

2014-2015 DISTRICT 8 GOVERNING RULES

DISTRICT 8 RULES AND REGULATIONS (Youth Junior Gold and Younger) (Girls 19 & Under and Younger) Includes Revisions as November, 2014

DISTRICT 8 WAIVER PROCEDURE POLICY

District 8 has adopted the following procedural policies:

1. District 8 follows Minnesota Hockey Youth Rules.
2. The decision to approve a waiver is up to the releasing or receiving presidents of the associations involved.
3. If both the releasing and receiving associations agree to the waiver of the player, the signed waiver must be approved by the cognizant District Director(s).
4. If the waiver is not signed by either the releasing or receiving association, a player may appeal to the District 8 Director.
5. The District 8 Director will issue his ruling. Appeals will be judged solely on the betterment of the player's hockey ability with consideration for the good of both associations.
6. Appeals will be denied until the player has gone through the tryout process in the players association of residency. The player must go through the tryout process in the players' association of residency.
7. DO NOT register a player that is not from your serving area and then request a waiver. All waiver requests must be submitted before a player is registered. NONE will be approved after the fact. This includes Mites and Mini-Mites.
8. District 8 will not waiver a player outside of District 8 unless all reasonable playing opportunities within District 8 have been exhausted. This policy does not apply to

existing agreements or established practices prior to September 1, 2008.

DISTRICT 8 LEAGUE OPERATING RULES

1. GENERAL

The purpose of the MH District 8 League is to provide organized playing leagues for MH registered associations/teams in MH District 8. Only associations defined by MH as members of District 8 and teams with member approval are eligible to participate in the District 8 League.

USA Hockey and MH are trying to get hockey back on track, to “Give the game back to the kids”. Coaches and officials are being told to observe this problem, so ice time is not wasted. If coaches and officials cannot work this out, officials are asked not to waste valuable ice time.

2. MANAGEMENT

An executive committee and a board of directors shall manage the league. The executive committee, elected by the board of directors, shall include a District Director, league president, secretary, treasurer, six (6) vice presidents, and coach coordinator. The league and board of directors shall consist of a representative from each District 8 MH registered association.

- 2.1 The executive committee shall have the power to act for the league between board meetings. Members of the executive committee shall be elected for two-year terms. The vice president positions are VP Junior Gold, VP Bantam A, B, and C, VP Pee wee A, B, and C, VP Squirt A, B, and C, VP Girls, and VP Girls Assistant.
- 2.2 The district/league shall hold a minimum of four (4) meetings during the year. An annual meeting shall be held before or during September of each year.
- 2.3 All league correspondence shall be sent to the secretary with copies to the respective vice president and president as appropriate.
- 2.4 All district correspondence shall be sent to the District Director with copies to the league secretary as appropriate.
- 2.5 Each association with voting rights will have one vote per association per issue at District 8 meetings. An association must be present to vote on an issue. In case of a tie, the District Director will cast a tie-breaker vote.

3. PLAYING LEVELS

Playing levels shall be formed for Junior Gold A, B, and 16, Bantam, Peewee, and Squirt A, B, and C, and all Girls hockey levels, if an adequate number of teams are available. If the league is unable to operate a playing league for any of the above levels of play, permission shall be granted by the District Director for the said team(s) to participate in another league.

3.1 If an association has two (2) or more teams at one level, one (1) team must be an "A" team unless, the District Director grants a waiver.

3.2 If an association has two (2) or more teams in the same classification (Example: Peewee B), the teams must be picked as evenly as possible.

4. LEAGUE GAMES

League games will be played at ice arenas approved by District 8.

4.1 The distribution of the ice time for 1 hour league games, is as follows:

1. 4 minutes for warm-up
2. 12 minutes stop time for three periods.
3. 1 minute rest between periods.
4. 2 minute minor penalties
 - NOTE 1: The Home team will be the provider of pucks for a League Game.
 - NOTE 2: No time-outs are allowed in league play.
 - NOTE 3: Running time shall be used whenever a goal differential of six (6) occurs in the third (3rd) period. If the goal differential becomes less than six (6) goals, stop time shall begin again.
 - NOTE 4: During running time, per NOTE 3 above, the clock shall not be stopped for any reason except for injuries or rink problems and only then at the discretion of the referee. Penalties shall begin at the face-off immediately following the assessment of the penalty. Penalties shall not be posted on the scoreboard unless the can be entered without stopping the clock.

4.2 The distribution of the 1.25 hour ice time for Bantam A, Bantam B, Girls 14U A, Girls 14U B, and Girls 19U league games, is as follows:

5. 4 minutes for warm-up
6. 14 minutes stop time for three periods
7. 1 minute rest between periods
8. 2 minute minor penalties
 - NOTE 1: The Home team will be the provider of pucks for a League

Game.

- NOTE 2: No time-outs are allowed in league play.
- NOTE 3: Running time shall be used whenever a goal differential of six (6) occurs in the third (3rd) period. If the goal differential becomes less than six (6) goals, stop time shall begin again.
- NOTE 4: During running time, per NOTE 3 above, the clock shall not be stopped for any reason except for injuries or rink problems and only then at the discretion of the referee. Penalties shall begin at the face-off immediately following the assessment of the penalty. Penalties shall not be posted on the scoreboard unless they can be entered without stopping the clock.

4.3 The distribution of the 1.5 hour ice time for Junior Gold league games, is as follows:

9. 4 minutes for warm-up
10. 15 minutes stop time for three
11. 1 minute rest between periods
12. 2 minute minor penalties
 - NOTE 1: The ice will be resurface between the second and third period of every 1.5 hour game.
 - NOTE 2: The Home team will be the provider of pucks for a League Game.
 - NOTE 3: Jr. Gold Handshake Rule – Immediately following the warm-up, the teams shall shake hands. However, game start time shall not begin prior to the allocated game time.
 - NOTE 4: No time-outs are allowed in league play.
 - NOTE 5: Running time shall be used whenever a goal differential of six (6) occurs in the third (3rd) period. If the goal differential becomes less than six (6) goals, stop time shall begin again.
 - NOTE 6: During running time, per NOTE 5 above, the clock shall not be stopped for any reason except for injuries or rink problems and only then at the discretion of the referee. Penalties shall begin at the face-off immediately following the assessment of the penalty. Penalties shall not be posted on the scoreboard unless they can be entered without stopping the clock.

4.4 No game shall last longer than the above indicated times per period or by the hour clock. The game officials must be on the ice and signal the start of warm-up time directed by the referees. Games taking longer than the scheduled/allocated 1, 1.25, or 1.5 hour of total ice time may be terminated by the arena staff; such as, the game is officially over when the arena staff opens the door or gates. Officials are directed to notify teams that they are to be on the ice immediately following the resurfacing. Failure of the teams to promptly take the ice when the ice is available shall in no way be the basis for the protest of a game terminated by the arena management when the 1, 1.25, or 1.5 hour of ice time has been used.

4.5 Each team shall furnish proof of insurance to the league secretary prior to the start of the first league game.

4.6 All players on each team shall have similarly colored jerseys with numbers conspicuously displayed and each player and team must wear matching socks, if available. Two (2) 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 opposing team not less than 24 hours before the start of the game (the designation of Home and Away teams would be unaffected). The home team shall furnish the game pucks.

4.7 The winning team is responsible for reporting the game score to the appropriate league vice president with five (5) days of the game, unless the league vice president has defined other procedures. If a game ends in a tie, the home team is responsible for reporting the score.

4.8 If an arena has only two (2) locker rooms, the teams coming off the ice will remain in the box area until the teams for the next hour of ice exit the locker rooms.

4.9 If a player or coach receives a game misconduct penalty outside of our district, that person will receive an additional (1) one game suspension from District 8 (the suspended game must already appear on the team schedule at the time of the infraction). Any Coach receiving a Game Misconduct penalty, anywhere, must attend the next District 8 Grievance Committee meeting.

4.10 Swearing: Any verbal abuse directed towards an official by any player or coach before, during, or after a game will receive a game misconduct. Officials are asked to stay away from the bench area and any baiting as such could lead to an official's suspension.

4.11 All game misconduct and Match penalties must be called in and sent to the District 8 Supervisor of Officials in writing within 24 hours of the game completion.

4.12 Only rostered coaches may be on the bench. All injured players must have jersey and helmet while on the bench. All suspended players and coaches cannot be on the bench or in the locker room before, during or after the game.

4.13 LEAGUE GAMES ONLY — NOT SCRIMMAGES

League play will be under USA Hockey and MH rules, except as noted in these by-laws. If fighting occurs within the last two minutes of the game, or after the game, the penalty shall be an expulsion for the balance of that game and the next two games of that team for the players and the coaches involved. This rule is maintained with the USA hockey game misconduct rule. This penalty shall carry

over to District or State play-downs for players and coaches. For all game misconduct penalties received outside our District, there will be an additional one game suspension. This rule is also in addition to the USA Hockey game misconduct rule.

5. TEAMS

A team may carry twenty (20) players. The MH team and player registration forms **MUST** be received and approved by the District Director and the league president/secretary prior to the start of league play. All amendments to the team roster must be made through the District Director.

6. OFFICIALS

The Supervisor of Officials has the responsibility to train and schedule referees for all league games as directed by the by-laws. The league will provide two (2) MH sanctioned referees for all league games, except junior gold games which shall have three officials.

- 6.1 The home team in all league games will supply the timekeeper. The timekeeper will maintain the official scorebook for the game using the MH scoring form/booklet.
- 6.2 The game scheduling fee is \$6.00. The Supervisor of Officials shall receive One dollar (\$1.00) and the Referee Scheduler shall receive Five dollars (\$5.00) per game scheduled.
- 6.3 Referees fees are set prior to the start of the season by the Supervisor of Officials.
- 6.4 HECC approved helmets and masks with all straps attached are a must. USA Hockey rules will govern this rule. Under no circumstances can an official do a game without a helmet or with a non-certified official. All officials must be certified.
- 6.5 Injured Players: Officials are to make sure player injury is not critical. Make sure the player is breathing fine, remove mouthpiece and signal for coach to come on to the ice. All injuries should be reported for insurance reasons. Do not treat any player.
- 6.6 Any on-ice official injured during a game must report to the Supervisor of Officials immediately.
- 6.7 All on-ice officials must be fifteen (15) years of age to officiate any District level games. Any on-ice official who was registered prior to 6-13-2000 will be grandfathered in. All on-ice officials younger than fifteen (15) will be allowed to referee in-house games. This rule is subject to change by the local Supervisor of Officials.

6.8 All registered on-ice officials that officiate a District 8 game must be registered with MHOA (Minnesota Hockey Officials Association), which includes dues being paid.

6.9 Any game that is not played to conclusion within time limit must be stopped by the on-ice officials when the hour clock and/or one hour of ice time has expired.

6.10 All on-ice officials must be able to present their USA Hockey registration card to any coach upon request.

7. LEAGUE FEES

The executive board level shall determine the league fees per team per playing level.

7.1 Misc. League Ice fee paid by a team to the District 8 League Treasurer: An invoice will be issued to those teams for which league ice has been used or ice obtained from another association, in order to make the schedule work. The ice shall be billed at the price paid by the league plus a nominal surcharge.

7.2 League Participation fee paid by an association to the District 8 League Treasurer: An invoice will be issued to each Association for the current season's participation fees. All payments shall be mailed or given to the league treasurer. Check payment is preferred with all checks made out to: **District 8 Hockey League**. If a team fails to pay all fees by January 1 of the playing season, all subsequent games will be forfeited until the appropriate fee(s) is/are paid, unless said association or team makes other arrangements agreeable with the League Executive Committee.

7.3 Rescheduling fee paid by a team to the District 8 Supervisor of Officials: A fee of \$30 will be paid before any game will be approved for rescheduling. The fee will be waived for a weather-related game rescheduling. A weather-related game rescheduling will be granted once for each game needing to be rescheduled due to weather, any subsequent rescheduling of said game will be considered a normal reschedule and the fee would apply.

7.4 Post-season tournament fees are paid to the Association hosting the tournament. The District 8 Post-Season Tournament team entry fees can be found on the District 8 website at: <http://www.stickstats.com>

8. STANDINGS/TROPHIES

Standings will be kept for all league games based on two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie or zero (0) points for a loss, added to a one (1) or zero (0) Fair Play point. The league will periodically distribute standings. The responsibility for seeing that the standings are correct and current is the responsibility of the respective teams. League

trophies will be given if approved by the league and board of directors.

9. COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS

All general complaints and protests must be submitted in writing to the league secretary and league president. The executive committee shall act as the grievance committee and shall review and process all written complaints/protests and respond within a period of ten (10) days.

Complaints and protests concerning games and/or officials must be submitted in writing within twenty-four (24) hours (post-marked) to the Supervisor of Officials with copy to the District Director, League President, Secretary and the respective League Vice President. The Supervisor of Officials will review all complaints concerning the officials and shall review the complaint(s) and action with the executive committee at scheduled board meetings. The Executive Committee who shall act, as the grievance committee shall review all game protests.

- 9.1 All game complaints must be submitted to the Supervisor of Officials in writing, within twenty-four (24) hours of said game. All game misconduct and match penalties must be written up and delivered to the Supervisor of Officials (Paul Moen) within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident.

10. LEAGUE GAME SCHEDULES AND GAME RESCHEDULING

Each team will present the District with a schedule at the District Scheduling Meeting for their playing level. The District 8 website is the source for the 'Official' District 8 league schedules. Any other document/schedule is not considered valid. Teams are encouraged to check their schedules frequently to avoid missing games.

- 10.1 A fee of \$30.00 and a Game Rescheduling form must be received by the District 8 Supervisor of Officials before a game reschedule request will be considered or approved. The team initiating the requested change must notify both the District Level VP and the Supervisor of Officials and complete fee payment fourteen (14) days prior to the originally scheduled game or the proposed rescheduled game, whichever is earlier. The team requesting the change is responsible for the disposition of the original ice time and is responsible for securing the ice time for the approved rescheduled game. Rescheduling of the game must be agreeable to the opposing team. See 10.3 for bad weather exemptions to this rule.
- 10.2 The league will reschedule a game if, and only if, the game is approved by the Supervisor of Officials. Any approved game changes will be posted on the District's website.
- 10.3 Bad weather cancellations: This type of game cancellation must be agreed upon by both teams. The District 8 Supervisor of Officials must be notified as soon as the game is cancelled so Game Officials and Schedulers can be notified. If the

Supervisor of Officials is not notified, there may be charges levied to the teams for Game Officials. Preferably, a make-up date will be given to the Supervisor of Officials when cancelling game the original game. Any make-up date needs to adhere to the minimum fourteen (14) day rule in 10.1. Officials do not get paid for bad weather cancellations, when proper notification has been received. Everyone has to work together on this rule; player safety is considered first.

11. PLAY-OFFS

The District Director will set play-off sites.

11.1 The District Director will set format of the play-offs.

11.2 All teams qualifying for district play-offs must participate unless given permission not to participate by the District Director. In all cases the qualifying team(s) **must** pay the fee.

- a) If a Pee wee C / Girls 12U B or above team desires NOT to participate in the playoffs, the team must submit the **District 8 Opt-out** form prior to December 31st of the current playing season.
- b) If a Squirt A, B, or C / Girls 10U A or B team desires TO participate in the playoffs, the team must submit the **District 8 Opt-in** form prior to December 31st of the current playing season.

11.3 All associations qualifying for District or Regional Playoffs must be current with all forms and fees to District 8, Minnesota Hockey and USAHockey. Any association that is not current with forms and fees will not be allowed to have teams participate in post season play.

12. GRIEVANCE MEETINGS

The executive committee will meet the second and last Wednesday of each month to hear protests and handles discipline problems when necessary. The District Director can call special meetings.

13. PLAYING ENVIRONMENT

It is the policy of District 8 to maintain a healthy and positive playing environment of all hockey players regardless of penalties by referees or Executive committee.

14. DISTRICT 8 COACHES TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

14.1 All youth and girls coaches must be certified at the proper coaching level for the team they are coaching. Coaching levels are governed by USAHockey Coaching Education Program.

14.2 No coach will be approved on an official team roster until they have been

certified at the proper CEP coaching level for the team they are coaching.

DISTRICT 8 RULES AND REGULATIONS
(Youth Junior Gold and Younger)
(Girls 19 & Under and Younger)
Includes Revisions as of November, 2014

For the purposes contemplated in these rules and regulations, Youth Midget and Youth Junior Gold 16 divisions follow all provisions specified for the Youth Junior Gold Division. Girls 19 & Under and Girls Junior Gold 16 divisions follow all provisions specified for the Youth Junior Gold division, Girls 14 & Under follow all provisions specified for the Youth Bantam division, Girls 12 & Under division follow all provisions specified for the Youth Peewee division, Girls 10 & Under division follow all provisions specified for the Youth Squirt division and Girls 8 & Under division follow all provisions specified for the Youth Mite division.

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 playing rules as written by an association and/or district league rules should 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 the 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 USA Hockey 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 USA Hockey Registrar or designee for approval. Players on teams categorized as “House” or “Recreational” are exempt from submitting proof of date of birth or proof of residency for non-US citizens. Documentation may be required by the cognizant Director, Registrar or local association on an exception basis where probable cause is to question citizenship, gender, or age.

B. Each team must be registered through the affiliate where 80% or more of its players are members. Exception: In cases where two or more affiliates combine players in an age classification for the purpose of forming teams in one or more competitive divisions, the 80% criteria shall not apply if such agreement has been pre-approved by the cognizant District Director(s) and the USAH Minnesota District Registrar.

C. The MH regular season begins September 1 and ends at the completion of all youth/girls state tournaments.

D. Teams formed for the purpose of post-season play, regardless of age division, cannot be registered or sanctioned prior to the completion of the MH regular season. Players shall not be contacted regarding participation on these 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.

II. REGISTRATION

A. The USA Hockey and MH Player Registration fees and dates shall be set on an annual basis by USA Hockey and the MH Board of Directors. These 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:

1. Players of a house teams who may play with both their house team and an association traveling team.
2. Special Events approved by the MH Board. Such events must comply with requirements established by MH, and must be on the Winter Meeting agenda at the latest, according to the Bylaw requirements for putting items on the agenda, and are subject to requirements imposed by MH. Approval of Special Events shall be by 2/3 vote.

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 the district and state tournament play is declared by the player registration date of 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 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 U.S citizens only, and limited to amateurs. The Divisions 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 playing in the Youth Junior Gold, Midget and Junior Gold 16 Divisions must be enrolled in High School during the current season. Players on Girls 19 & Under teams are not required to be attending High School during the current season.

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.

Players on teams shall follow the age range established for the classification. Each association shall have a policy on whether players are allowed to “play up” to the next classification and the conditions which apply. Players waived to another association are not allowed to play up unless approved by both association presidents and the cognizant District Director(s). Two-thirds (2/3) of the players on teams at the Squirt level and above must be within the age classification in which the team is registered. Exception: In cases of low player numbers, players from multiple age groups may be combined on a single team, if necessary, with the approval of the cognizant District Director and the USA Hockey Minnesota District Registrar.

E. AGE CERTIFICATION - Government issued (state or county) birth certificates or passport must be presented by a team for all players for inspection by the proper authority at the time of player registration (except as provided in paragraph I-A herein) and prior to each district, regional and state tournament.

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 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

1. 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.
 - a) All waiver requests must be submitted on a current Waiver Form provided by MH.
 - b) The Waiver Form must indicate the reason for the waiver request (school attendance, opportunity to play on a travel team, co-op team, etc.).
 - c) The releasing and receiving associations may add conditions or restrictions to the waiver. Conditions must be clearly indicated on the Waiver Form and initialed by all parties executing the waiver.
 - d) Waiver Forms must be signed by the releasing and receiving association presidents before being submitted to the District Director for approval. If the releasing and receiving associations are in two districts, the waiver form must be submitted to both District Directors for approval.
 - e) Players residing outside of the state of Minnesota that desire to play for MH must follow the Inter-Affiliate Player Transfer Protocol.
2. Definitions -
 - a) **Residence** – the community in which the parent(s) or legal guardian(s)/custodian(s) as confirmed by a court, having primary custody live(s) the majority of time when tryouts begin. A pending move is not considered unless the parent or legal guardian has closed on the sale of a new residence. Players moving after tryouts begin can be assigned to teams on a space-available basis.
 - b) **Association of Residence** – the association whose boundaries incorporate the player's residence.
 - c) **Association of School Attendance** – the association whose boundaries incorporate the location of the school the player attends.
 - d) **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.
 - e) **Mandatory Waiver** – neither the releasing nor the accepting association can decline to approve a school attendance waiver that meets the requirements below.
 - f) **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.

3. A Mandatory Waiver shall be granted to any player 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:
 - a) For schools with multiple campuses, the “main” campus shall prevail unless agreed otherwise by the affected District Director(s).
 - b) If a player attends their normally-assigned public school, and that school normally includes students from more than one hockey association, the player shall be assigned to their Association of Residence and is not eligible for a school-attendance waiver.
 - c) 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.)
 - d) Players receiving a waiver based on school attendance shall register their Association of School Attendance for as long as they are qualified students of 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.
4. Players waived for non-school attendance reasons shall be subject to the receiving association’s policies in accordance with MH governing documents (may not be eligible for “A” team, may be assigned to the lowest available team, etc.). They shall remain members of their Home Association, not the association they were waived into, with full rights and privileges accorded to all association members including voting rights.
5. Changing Schools –
 - a) Players who change schools without a related change of residence shall elect one of the following:
 - i. Have full eligibility to compete at any division in their Association of Residence; or
 - ii. Have full eligibility to compete at any division in their Association of School Attendance if they completed the grades offered in the school they were previously attending; or
 - iii. Be eligible at all except the highest division in their new Association of School Attendance for one (1) year beginning with the first day of attendance in the new school if they did not complete the grades offered in the school they were previously attending.
 - iv. "Completing the grades offered in the school" is defined as completing the grades offered in Elementary, Middle School or Junior High School (the transition from elementary school to Middle/Jr. High School, and the transition between Middle/Jr. High School to High School). Typically

there is a change of building involved, but a building change alone (such as a change between 3rd and 4th grade) does not constitute completing the grades offered in the system.

- b) 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:
 - i. Have full eligibility to compete at any classification in their Association of School Attendance 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; or
 - ii. 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.
- c) For purposes of this rule, a team that is eligible to participate in "AA" sub-division 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" sub-division playoffs.
- d) Submit unusual circumstances to the District Director for a decision, which is final.

6. 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 association cannot participate with any other association without a waiver. A player that participates without a necessary waiver is considered an ineligible player. Refer to the Section entitled Eligibility Provisions.

7. 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. The Director's decision is final.

8. Players having dual citizenship, one being the United States, must also conform to the Residency Rule.

V. ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS

A. Any team found to have an ineligible player that participates in any MH sanctioned on-ice activity 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 suspension(s) 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 hockey player who participates with their high school hockey team beyond December 31st shall not be eligible for MH sanctioned teams during 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 Junior Gold 16 Division a player must have played 5 games before January 25th in order to be eligible for participation in District, Regional 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.

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. A 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 the District 8 tournaments dress two goalies. If the team does not have two goalies, a spare goalie may be chosen from a team in its league or association, and such a "spare goalie" may be chosen from the same or a lower but not higher playing classification.

1. Failing the above, a "spare" goalie may be chosen from within the team's district, or finally from the vicinity in which the tournament is being played.
2. Such a "spare" goalie may play ONLY in the case of injury to or absence of the regular goalie.
3. The "spare" goalie shall wear the appropriate light or dark jersey of the in-season team on which they are rostered.
4. The "spare" goalie would retain 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 a "spare" goalie.
5. The "spare" goalie must be properly registered on a registered MH team for the

- season in question to be eligible to participate in a District 8 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 District 8 tournament play. The rule is not intended to permit teams to improve their goaltending through drafting of an additional player.
6. Must be approved by the releasing/receiving District Director(s) using the District 8 Substitute Goalie Form.

D. If a team carries only one goalie on its roster and that goalie is not available for District 8 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 classification.

1. If a "replacement" goalie is not available from within a team's league or association, a "replacement" goalie may then be chosen from among the teams in the district.
2. The "replacement" goalie shall wear the jersey of the in-season team on which they are rostered.
3. The "replacement" goalie retains 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 a "replacement" goalie..
4. The "replacement" goalie must be properly registered on a MH team for the season in question to be eligible to participate in a District 8 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 District 8 tournament play. The rule is not intended to permit teams to improve their goaltending through drafting of an additional player.
5. Must be approved by the releasing/receiving District Director(s) using the District 8 Substitute Goalie Form.

VII. LEVELS OF PLAY

A. "Classifications" means Mite, Squirt, Peewee, Bantam, Girls 10 & Under, Girls 12 & Under, Junior Gold, etc.

B. "Divisions" means A, B, C, House, etc.

C. To encourage the 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.

1. "A" The highest competitive division, essentially a development program designed to enhance team and individual skills. MH will provide for the district, regional and state tournament competition at this division. Every association shall have the right to enter teams in the A division. (**Note:** "A" teams are divided into "A" and "AA" sub-divisions for district/region/state tournament competition.)
2. "B" The intermediate competitive division, also essentially a development division, but primarily intended to provide a uniform competitive experience for smaller communities and weaker 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.
3. "C" The lowest competitive division, also intended as an entry division for new communities and programs in order to provide a good competitive experience until they are ready to advance to a higher competitive division. There shall be no regional or state tournaments at the C division. All associations that have teams in A or B division competition shall also be entitled to enter teams in the C division.
4. HOUSE: Similar to the "C" or recreational division, but limited to an "in-house" program. (Teams do not participate in any way outside of their home association.)
5. RECREATIONAL: Similar to the "C" division 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 play-off is permitted.

D. Interlevel Play - There shall be no interlevel play (games or exhibition games) between divisions (i.e. Pee wee vs. Bantam, 14U vs. 12U) or between classification (A and B, B and C or A and C teams), with the exception of Youth 16&Under and Junior Gold B, and 14U and 14U B. In special circumstances where interlevel play between divisions is appropriate, approval of the cognizant District Director(s) must be obtained. Interlevel play is not permitted in invitational tournaments or MH playoff tournaments, with the exception that Youth 16&Under teams may participate in Junior Gold "B" invitational tournaments. Teams violating this provision may be declared ineligible to compete in any MH sanctioned invitational tournaments and the MH district, regional 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. District Director Approval — It shall be the responsibility of the District Director to review and finalize the division of all teams. Each association shall submit the proposed division for each team to the District Director prior to November 15th. The District

Director's decision may be appealed to the Gold or Maroon Coordinator whose decision shall be final.

F. MITE HOCKEY - MH strongly encourages the skill level development of 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.

1. In an effort to reduce travel expense and promote development rather than competition, Mite teams shall participate within their home association and district only. On an exception basis, the District Director(s) may, for convenience or to maintain continuity, permit a team to play outside the district. The District Director's decision is final.
2. Mites are usually divided into levels based on age, skill and the number of players in the association. 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.
3. The focus for Mites is to teach and develop the basic skills of skating, puck handling, shooting and passing. Cross-ice, half-ice and small area games (Red, White and Blue) are recommended to maximize ice utilization, increase puck touches and increase the fun.
4. At the Mini-Mite (6 & Under) level – all games shall be played cross or half ice.
5. At the Mite (8 & Under) level – games during the first half of the season (before December 31st.) should be played cross or half- ice. Up to 10 full-ice games may be played during the second half of the season as monitored by the District Director. The Director's decision is final.
6. Local hockey associations are in the best position to design their programs to provide an experience where players can develop and have fun. This should be based on the principles of ADM, Red, White and Blue, the number of players in their program, the skill of their players, the availability of ice and their coaching staff.
7. In recognition of a need for flexibility and differences between associations, the guidelines outlined in #4 and #5 above will be monitored by the District Director. Abuses will result in sanctions against the respective association(s) at the sole discretion of the Director.
8. MH does not permit full ice Mite Tournaments; cross/half ice Mite Tournaments are allowed with restrictions as determined by the Tournament Committee (see Tournament Supplement). MH Mite teams cannot participate in out-of-state tournaments, except cross/half ice tournaments as approved by their District Director.
9. Jamborees may be conducted at the Mite level. A jamboree is defined as a low-key full participation event where players have an enjoyable and learning experience in a non-competitive environment. Jamborees need not be registered as tournaments, but must follow the "Team Rest" provisions as provided for under "Playing Rules". The format for a Jamboree shall be as follows:
 - a) Approval to conduct a Jamboree must be obtained from the cognizant District Director at least thirty (30) days in advance.
 - b) All teams must be from one MH District, unless approved in writing by the

MH Directors involved.

- c) Information referring to the event must state “Jamboree”, not tournament.
- d) Team fees can cover only costs for ice time, officials, medical attendants and participant awards.
- e) There can be no gate fee. A free-will donation box will be permitted.
- f) USA Hockey certified officials must be used.
- g) No score may be kept, no winners, no losers, and no standings. This will generally require a predetermined round-robin format to be followed.
- h) No statistics may be kept, such as shots, saves, goals, assists, time of possession, etc.
- i) Participation awards, if given, shall be the same for all participants. No team awards or trophies.

G. SQUIRT HOCKEY - MH strongly encourages the skill development of all players especially at the entry divisions. Therefore, the following is effective for the S squirt division.

- 1. Limit number of game days (league/tournament/exhibition games) to a maximum of 35 per season.
- 2. A three to one practice to game ratio shall be supported by all associations.
- 3. A and B squirts must be allocated an equal quality and number of ice hours.
- 4. 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 the MH.
- 5. There shall be no region or state tournaments at the S squirt division.

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, Regional and State tournament play, see paragraph entitled "District, Region and State Tournaments", "Playing Time" hereinafter.)

C. District 8 will be using 2 minute minor penalties for games with periods of 15 minutes or less.

- 1. The Fair Play penalty-minute thresholds by level per Playing Rule P-3 are in

effect.

2. For the purposes of Fair Play penalty minutes, minor penalties will be counted as 2 minutes per playing rule P-4.
3. The standard minor penalty duration of 2 minutes shall be assessed at MH Region/State Tournaments, and in all District Tournaments that determine teams progressing to Region/State Tournaments.

D. Jewelry shall not be worn except for religious or medical needs. Medals shall be taped to the body under the uniform so as not to remain visible. Penalty: first offense, a warning. Returning to the game without correction: Game Misconduct.

E. The penalty for fighting in the Junior Gold and 16 & Under classification for the first offense will be the remainder of the game plus 3 games. For a second violation the player will be removed from the program. All provisions in the USAH Official Playing Rules that apply to the Midget age classification and younger shall also apply to the Junior Gold and 16 & Under classification except as modified by MH.

F. At the Junior Gold and Junior Gold 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 the Junior Gold 16 divisions, a Game Ejection shall be automatically assessed when a player receives a third penalty during a single game. Enforcing this penalty is the joint responsibility of the referees, the scorekeeper, the coach and the player.

1. 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.
2. 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 hours for league games. The protesting party must provide evidence to substantiate this claim. If verified, the subject game will be forfeited.

H. Only the players (maximum 20) and coaches (maximum 4) that are 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 need to be CEP-certified at the proper level when the team is registered. Managers are not allowed on the bench. All Players on the bench, including players not dressed to play in the game, 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 USA Hockey Rules 404(B) and 404(C).

J. Team Rest - Teams shall not participate in more than two (2) 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 (2) hours between on-ice activities on the same day and ten (10) 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:

1. For Mites, the time between activities can be reduced to 1 ½ hours.
2. Teams may schedule a practice before or after a game, without two hours of rest, at the discretion of the coach and the association.

K. Concussions – Minnesota Statute 121A.37 requires the following:

1. MH must make concussion information accessible to all coaches, officials, players and parent/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 the 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 at least every three calendar years thereafter.
2. 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. “Health care provider” means a health care professional who is registered, licensed, certified or otherwise statutorily authorized by the state to provide medical treatment, trained and experienced in evaluating and managing pediatric concussions.

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 includes the MH Advanced 15, 16, 17 and the Great 8 teams. This patch/logo may be sewn on or silk screened on the jerseys.

N. Exhibition Games and Controlled Scrimmages

1. 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:

- a) All applicable rules of USA Hockey and MH, including those pertaining to rest periods and the use of certified officials, must be followed
 - b) If either of the participants is subject to a maximum number of games rule, imposed by USA Hockey, MH, or the Affiliate Association governing the participant's activities, the exhibition game shall be counted towards the maximum number of games allowed.
2. 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.
- a) At least one coach from each team must be on the ice for the purpose of instruction.
 - b) No official scorekeeper, timekeeper or "game clock" can be used.
 - c) Teams can switch ends at some point, if desired.
 - d) 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 up to 30 days suspension by the District Director.

P. Scoresheets

A scoresheet shall be used for all games; league, tournament and exhibition.

1. The scoresheet shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
 - a) Date, time and location of the game.
 - b) The division and classification of the teams.
 - c) The home and visiting team rosters including player names and numbers.
 - d) The home and visiting team coaches names, USA Hockey Coach Education Program card numbers, CEP level attained and the year of certification.
 - e) Scoring and penalty information.
 - f) Printed name(s) of the referee(s) and the linesmen and the signature of the referee(s).
2. 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.
3. If a game misconduct or match penalty is assessed during a game, 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

1. All leagues administered by District 8 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. All teams within a District 8 League will be scheduled an equal number of League games. The following delineates the recommended Fair Play rules. Leagues may amend these rules by submitting changes in writing for approval by the HEP committee prior to the start of the league.
2. Each team starts the game with their Fair Play point. They will lose their Fair Play point if:
 - a) Total Fair Play penalty minutes criteria is exceeded.
 - b) 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 referee(s) stop play and request specified individuals leave the arena.
 - c) Coach is assessed a Game Misconduct or Match Penalty.
 - d) 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).
3. Fair Play total "equivalent" penalty minute criteria. (Criteria based on 1 hour games for Pee wee/12&Under and below and 1.5 hour games for Bantam/14&Under and up.)
 - a) Squirt - 10 minutes
 - b) Pee Wee - 12 minutes
 - c) Bantam - 14 minutes
 - d) Boys 16U - 16 minutes
 - e) Junior Gold - 16 minutes
 - f) Girls 10 & Under - 8 minutes
 - g) Girls 12 & Under - 10 minutes
 - h) Girls 14 & Under - 12 minutes
 - i) Girls 16 & Under - 14 minutes
 - j) Girls 19 & Under - 14 minutes
4. For the purposes of total Fair Play penalty minutes, the following outlines the penalty "equivalency" minutes associated with each of the following classification of penalties:
 - a) Minor or Bench Minor Penalty - 2 minutes
 - b) Major Penalty - 5 minutes
 - c) Misconduct Penalty - 10 minutes
 - d) Game Misconduct Penalty - 10 minutes
 - e) Match Penalty - 10 minutes

- f) Minor plus Misconduct (2 & 10) - 12 minutes
- g) Misconduct for no mouth guard - 2 minutes
- h) Penalty Shot – Equivalent minutes to penalty assessed.

Note: See special provisions in paragraph C above.

5. In the event of a tie between two or more teams in the final league standings, the following process shall be used to determine position in the standings. 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 by the following tie-breaking process. If one formula 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 with 5.a.
 - a) Head to head competition among tied teams including Fair Play points.
 - b) Most Fair Play points earned in league play.
 - c) Largest goal differential among tied teams.
 - d) Greatest quotient; goals for divided by goals against among tied teams.
 - e) Record against teams finishing higher than tied teams in league play.
 - f) Largest goal differential against teams finishing higher than tied teams in league play.
 - g) Greatest quotient goals against teams finishing higher than tied teams in league play.
 - h) Largest goal differential for all league play.
 - i) Greatest quotient goals for divided by goals against for all league play.
 - j) Flip of a coin by a league official in the presence of the District Director.
6. Individual Fair Play Sportsmanship award are available for Squirt and 10&Under teams earning 90% of their league's Fair Play points.
7. Forfeits: The team that initiates the forfeit does not receive the Fair Play point. The team not forfeiting receives their Fair Play point, unless the forfeit is mid-game and they have already lost the Fair Play point.

R. Leagues

1. Teams may participate only in leagues that are recognized and approved by the Board or by its designate(s).
2. 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.
3. Leagues consisting of teams from two or more MH districts shall be deemed approved, provided that they are formed with the approval of the District Directors from the MH districts in which the teams originate.
4. 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 Regional Vice President. The Board may

- establish stipulations under which these non-district leagues may be formed.
5. All leagues; intra-district, inter-district or otherwise; must conform to all USA Hockey and MH rules and regulations.
 6. Only teams participating in leagues formed within district jurisdiction are eligible for MH post season tournaments

S. Non-Conforming Teams - No District 8 team shall be allowed to schedule a game, scrimmage or host/invite teams to a tournament with any team that has been identified by the District 8 Director and/or Registrar as a team, with Minnesota Hockey eligible players, which has not complied with Minnesota Hockey's waiver policy. District 8 teams and/or associations that are found in violation of this policy are subject to further disciplinary action from District 8. This does not apply to the incidental playing of a non-compliant team as part of a tournament hosted outside of District 8.

IX. PROTESTS

Protests relating to the playing of the game are not 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 their own protest policy/process for their district or league games. If such a policy/process is adopted, the cognizant 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.

X. DISTRICT, REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

A. DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS — District tournaments shall be the responsibility of the District Directors and shall be held in compliance with MH Rules and Regulations. Each district shall bear its own expense. Special district league rules and penalties shall not apply to or carry over into regional tournaments. District representative to the region tournaments must be selected by the Sunday prior to the start of the region tournaments.

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 TOURNAMENTS FEES

	REGION	STATE
Tournament Pass	\$15	\$20
Daily Admission	\$8	\$10
Senior and Student Pass	\$8	\$10
Senior and Student Daily Admission	\$5	\$8
10 and Under	\$0	\$0
In-Uniform Servicemen (Veterans/Active Duty)	\$0	\$0
Team Entry Fee	\$550	\$400

The MH Board of Directors shall set the tournament entry and spectator fees on an annual basis. These 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 Minnesota Hockey, except for State Tournament subsidies.

E. STATE TOURNAMENT SUBSIDY — MH will provide a \$1500 subsidy to the 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 (8) teams. The format shall consist of a championship single elimination with a

consolation division. There shall be games to determine third place, consolation champion and state champion. There will not be a 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 begin before 9:00 am or start after 5:00 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 (2) 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

1. In regional 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.
2. Running time shall be used during district, region or state tournaments whenever a goal differential of six (6) occurs in the third (3rd) period. Stop time shall resume if the goal differential becomes less than six (6) goals.
3. Where running time is used in district, region or state tournament play, 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. Penalties shall not be posted on the scoreboard unless the can be entered without stopping the clock.

J. BREAKING OF TIES

1. In case of a tie at the end of the regulation playing time in District 8 playoff tournament games, the teams shall not change goals and sudden victory overtime play shall ensue using the following format.
 - a) A two minute rest, then a first overtime period – ten minutes – five on five
 - b) A two minute rest, then a second overtime period – five minutes – four on four
 - c) Resurface the ice, then conduct additional ten-minute overtime periods - three on three - followed by two-minute rests. In the event of a penalty, the non-penalized team would be allowed a fourth player (four on three). The penalized player (or player serving the penalty) would return to the ice

when the penalty is over, and four on four would continue until there is a stoppage of play, at which time three on three would resume.

- d) Refer to paragraph entitled “Ice Resurfacing” herein for resurfacing requirements.
2. Exception: For State Tournament final (first-place) games and regional games which are either first-place games or games that seed teams directly to the state tournament, the following overtime format shall be used. The teams shall not change goals during the entire overtime.
- a) A two minute rest, then a first sudden-victory overtime period – ten minutes – five on five
 - b) A two minute rest, then a second sudden-victory overtime period – ten minutes – five on five
 - c) 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.
 - d) 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.
3. Method of determining champions 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 region, and state tournaments, regardless of format, all games will be played to a win/lose situation. There will be no ties.). If two (2) 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.
 - i. The points acquired in these games.
 - ii. Subtracting goals scored against from goals scored in these games. Their position shall be in order of the greatest surplus.
 - iii. Dividing the goals scored in these games by the goals scored against. The positions will be determined in order of the greatest quotient.
 - b. 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 by the following tie-breaking format. 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.

- c. 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 STAR SELECTIONS — There shall be no all-star team selected or awards given to individual players in MH District, Regional and State tournaments.

L. GOAL JUDGES — Goal Judges must be experienced and competent adults and are mandatory for Regional and State Tournaments. Goal Judges are recommended for all Invitational and MH District Tournaments.

M. MEDICAL ATTENTION — A Certified Athletic Trainer, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), paramedic or medical or osteopathic physician shall be retained by 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 (RN) are included if they are currently certified for AFA/CPR/BLS. The retained medical personnel have the final say on whether an injured player can return to the game. Refer to the paragraph hereinbefore entitled “Concussions” for additional information.

N. STATE TOURNAMENT SITE ROTATION

1. The Pee wee and Bantam State Tournaments will rotate annually from Gold to Maroon. In 1990, Pee wees will be in the Gold Division; Bantams will be in the Maroon Division: in 1991, Pee wees will be in the Maroon Division; Bantams will be in the Gold Division and so forth.
2. The Junior Gold A State Tournament will rotate four (4) years in the Maroon division and one (1) 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, there will be a minimum of two Gold teams seeded when Gold is host.

O. LOCATION/FORMAT/GAME SCHEDULE — The location (community and arena) of each regional 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. The tournament formats, including tournament dates and game times must be submitted to the Tournaments Committee Chair no later than November 1 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.

P. MINIMUM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS — The following minimum requirements shall apply to the facilities which will be used for MH Region and State Tournaments. Any exceptions to these requirements must be requested in writing to the MH Tournaments Committee Chair for consideration by the Tournaments Committee.

1. The ice sheet shall be a minimum of 200'x85', refrigerated (artificial), enclosed in a building which seats a minimum of 500 spectators.
2. The facility must have a mechanical resurfacer (Zamboni) in good operating condition. If propane or gasoline powered, a catalytic muffler should be installed and adequate building ventilation must be provided.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Penalty boxes must be separate for each team, with separate doors for each that open into the box.
6. Players' bench must have a minimum of two doors which open into the bench area, and be sufficiently sized for twenty players plus three adults.
7. Players' bench and penalty box doors should be positioned so that players entering the ice surface are not placed off-sides.
8. 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.
9. Goal judge light signals are recommended for Regional Tournaments, and required for State Tournaments.
10. All lines on the ice (red line, blue line, goal line, goal crease face-off circles, etc.) must be placed in accordance with USA Hockey rules and clearly visible.
11. A public address system in the arena is required.
12. Skate sharpening service must be provided at the arena.
13. A full service concession stand is recommended. Miscellaneous supplies such as mouthguards, tape, sticks, and skate laces should be available for sale.

Q. SCHEDULE CHANGES — Only in cases of emergency should the announced game schedule be changed. Game schedules for Regional and State tournaments will not be

changed without prior approval of the MH 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 games schedule and are expected to play the games when scheduled.

R. 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. 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 is not allowed to participate in the tournament. A meeting of the coaches and managers of the participating teams should be held before the tournament starts.

1. Player Roster must be signed by an individual that is authorized to approve rosters.
2. Waivers for any players who are not members of the team's affiliate, based on the Participation Rule. Waivers apply only to MH teams. Invitational Tournaments are not required to check waivers.
3. An approval letter from the Minnesota District Registrar for any player that is playing in a younger age group than is implicit based on the player's birth date.
4. High School attendance certification form for Junior Gold and Junior Gold 16 teams.
5. 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.

S. 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.

T. ICE SURFACING — In regional and State MH tournaments the ice shall be resurfaced before each game and at intermission between the second and third periods. If the game goes into overtime, resurfacing shall occur at the end of the second overtime period and at the end of every three overtime periods thereafter. 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 (2) periods of play.

U. AWARDS — MH Districts are responsible for awards for district tournaments. MH will provide appropriate team/individual awards for region and state tournaments.

V. TOURNAMENT OUTLINE — Regional 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 corresponding Regional tournament hosts. This info must be given to advancing teams as soon as they are determined.

W. REPORTING RESULTS — The following must be reported to the MH Executive Director immediately at the conclusion of each MH district, region, or state tournament:

1. For districts or regions, report the names of teams advancing to the next tournament. This information should also be passed on to the host for the next tournament.
2. For state, report the participants and scores of all of the games.

XI. INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING

A. All invitational tournaments that involve 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. Special events authorized by the District Director must follow all rules for sanctioning invitational tournaments except that there is no sanction fee and these events are not subject to the January 15th 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:

1. 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).
2. 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.
3. Invitational tournaments of the same age group and division cannot be held on the same weekend within a fifty (50) mile radius of a MH State Tournament. Where more than one ice sheet is available at a single arena complex, **no** invitational tournament may be held at that arena complex on the same weekend where a MH Regional or State Tournament is being held. If there is a conflict in dates, Invitational sponsors agree to refund entry fees of all team which qualify for

- district, regional or state MH tournaments.
4. Officials must be USA Hockey registered, and USA Hockey playing rules and age classifications as modified by MH must be used.
 5. MH Youth Rules and Regulations entitled “Credentials” and “Medical Attention” in the District, Region and State Tournament section apply to all invitational tournaments.
 6. The MH fee to sanction an invitational tournament is \$100 for each division and classification (i.e. for a tournament with Squirt A and Peewee A, and Peewee B levels, the sanction fee is \$300).
 7. If team(s) from outside of MH participate, a USA Hockey invitational tournament sanction fee is also required, consisting of one of the following:
 - a) A fee set by USA Hockey for registered teams from outside of MH.
 - b) A fee set by USA Hockey for team(s) from other IHF Federations (i.e. Canada).

Note: The USA Hockey fee is per tournament, not per division/classification.

8. The following items must be submitted by the sponsoring MH Association to the cognizant District Director or the District Tournament Coordinator for preliminary approval:
 - a) Completed tournament application on the official MH sanction application form
 - b) Copy of proposed tournament rules, including tournament entry fee information
 - c) Tournament bracketing, with ice times
 - d) One check, payable to MH, for each tournament application that includes the MH and USA Hockey sanctions fees.

Note: Applications submitted without the above items will be returned. Once preliminarily approved, applications will be forwarded to the Tournaments Committee Chair for final MH approval.

9. An application to host an invitational tournament must be received by the cognizant District Director or the district tournament coordinator no less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the scheduled first day of the tournament. Applications will not be accepted after January 15th.
10. LATE APPLICATIONS - The MH tournament sanction fees 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 \$500 (in addition to the \$200 per level fee), as determined by the MH Vice President of Tournaments.
11. Modifications to an approved application (such as changes in tournament rules, ice times, bracketing, or 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.

12. The completed and approved sanction form and accompanying materials (proposed tournament rules, tournament bracketing) serve as a contract between the sponsoring affiliate and MH/USA Hockey as to how the tournament will be conducted. Un-approved changes to this contract (such as changing bracket, game time or rule substitutions) will be considered a sanction violation, subject to penalties defined below.
13. 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.
14. Hosting an unsanctioned tournament or violating MH and/or USA Hockey tournament rules will be cause for penalties to the hosting association:
 - a. 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.
 - b. For the second offense within a three (3) 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.
 - c. In the event that the violation is considered a minor or inadvertent error, the penalties may be reduced at the discretion of the MH Tournaments Committee Chair and the cognizant District Director.
 - d. Penalized Associations may not have another affiliate association host tournaments at the penalized association's sites.

Evaluation of the circumstances and assessment of penalties shall be the joint responsibility of the cognizant District Director(s) and the Tournaments Committee Chair. Disputes regarding the penalties to be assessed shall be decided by the Tournaments Committee. Committee decisions shall be considered a "decision of MH". (Refer to Bylaws Article 7, Board of Directors, District Directors Duties)

15. 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.

D. EXEMPT EVENTS – Sanction Applications and sanction fees are not required for the following events:

1. MN Hockey District, Region, and State Tournaments.
2. Events involving teams from a single MN Hockey District.

The rules and bracketing to be used for either of the above events must be provided to

the MN Hockey Tournaments Committee Chair or the District Director.

E. Interstate, National and International tournaments. Refer to the MH By-Law Article entitled "Registration" and the Article Entitled "International Competition".

F. Invitational tournaments shall be scheduled so as to minimize the time a player is away from school. When preparing invitational tournament schedules, every consideration shall be given to schedule games in a manner that does not require a player to miss any school time.

1. Associations hosting invitational tournaments wherein there are games when school is in session shall advertise this fact in any promotional material used to recruit tournament participants.
2. No team traveling more than fifty (50) miles, one way, from the invitational tournament site shall be required to play in a game that starts prior to 6:00 PM on a school day, unless the team indicates its willingness to do so, in writing, on their invitational tournament entry form (e-mail acceptable), and the host team plays in the same or an earlier game on the same day.
3. In the event that 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.
4. Minnesota Hockey affiliates who authorize others within their affiliate to conduct sanctioned tournaments shall be responsible for compliance with this rule.
5. 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).

H. Non-Conforming Teams - No District 8 team and/or association shall be allowed to schedule/host/invite to a tournament any team that has been identified by the District 8 Director and/or Registrar as a team, with Minnesota Hockey eligible players that have not complied with Minnesota Hockey's waiver policy. District 8 teams and/or associations that are found in violation of this policy are subject to further disciplinary action from District 8.

XII. ON-ICE OFFICIALS

A. The three-official system (one referee: two linesmen) or the two-official system will be used.

1. The three-official system is mandatory for all Jr. Gold A & B, Junior Gold 16, Bantam A, Girls 14 & Under A and Women's 19 & Under District, Regional and State Tournament games.
2. The three-official system is mandatory for all Bantam B, Pee wee A and Girls 12 & Under A State Tournament games. The three-official system is recommended for all Bantam B, Pee wee A and Girls 12 & Under A District, Playoffs and Regional Tournament games.
3. The two-official system will be used for all Pee wee B, Girls 14 & Under B, Girls 12 & Under B, and Sr. Women District, Playoffs, Regional and State Tournament games.
4. 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.
5. 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 are required to wear the official USA Hockey crest on their sweaters and carry their USA Hockey registration card.

E. All level 3 or 4 referees must complete registration by December 31st.

XIII. 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) controlled substances defined by law as drugs (including marijuana), and (4) buying, selling or giving away controlled substances. It is not a violation for a player to be in possession of a controlled substance specifically prescribed for the player's own use by player's physician.

A. PENALTIES

1. After confirmation of the first violation, the player shall be suspended for the next two (2) consecutive games or two (2) weeks of a season, whichever is greater.
2. After confirmation of the second violation, the player shall be suspended for the

- next six (6) consecutive games. No exception is permitted for a player who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
3. After confirmation of the third or subsequent violation, the player shall be suspended for the next twelve (12) consecutive games. No exception is permitted for a player who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
 4. If after the third or subsequent violations, the player, on his/her 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 (6) 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. Practice games or scrimmages cannot be counted in determining length of suspension. Associations or individual teams may adopt a more prohibitive rule and/or more severe penalties for violation of this Rule.

XIV. CONDUCT

A. Racial or ethnic slurs and/or harassing conduct of any kind will not be tolerated.

B. Each team is responsible for the conduct of its spectators. Coaches should advise their parents and other fans of the conduct rules.

C. If spectator conduct becomes so abusive that, in the referee(s) opinion, it is distracting from the game or inciting the players, the referee(s) may stop play and:

1. Ask the coach(es) to control their spectators.
2. Ask the coach(es) to request specified individuals to leave the arena.
3. District 8 prohibits the use of any artificial noise makers. Use of an artificial noise maker will be considered abusive conduct.
4. Possession of a device that could be deemed detrimental to the players or to the conduct of the game, such as laser pointers, will be considered abusive conduct and shall be reported to local law enforcement officials.

In the case of MH playoffs or invitational tournaments, the MH District Director, designated district personnel or the tournament director shall have the authority to take actions as necessary to control spectator conduct.

D. Failure of a coach to cooperate with a referee’s request within two (2) minutes will result in a bench minor penalty and a warning from the referee that after an addition two (2) 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.

E. Spectators standing by the boards behind the goalkeeper are not allowed to 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.

F. MH acknowledges the Locker Room Monitoring Policy as established by USA Hockey. Monitors must be of the same gender as the players and undergo background screening by MH to serve in this capacity.

1. No team shall be allowed to enter a locker room prior to a scheduled event until a proper locker room monitor is present and such monitor shall remain present until the last player leaves the locker room. When coaches are present in the locker room, they may serve as locker room monitors.
2. Any coach(es') meeting(s) with an individual 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 a public setting, unless agreed otherwise by the player's parent or guardian.
3. Alleged violations of these rules shall cause a mandatory hearing to be held in accordance with MH Bylaw Article 6. If warranted, up to a one-year suspension penalty may be leveled upon the violators.

G. Coaches, managers, minor officials, or players exuding the scent of alcohol, or while using any tobacco products, shall not be allowed with the players' bench area or the penalty box area.

H. Coaches, players, managers or spectators (fans) may not enter the Referee's room without an invitation before, during or after a game. The following minimum penalties will be assessed for violation of this rule.

1. Coach or player — game misconduct penalty
 - a) The incident will be reported for possible additional league action and/or suspension.
2. Manager or spectator (fan) — the Referee(s) will report the circumstances to the Supervisor of Officials who will notify the District Director.
 - a) A mandatory hearing will be held with the team coach and a representative of their association's governing board to discuss possible disciplinary action.