporation.

Section 3 - Place of Meetings. The President may designate any place within the state of Minnesota as the site of any annual or special meeting.

Section 4 - Notice of Meetings. Written notice via US Mail, e-mail, website posting or telephone call, stating the place, day and hour of the meeting shall be delivered not less than ten (10) nor more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting. In the event that a special meeting of the Board of Directors is required, the notice requirement shall be "not less than 24 hours".

Section 5 - Quorum. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

Section 6 - Proxies. There shall be no representation by proxy of members of this corporation or its Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 'SUPERVISOR OF OFFICIALS'

Section 1 - General Powers. The Board of Directors shall have the power to run the business affairs of the corporation and shall also be the MH Supervisors of Officials.

Section 2 - Number of Members. The number of Directors of the corporation shall be not less than one (1) Supervisor of Officials elected and/or appointed from each MH District, the USA Hockey District Referee-In-Chief, the Immediate Past President and the elected officers (President, North VP, South VP, Treasurer and Secretary). Each Director, with the exception of the USA Hockey District Referee-In-Chief, shall be elected by members of each MH District and/or appointed by the MH Referee Section Director and shall be a representative of that District. The Board of Directors may also invite the Supervisor of Officials of a MN Hockey sanctioned league, such as Adult, Women and Junior Hockey, to be a sitting Board Member of the corporation.

Section 2a - Term. District Supervisors shall hold office for one (1) year. Article VI addresses terms of elected officers.

In the event of vacancy by resignation or other reason, the President shall appoint a Director to fill such unexpired term. In the event the President fails to make said appointment within thirty (30) days from the

date of vacancy, that District shall hold an election within thirty (30) days to elect a new Director and/or one will be appointed by the MH District Referee-in-Chief.

Section 3 - Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called pursuant to Article IV, Section 4.

Section 4 - Ex-Officio Members. The USA Hockey Referee-In-Chief and USA Hockey Officiating Program Director shall not be an elected member of the Board of Directors under provisions of Section 2 of this Article, but shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors without voting rights.

Section 5 - Duties: Board of Directors. The duties of the Board of Directors shall be:

- A. Elect a President, Two (2) Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer pursuant to Article IV, Section 1.
- B. To hear and rule on any matters or disputes for which another procedure is not provided for in these bylaws.

Section 6 - Voting: In accordance with the Article entitled "Board of Directors" hereinbefore, each Board member is entitled to one vote, excluding Board members indicated as "non-voting". Individuals holding multiple voting positions on the Board are entitled to a single vote.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

Section 1 - The officers of this corporation shall be Directors at Large of the Board of Directors and shall be the President, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and not more than two Vice Presidents. Officers may be selected from the membership of the Board or any adult resident of Minnesota who supports and can further the purposes of the corporation. Separate elections shall be held for each open position, with the successful candidate being the person receiving at least a simple majority of the votes cast. If a simple majority is not reached, the candidate receiving the least votes shall be dropped and the position re-voted. The officers shall have such powers and duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors. Such officers shall constitute the Executive Committee. An officer may also be an elected member of the Board of Directors but such officer shall be entitled to only one vote.

Section 2 - Removal. Any officer elected by the Board of Directors may be removed by a vote of at least two-thirds of the voting members of the Board when the Board judges that removal is in the best interest of the corporation.

Section 3 - Vacancies. Any vacancy in any office may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 4 - President (Minnesota Referee Section Director). The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall, in general, supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the corporation. The President shall be responsible for all activities of officials with respect to training, rules, procedures and conduct. The President shall be responsible for coordinating these activities with USA Hockey through the MH District Supervisors of Officials. The President shall preside at all meetings, serve as an ex-officio member of all committees, call special meetings of the association or Board of Directors that the President considers necessary, and appoint committees as required by these Bylaws or as the President deems necessary.

Section 5 - Two Vice Presidents. There shall be two (2) Vice Presidents; one from the North Districts and one from the South Districts. In the event the Vice President has to take the place of the President for any reason, the North Vice President shall do so on odd years and the South Vice President shall do so on even years. In the absence of the President or the event of his inability or refusal to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President and when so acting, shall have all the powers of the President.

Section 6 - Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all the funds of the corporation. The Treasurer shall provide an annual report at the annual spring meeting and any other report deemed necessary by the President.

Section 7 - Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, see that all notices are given in accordance with these bylaws and in general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary. The Secretary shall be the Chairman of the Registration Committee and an ex-officio member of the Ethics Committee.

Section 8 - Conflict of Interest. The President of this association shall not supervise, schedule, or participate on any Board of a District or League under the jurisdiction of MH and shall not accept jobs or roles in his/her area of responsibility, except acting as an on ice official shall be permitted, in order to avoid any possibility of a conflict of interest in the performance of his duties. Exceptions to this rule can be made upon two-thirds (2/3) vote of the MHOA and MH Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII - STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1 - General. The size of any committee in the succeeding section will be the number shown, plus the President and any other ex-officio member.

Section 2 - Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee will consist of three members of the corporation. The chairman shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The committee is responsible for the hearing and ruling on complaints regarding officials and taking appropriate action against any member for violation of the Bylaws or for conduct detrimental to amateur hockey while officiating or while engaged in any other activity.

Section 3 - Registration Committee. The Registration Committee shall be composed of the Secretary and any member of the Board of Directors as appointed by the President. The committee shall be responsible for annual registration of officials in the corporation.

Section 4 - Rules Committee. The Rules Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the corporation appointed annually by the President. It shall be responsible for all rules interpretation and to consider and introduce proposed changes or amendments to the bylaws of the corporation at the annual meeting or at any special meeting.

Section 5 - Nomination Committee. The Nomination Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the corporation, as appointed by the President, to be responsible for presenting a slate of candidates for the officers of this organization. Nominations shall be accepted from the floor during the annual meeting. The Immediate Past President shall be chairman of this committee.

ARTICLE VII - SUSPENSIONS-APPEALS-COURT ACTIONS

Section 1 - Suspensions. MHOA or any local supervisor of officials shall have the authority to suspend a referee up to ten (10) days without a prior hearing. The state association or Affiliate Association shall have the authority to suspend a referee after a hearing (held in accordance with the Unified Procedure as stated in the USA Hockey Annual Guide) or in accordance with the Summary Suspension procedures as outlined in the USA Hockey Annual Guide.

Any official(s) who boycotts any game(s) due to any disciplinary action taken or not taken by a Disciplinary Authority shall subject said official(s) to Discipline in accordance with the Unified Procedure conducted by the organization subjected to said boycott.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

Section 1 - Procedure. These bylaws may be amended or changed at the annual meeting or at any meeting of the general membership. Each proposed amendment must be submitted to the President who shall present it to the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee shall decide whether or not to recommend its adoption at the next annual or special meeting. No amendment shall be eligible for presentation at a meeting unless it shall have been distributed in writing or electronically to the membership of the corporation at least ten (10) days prior to said meeting.

Section 2 - Adoption. The proposed amendment shall then be presented at the next annual or special meeting, with or without the Rules Committee's recommendation. A vote of the majority of the eligible voters voting at the meeting shall be required to adopt the amendment.

ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARIAN

The Secretary shall act as Parliamentarian at all meetings and the corporation shall follow Robert's Rules of Order.

End of MHOA By-laws

USA HOCKEY - MINNESOTA DISTRICT

Registration Requirements

The insurance provided by membership in USAH is in effect when the requirements below have been met. This includes Sports Accident Coverage, Catastrophic Injury Coverage and Liability Coverage. Refer to the Membership brochure for more information. Further, the local associations are protected by the USA Hockey Liability Insurance against player injury provided that all participants (players, coaches and managers) and all teams of the local association are registered. In addition to players, coaches and managers, other individuals considered essential to the game are also covered during games, including timekeepers, scorekeepers, penalty box attendants and goal judges.

The requirements are:

1. Each player and coach on the team is registered with USAH by completing the online registration on the USAH web site and the individuals have turned in the Confirmation Page to be claimed by their local association.
2. All players and all coaches, having been individually registered above, are listed on the Official USAH Team roster. (This does not mean listed on any roster; it means listed on the roster of the team on which they are participating).
3. The team must be participating in a sanctioned event. Sanctioned events are team practices, scrimmage games against other registered teams, league games, tournament games played in sanctioned tournaments, the state affiliate's District, Region and State Tournaments and USAH National Tournaments. All games must be played using USA Hockey playing rules and all referees must be registered with USAH. If a team participates in international competition, including Canada, a travel permit is required.

Any team that participates in competition against a non-registered team, participates in a non-sanctioned tournament or participates in international competition without a travel permit is subject to penalties including suspension.

The following are exceptions to the above:

1. Prior to the regular hockey season it is recognized that Associations may conduct clinics and tryouts that are necessary to decide who is assigned to which team. This period is between when the individual members register and the regular season teams are formed and actually begin playing games. During this period all members are covered by the insurance described above provided that all of the participants (players, coaches and managers) are individually registered prior to participating in any activities. The assumption here is that all participants will ultimately appear on the roster of a registered team. This exception only applies in the fall prior to the regular season. It does not apply to spring or summer programs even though these programs are run by the local association. Note that every participant (players, coaches and managers) must be registered with their local association prior to participation in any activity and that these registrations must be sent to the Registrar or cognizant Associate Registrar not later than ten (10) days following the commencement of these activities.
2. From time to time it may be desirable to have High School players that are not registered members of USA Hockey to provide some coaching assistance for younger youth teams. If this occurs once or twice during the regular season, these individuals will be covered as incidental participants and it is not necessary for them to be registered or rostered. If it occurs more than once or twice, then the individuals must be registered and rostered on the team to which they are providing coaching assistance. There is no limit to the number of coaches that can be rostered on a team. There is a limit of four (4) Team Officials that can be on the bench during any given game.

If any Association wants to run a spring and/or summer program that is essentially a clinic format, then additional registrations are required. The players and coaches participating in this spring or summer clinic need to be individually registered and be listed on roster(s) or on a team list(s) that is in the hands of the Minnesota District Registrar when the individuals are on the ice for the program. Individual registration runs from April 1 to August 31 (17 months), and it is probable that most or all of the participants are already registered as individual members. The roster(s) or the team list(s) can be done alphabetically or otherwise with a limit of twenty (20) players per roster. If the spring or summer program teams plan to participate outside of their local program, the team MUST have a roster approved by the Minnesota District Registrar or designate.

Some teams use scrimmage games as part of their tryout process – 2 or 3 such scrimmages as part of tryouts are acceptable with District Director approval. Because this is part of the tryout process, no rosters are required. Once tryouts are completed, teams may desire to participate in a few more scrimmage games before their roster is verified and signed. After tryouts are complete, the basic registration requirements must be met.

1. All participants (players/coaches) must have registered on the USAH web site and been claimed by their association.
2. A copy of the team roster must be in the possession of the cognizant Associate Registrar. The roster should be marked "preliminary" or "temporary" and must contain the names of all the participants (players and coaches). The roster does not have to be signed by the coaches, and does not have to be approved by the "Proper Authority".
 - a. This roster will be retained by the Associate Registrar until the Official Roster is validated and approved, and is only valid for pre-season scrimmage games. It is not valid for League Games, Tournament Games or games played outside of USA Hockey (i.e. Canada). Games played while this temporary roster is in effect do not count toward meeting National Tournament eligibility requirements.

Team Credentials Package

Each team participating in invitational, district, region or state tournaments must present the following credentials package to the tournament Credentials Committee prior to participating in the tournament. Any team that does not have a properly completed credentials package will not be allowed to participate in the tournament.

Minnesota District Teams

- Rosters generated by the Online Registration Program can be supplied by a mobile device. Some arenas may be in a "dead zone" to receive mobile connections or do not have wireless internet so a paper copy of the roster may be required. No signatures are required. Roster approval will be a computer generated message on the roster that will say (USA HOCKEY APPROVED CERTIFIED ROSTER 1T).
- Birth certificates issued by a governmental body (not hospital certificates or baptismal certificates) or passports for rostered players are not required as long as the official roster has been approved by the Registrar or the cognizant Associate Registrar and the roster indicates that all birth certificates have been verified.
- An approval letter from the Minnesota District Registrar for any player participating in a younger age group than is implicit based on the player's birthdate.
- High School attendance certification forms for Junior Gold and Junior Gold 16 teams (this applies to Minnesota District teams only). Invitational Tournaments are not required to check attendance certification forms.

Non-Minnesota District Teams

- Rosters generated by the Online Registration Program can be supplied by a mobile device. Some arenas may be in a "dead zone" to receive mobile connections or do not have wireless internet so a paper copy of the roster may be required. No signatures are required.
- Birth certificates issued by a governmental body (not hospital certificates or baptismal certificates) or passports for rostered players are not required as long as the official roster has been approved by the Registrar or the cognizant Associate Registrar and the roster indicates that all birth certificates have been verified.
- Individuals listed as "Managers" on the Official Roster are not allowed on the bench.

Note to Credentials Committees

Teams from USA Hockey Districts other than Minnesota may have credentials packages that vary from our standard. If a team from outside of the Minnesota District does not have the credentials listed above for Non-Minnesota District teams, you should contact:

- Chairman of MH Tournaments Committee, or
 - USA Hockey Minnesota District Registrar, or
 - USA Hockey Registrar or Associate Registrar for the USA Hockey District that the team is from.
- If any one of the above states that the team is properly registered, note who you talked to and allow the team to play.

The USA Hockey Registrars and Associate Registrars are listed in the USA Hockey Annual Guide.

Minnesota Development Model

A. Background and Objectives

1. The Minnesota Development Model (MDM) is based on the principles of USA Hockey's American Development Model (ADM) and the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model.
2. MH provides these guidelines and best practices to assist associations in developing programming which supports LTAD. The application of the guidelines will be different from association to association based on number of players, personnel and resources.
3. The MH ADM Committee, Hockey Directors, USA Hockey Coach Education Program (CEP) Staff, District Directors and USA Hockey Regional ADM Manager are available to work with associations towards the implementation and support of these guidelines.
4. The MDM, through utilization of LTAD principles, allows us to integrate training, competition and age appropriate development guidelines so that we can assist each participant in reaching his or her potential. The MDM offers equal opportunity to learn the basic skills for recreation and competition – a key to retaining younger players.
5. Remember, winning comes after fun and skill development. A coach's success is measured by how many kids keep playing hockey.

B. Guidelines for Mini-Mites, Mites/8U Girls, Squirts/10U Girls, Peeewe's/12U Girls

1. Utilize a 'Hockey Director' to lead and implement the LTAD, including practice planning and off-ice training sessions.
2. Utilize a Hockey Development Committee to assist the Hockey Director and Administrative Board.
3. Utilize age division coordinators (Mini-Mites, Mites/8U Girls, Squirts, 10U Girls, etc.) to assist Hockey Director at their level.
4. Use Age Specific (ADM) practice plans and guidelines (station based, small area games, etc.).
5. Have access to a designated off-ice training area (best if located at arena).
6. Have access to a meeting room with video capability for chalk talk sessions.
7. Team schedules (practice/game) should be reviewed and approved by the level coordinator or Hockey Director. Documented practice plans should be reviewed by the level coordinators or Hockey Director monthly.
8. Provide player skill evaluations early and at the end of the season.
9. Utilize a skating coach and puck handling/shooting coach to work with Squirt/10U & Peeewe/12U teams/players during the season.
10. Utilize a goaltending coach to work with Squirt/10U and Peeewe/12U goaltenders regularly during the season.
11. Conduct a coach's education session once per month specific to the Mite/8U, Squirt/10U and Peeewe/12U levels.
12. Complete an assn. coaching competency review and develop a plan for improvements, based on the USAH Skill Progression Guidelines.
13. Begin development of players no earlier than the day after Labor Day; form teams no earlier than Oct 15th; end season by Mar 31st.
14. Provide players with some time off during the season (no practices, games, etc)
15. Provide hard ice dividers for cross/half ice games. Learn about the Rink Systems Hard Divider subsidy at www.minnesotahockey.org

C. Guidelines for Mini-Mites

1. Utilize Learn to Skate/Learn to Play as a transition program for new participants. The program should be low cost/low time commitment.
2. 8-10 skaters per team, teams composed of like skill ability
3. Station-based practices should contain multiple teams to maximize ice time; there should be 8-10 skaters of like ability per station
4. No goaltenders in practice or on game days
5. 2 on-ice sessions per week; maximum of 50 on-ice days, 50–60 minute sessions
6. All in-house game days should be played cross-ice (3v3 or 4v4 based on number of kids); all games/jamborees should be cross-ice.
7. 1 off-ice session per week (30 minutes possibly done right after short ice session)

D. Guidelines for Mites/8U Girls

1. 10-12 skaters per team, no full time goaltenders, teams of like skill ability
2. No full-time goaltenders in practice, give all players the opportunity to play goaltender for games.
3. 2-3 on-ice sessions per week including practices and games; 40 to 50 on-ice days, 50-60 minute ice sessions
4. 12 to 14 cross/half ice game days and 28 to 36 practices; no more than six full ice games after December 31st.
5. Players grouped in practice and in games by like ability
6. Players at Mite/8U classification are discouraged from moving up to Squirt/10U classification. Association guidelines shall govern.
7. 1 off-ice session per week (30-40 minutes possibly done right after short ice session)

E. Guidelines for Squirts/10U Girls

1. 11-12 skaters & 1-2 goalies per team (nonplaying goalie should be encouraged to skate out as forward or defense)
2. 4-5 on-ice sessions per week including practices and games; 75 to 100 on-ice days
3. Recommend 3 to 1 practice to game-day ratio; no more than 35 games
4. Pre-season player development sessions count toward practice to game-day ratios
5. Incorporate tracking, angling and body positioning drills into practice
6. 2 off-ice training sessions per week (30-40 minutes)
7. Minimum 2 teams per on-ice practice session (3 recommended, 30-40 players)

8. Players grouped by like ability in practices & games
9. Equal playing time for all players
10. Rotate positions so that participants experience playing both forward and defense

F. Guidelines for Peewees/12U Girls

1. 11-13 skaters and 2 goalies per team (recommended 12 skaters and 1-2 goalies)
2. 5-6 on-ice sessions per week including practices and games
3. Include body-contact/body-checking drills in every practice or conduct two body-contact/ body-checking practices each month.
4. 90 to 110 on-ice days; recommend 3 to 1 practice to game-day ratio; recommend 40-45 game days
5. Pre-season player development sessions count toward practice to game ratios
6. 2-3 teams per on-ice practice session
7. 2 off-ice training sessions per week (30-40 minutes)
8. 1 Chalk Talk/Video session per week
9. Equal playing time for all players
10. Rotate positions so that participants experience playing both forward and defense

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