



MAYHA

Maranacook Area Youth Hockey Association

Athleticism ♦ Camaraderie ♦ Community ♦ Sportsmanship

**PROGRAM GUIDE, POLICIES
AND PROCEDURES**

2012 - 2013

Approved by MAYHA Board of Directors

10.13.2011



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PROGRAMS AND PHILOSOPHIES

I. Mission Statement

Maranacook Area Youth Hockey Association (MAYHA) has a mission to promote youth ice-hockey and recreational skating, but more importantly to instill the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, and loyalty to better assure that young people may develop into mature, healthy, and responsible adults. All persons involved with MAYHA are dedicated to the principle that winning is secondary to the molding of future adults and members of our society. MAYHA is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

MAYHA provides a positive learning experience for all boys and girls with qualified adult leadership in a safe, healthy, and fun environment. We provide programs to meet the needs of the beginning skater, where basic skating skills are taught, as well as programs which offer opportunities to those who wish to advance in a more competitive environment.

MAYHA will strive to support the following philosophies for our athletes:

- Right of the opportunity to participate in sports regardless of ability or income level;
- Right to participate at a level that is consistent with the development level;
- Right to have qualified sensitive leadership;
- Right to participate in a safe and healthy environment;
- Right of each participant to share in the leadership and decision making of their sport;
- Right of child athletes to play as children;
- Right of proper preparation of participation in the sport;
- Right for an equal opportunity to strive for success;
- Right to be treated with dignity by all involved; and
- Right to have fun through sport.

II. USA Hockey

MAYHA is a fully sanctioned under the Maine Amateur Hockey Association (MEAHA) and USA Hockey, Inc. (USA Hockey).

USA Hockey is recognized as the National Governing Body for the sport of ice hockey in the United States under the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act Title 36, Chapter 17 § 391 United States Code. The Amateur Sports Act requires any organization that wishes to conduct international amateur ice hockey competition in the United States or to sponsor U.S. athletes to compete in international amateur ice hockey competition outside the United States to obtain a sanction from USA Hockey. In compliance with provisions of the Amateur



Sports Act, USA Hockey will review every request to conduct or sponsor international amateur ice hockey competition and, if the requirements set forth in the Amateur Sports Act are met, USA Hockey will provide such sanction.

The following core values of USA Hockey are adopted:

Sportsmanship – Foremost of all values is to learn a sense of fair play. Be 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 all participants.

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.

III. Administrative Organization

Henry Clauson

President – Officer

henry@ledgehillfarm.com

James Pelletier

Vice President – Officer

jim31775@aol.com

Lynette Godbout

Secretary – Officer

lynettewaugh@hotmail.com

Motte Hatchell

Treasurer – Officer

mhatchell@roadrunner.com



Vacant
Registrar

Vacant
Scheduler

Vacant
ACE Coordinator/Coaching Director

Joe Thornton
Events Coordinator
jkk168_99@yahoo.com

Chriss Welch
Concessions / Team Fundraising Coordinator
chriss_welch@hotmail.com

Susan Cloutier
Webmaster
Susan.Cloutier@gmx.com

IV. Levels of Play and Fees

MAYHA follows the age classifications as determined by USA Hockey. Age is determined by the child's age as of December 31st of the year in which the season begins.

All practices and home games occur on MAYHA Home Ice located at Kent's Hill School Bonnefond Ice Arena, Kents Hill, Maine.

Season generally runs from October through March. Practice/Game times indicated below are approximate and subject to change.

Atoms: (new skaters): **\$100**

- 1 weekend practice per week + 1 tournament;
- Equipment rentals available – Full body gear for \$50!

Mini-Mites: (new skaters / 6 – 8 years old): **\$200**

- 1 x 60 minute weekend practice per week;
 - 6 or more cross ice games (~3+ home/3+ away);
 - Participation in Annual Maranacook Mite Mixer Tournament.
-



Mites: (8 & under): \$300

- 2 x 60 minute practices per week (Tuesday/Thursday evenings);
 - 12 or more cross/half ice games (~6+ home /6+ away);
 - Participation in Annual Maranacook Mite Mixer Tournament;
 - Opportunity to try out for Extended Play Mites (Jan-March). EP Mites: 8 to 10 full ice games + 1 tournament. Extra \$125 if player qualifies.
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Squirts: (10 & under) \$475

- 2 x 60 minute practices per week (Tuesday/Thursday evenings);
 - 24 or more full Ice games (~12+ home/12+ away);
 - At least 1 tournament.
-

PeeWee: (12 & under) \$475

- 2 x 60 minute practices per week (Tuesday/Thursday evenings);
 - 24 or more full Ice games (~12+ home/12+ away);
 - At least 1 tournament.
-

Bantam: (14 & Under) \$475

- 2 x 60 minute practices per week (Tuesday/Thursday evenings);
 - 24 or more full Ice games (~12+ home/12+ away);
 - At least 1 tournament.
-

Midget: (18 & Under) \$250 each session

- Early Fall session and possible Spring session;
- At least 2 x 60 minute practices & at least 8 full ice games per session.

In addition, MAYHA sponsors several Free Skate days throughout the season which will be communicated via newsletter, our website, and/or public notices. Free Skate days/times are open to MAYHA players and families, and the general public with a focus on introducing the sport of ice hockey to a wider audience.

V. Registration

Formal registration will be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 17 and 18, from 10am – 2pm at Kent's Hill School Bonfond Ice Arena, Kents Hill, Maine. As available, free ice time is also provided for a portion of the registration period.



For registration outside the formal registration dates/times, please contact the MAYHA Registrar or any Board Member.

Prior to MAYHA registration, all players must be USA Hockey registered. Go to the USA Hockey website (www.usahockey.com) to register your hockey player; then print out your player USA Hockey registration confirmation. This USA Hockey registration must be provided to the MAYHA Registrar in order to complete the MAYHA registration process. No unregistered players will be allowed on the ice.

VI. Payment Schedule

For Program fees, please see above.

Half will be due at the start of the season with the balance due by 12/31/2011. Since our ice bills are due each month, MAYHA needs to collect money in advance. Individual payment schedules may be arranged with the MAYHA Registrar on a case by case basis. MAYHA is willing to work with families as needed to develop a payment schedule that is affordable.

Anyone overdue on their ice bill payment / schedule will not be allowed to practice or play games. For any families not current with their account after January 30, all players in that family will be ineligible to participate in any MAYHA events, games, practices, or functions until their account is paid in full.

For any checks returned for non-sufficient funds, a player's account will be assessed a fee of \$20 in addition to any applicable bank charges.

MAYHA will not accept a registration from any player or sibling that has an unpaid balance from any other USA Hockey affiliated youth hockey organization until those accounts are paid in full.

VII. Coach Selection

The Board shall meet on a regular basis as directed by the Coaching Director to review and consider applicants and/or candidates for coaching positions. The Board shall select a head coach for each team.

Factors that must be considered when making the selection and recommendation shall include, not necessarily in order of importance:

Prior Coaching Experience with Youth Hockey, including:



- Consideration of parent survey results
- Prior youth (Hockey) coaching experience from other organizations
- Commitment & availability;
- Ability/capacity to communicate and teach
- Coaching philosophy;
- General hockey background & knowledge
- References
- Personal background check supported by signed release of information

Any other reliable information known by or available to the Coaching Director and the Board consideration of prior coaching experience within Youth Hockey is but one factor and should not alone cause the Coaching Director or Board to select or recommend an applicant or candidate as the Board are encouraged to consider all the above factors but no one factor alone.

The Coaching Director should undertake at least one mid-season review of those coaches approved by the Board to measure the progress and suitability of the coach. This mid-season review may occur at any time and is intended as an opportunity for feedback and input for and from the coach considering such items as:

- Accountability:
- Commitment & availability
- Ability/Capacity to communicate and teach
- Coaching philosophy
- Personal Background information
- Discipline issues
- USA Hockey and Code of Conduct
- Any other pertinent information available to the Committee

Should circumstances arise whereby a coach indicates that s/he can no longer continue to fulfill his/her role as coach or where the Board determines that a coach should be removed, the Coaching Director shall select and recommend to the Board a successor after consideration of the coach selection and recommendation enumerated above.

VIII. Team Representatives

Each Team has a volunteer representative, usually a parent, who generally does the following:

- Conduct parent meeting around the second week of practice to distribute and discuss the content in this Manual;
- Coordinates Tournament travel (e.g. hotel arrangements, drinks, etc...);



- Order, collect money and pick up name plates for jerseys;
- Game sheet roster stickers for Head Coach;
- Coordinates music during home games (optional);
- Notify parents of game schedule changes and hand out updated calendars
- Pictures: Hand out picture forms prior to picture day. On picture day assist coaches with players.
- Relay any information regarding clinics upcoming events.
- Works with MAYHA Board to help coordinate End of Year Team Banquet(s).

If you are interested in being a Team Representative, please see the team Coach or a Board member.

IX. Conflict Resolution

Coaches should utilize the following strategies in order to effectively manage conflicts amongst players, coaches and parents:

- The coach should speak with the player, parent or coach;
- The coach should address player and parent together;
- The coach should address the Coaching Director;
- The Coaching Director should address the Board.

Significant referee disputes (misconduct penalties, player suspensions, game forfeits, etc.) must be brought to the attention of the Board in a timely manner.

Should a player or coach receive a major (game) misconduct penalty causing that player or coach to also serve a game suspension, the Board will review the matter and may take appropriate action including addressing the player or coach and possibly imposing additional penalties upon that individual.

X. Fundraising

We conduct numerous fundraising events each year to defray the cost of ice time and provide support for MAYHA wide sponsored events. Families are expected to participate in these events - without family participation, our fees would be much higher. Some of these events may provide families opportunities to generate funds to reduce their personal ice bills.

MAYHA also has a Corporate Sponsorship Program. See MAYHA Board or website for details.



XI. Annual Meeting and Awards

At the end of each season, MAYHA sponsors an Annual Meeting for all players and their families. The format of this meeting may vary from year to year and details are announced by team Reps and Board members in advance. Event(s) include Sponsorship recognition, Team awards, and Player awards. Event(s) usually occur in April.

XII. Program Communications and Website

MAYHA maintains website for communication of events, schedules, team news and statistics, MAYHA news, and other important program information and links:

www.maranacookyouthhockey.com

Via the website or by contacting a Board member, you can sign up to be on our e-mail distribution to receive newsletter and important notifications (e.g. inclement weather announcements, etc...).

POLICIES

XIII. Code of Conduct

The following actions will result in a game misconduct. Violations will not be tolerated.

- Flagrant fouls with intent to injure.
- Fighting with other players, officials, coaches or fans, on or off the ice.
- Unacceptable language on the bench or in the locker room.
- Leaving ice without shaking hands unless coach sends the player off.
- Disrespect to coaches or officials.

If suspended by the referee, the player will miss one game. If suspended by MAYHA the player will sit for at least one game, suited on the bench.

- First game misconduct is a one game suspension.
- Second game misconduct is one USA hockey game suspension PLUS one MAYHA game suspension.
- Third game misconduct and the player is out for the season pending a review of the Board.



Players are expected to make practices and games. If a player cannot make a practice or game, the parent is expected to notify the coach.

XIV. Zero Tolerance

In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, MAYHA follows the URS Hockey instituted zero tolerance policy. This policy requires all players, coaches, officials, team officials and administrators and parents/spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey or MAYHA sanctioned games. Thus, the following points of emphasis must be implemented by all referees and linesmen:

Players

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:

1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
2. Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.
3. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.

Coaches

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a coach:

1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
2. Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
3. Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players or spectators.

Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, he/she shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

Officials

Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited.

Officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.



Parents/Spectators

The game will be stopped by game officials when parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interferes with other spectators or the game. The game officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:

1. Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
2. Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
3. Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, players bench, penalty box or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

XV. Volunteer Screening

MAYHA follows the MEAHA Policy for background screening for our regular volunteers. All individuals who are required to be screened can do so via the MAYHA website link, or contacting a Board member for further information. Individuals / MAYHA will not incur any costs for the screening process.

All coaches (head and assistants), officials, managers and other individuals who have routine access to children (anyone under the age of majority) must consent to be screened through the Protect Youth Sports screening process. Any individual who does not consent to be screened shall not be allowed to participate in any MAYHA, New England District or USA Hockey sanctioned activities, including but not limited to all team activities and any other "on ice" or "off ice" hockey activities.

All coaches, managers and other individuals required to be screened must complete the screening process before any interactions with players and teams. All officials must complete the screening process by December 31 of the playing season. Any individual who begins an activity after the applicable playing season deadline that would require the individual to be subject to the MEAHA Screening Policy must complete the screening process within thirty (30) days after beginning such activity.

XVI. Consumption, Use, Abuse of Mood Altering Substances



It is the considered judgment of the Board of Directors that consumption, use, or abuse of mood altering substances is detrimental to a healthy state of mind, body, and spirit in an athletic participant. This is especially true for those participants aspiring to develop their talents in the furtherance of their playing, or coaching, or officiating careers in the sport of ice hockey. Therefore, with the best interests of its participants in mind, MAYHA prohibits use by any participant of mood altering substances during active participation in its programs, and, upon discovery of any violation, shall take action to remove the participant from participation in its programs for a reasonable period of time.

XVII. Hazing

It is the policy of MAYHA that there shall be no hazing of any participant involved in any of its sanctioned programs, its training camps, hockey clinics, coaches clinics, referee clinics, regional and national tournaments or other USA Hockey events by any employee, volunteer, participant or independent contractor.

Definition of Hazing: Conduct which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, offensive, or physically harmful. Any player, team official, executive member of a team, club or association having been party to or having had knowledge of any degrading hazing, or initiation rite, without reporting it or taking action, shall be subject to suspension from playing or holding office with any team, club or association affiliated with USA Hockey.

XVIII. Mouth and Neck Guards

All play levels: MAYHA does not require, but **recommends** that all of its players properly wear a **neck guard** during all on-ice events, including practices, skills clinics, and games.

Atom, Mite, and Squirt: MAYHA does not require, but **recommends** that all of its players properly wear a **mouth guard** during all on-ice events, including practices, skills clinics, and games.

PeeWee, Bantam and Midget: MAYHA **requires** that all of its players properly wear a **mouth guard** during all on-ice events, including practices, skills clinics, and games. If a player does not have one, it is **required** that he or she leave the ice until such safety equipment is obtained.

XIX. Coaches Helmet Policy



In accordance with USA Hockey policy, all MAYHA hockey coaches, on-ice assistants, and instructors must properly wear an approved ice hockey helmet during all on-ice sessions, including practices, controlled scrimmages and coach and referee clinics. Face shields are strongly recommended but not required.

The penalties for non-compliance with this rule are as follows:

- 1st Offense - A warning will be issued
- 2nd Offense - One game suspension
- 3rd Offense - An immediate and automatic suspension pending a hearing before the Board of Directors.
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XX. Locker Room Supervision

USA Hockey is concerned with locker room activities between minor players; minor players and adult players; adults being alone with individual minor players in locker rooms; and with non-official or non-related adults having unsupervised access to minor participants at sanctioned team events.

It is the policy of USA Hockey that all affiliates, districts, leagues, and local hockey programs have at least one responsible adult present directly monitoring the locker room during all team events to assure that only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room and to supervise the conduct in the locker room. Any individual meetings with a minor participant and a coach in a locker room shall require a responsible adult be with the coach.

Further, responsible adults must personally monitor the locker room environment at all times while participants are present and also make sure the locker room is appropriately secured during times when minor participants are on the ice.

XXI. Body Checking

MAYHA follows the new 2011 USA Hockey Progressive Checking Skill Development Program. The program includes the following elements:

- It encourages more body contact in the pre-body checking age categories by providing more training and support for coaches and referees; and encouraging more legal body contact in the pre-body checking age categories through “Point of Emphasis” rule #1 passed by the Board.
- It tightens the standard of play for intimidation hits in the legal body checking age categories. Beginning in the 2011-12 season, legal body checking in games will begin at the Bantam age level (ages 13-14).



- Beginning in 2011-12, each USA Hockey coach will be required to take an age-specific training module which will provide training information consistent with long-term athlete and childhood development principles for the age category the coach will be engaged with. Each module will include training information for body contact and checking.
- The Board also passed rules that prohibit any check that comes in contact with the head or neck. The goal of this rule is to make the player more responsible for actions that make contact to the head or neck similar to rules now in place for stick infractions to the head.