LEAGUE RESOURCE MATERIAL

USA Hockey’s Adult Ice Hockey Program Resource Guidebook was created for adult league directors and arena operators after requests for a more detailed information on operating adult hockey programs. This guidebook addresses the most commonly asked questions from administrators with regard to adult hockey. Items addressed in the guidebook include tournament operations, league administration, online registration and player rating systems. For more information, or to obtain a copy, please visit usahockey.com or email adulthockey@usahockey.org.

AMERICAN COLLEGIATE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (ACHA)

USA Hockey fields a Men’s and Women’s National University Team to participate in the Winter World University Games (WWUG) every odd year. These teams are made up of college student-athletes. The Men’s National University Team’s best finish came at the 2013 WWUG held in Trentino, Italy with a fourth-place finish. The Women’s National University Team’s best finishes came at the 2013 and 2017 WWUG held in Trentino, Italy and Almaty, Kazakhstan with third-place finishes winning bronze medals.

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THIS IS USA HOCKEY

USA Hockey provides the foundation for the sport of ice hockey in America; helps young people become leaders, even Olympic heroes; and connects the game at every level while promoting a lifelong love of the sport.

An organization that was born out of a shooter in Tom Lockhart’s New York City apartment back the fall of 1937 is today represented in all 50 states and includes a record one million-plus players, coaches, officials, parents and volunteers.

USA Hockey’s primary emphasis is on the support and development of grassroots hockey programs. Its cutting-edge American Development Model, which was launched in January 2009, provides associations nationwide with a blueprint for age-appropriate athlete development. Always a leader in safety, USA Hockey furthered the enhancement of those efforts by advancing the USA Hockey SafeSport Program in June 2012.

While youth hockey is a main focus, USA Hockey also has vibrant junior and adult hockey programs that provide opportunities for players of all ability levels. The organization also supports a growing disabled hockey program.

Beyond serving those who play the game at the amateur level, USA Hockey has certification programs for coaches and officials, inclusive of industry-leading online education modules, to ensure standards are met that coincide with the level of play. Furthermore, a large focus is put on parent education with requirement needs, rules of the game and parental roles in youth sports among common topics.

Members of the organization are entitled to many benefits, including a subscription to USA Hockey Magazine, the most widely circulated hockey publication in the world; excess accident, general liability and catastrophic insurance coverage; industry-leading education; access to usahockey.com; and opportunities to participate in USA Hockey National Championships, as well as player development camps.

As the National Governing Body for the sport of ice hockey in the United States, USA Hockey is the official representative to the United States Olympic Committee and the International Ice Hockey Federation. In this role, USA Hockey is responsible for organizing and training men’s and women’s teams for international tournaments, including the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and IIHF World Championships. USA Hockey also works closely with the NITC and NCAA on matters of mutual interest.

USA Hockey is divided into 12 geographical districts throughout the United States. Each district has a registrar to register teams; a referee-in-chief to register officials and organize clinics; a coach-in-chief to administer education programs for coaches; a risk manager to oversee liability and safety programs; and a skill development program administrator to facilitate team-to-play programs. Within USA Hockey’s 12 districts, a total of 34 affiliates provide the formal governance for the sport.
USA Hockey is often asked to explain the advantages associated with registering adult hockey teams with our organization. It is not one benefit that is the most important, but it is the total package. Consider the following:

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP
Online registration is available to all adult ice hockey players and all adult leagues. This is a streamlined process that allows a player to become a member through usahockeyregistration.com. Online membership with USA Hockey can also be integrated into your existing website, creating a seamless process for all players.

NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY
An intangible benefit of membership is belonging to a growing National Governing Body which trains and selects Men’s and Women’s National Teams at various levels, including the squads that compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. In addition, you become united with more than 1.1 million total members, including 180,000-plus adult players alone.

UNIFORM PLAYING RULES
When registering with USA Hockey, a league makes the decision to follow the Official Playing Rules of USA Hockey. In an unregistered league, the rules could be drastically more or less stringent, and they might be changed mid-season. Less stringent rules and selective enforcement could add up to be a disaster waiting to happen. Members tend to play safer when they have balanced rules and qualified referees on the ice. These coverages include:

LOCAL BODIES – SANCTION & DISCIPLINE
If a player, coach, team official, referee or other person receives a suspension for playing rules violations, the mosque/league can have confidence that the state or affiliate is in place to sanction and uphold such appropriate disciplinary actions.

ADULT PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES
USA Hockey provides many different playing opportunities for adult men and women including: Adult Classics, National Championships, Pond Hockey and our newest opportunity, the NHL. Events. All Players and teams must be USA Hockey-registered members to compete in these tournaments.

GROW THE GAME
The Adult First Goal Program is a joint effort between USA Hockey and our registered leagues to help introduce adults to the sport of hockey. It provides free Adult First Goal Starter Equipment that can be used in existing or new Learn To Play programs for adults. Equipment includes jersey, helmet, elbow pads, shin pads, stick, gloves and an equipment bag.

REFEREE TRAINING PROGRAM
The officiating program at USA Hockey includes more than 24,000 trained, certified officials. Each year, every official must attend a seminar and pass a rules exam. Each district’s referee-in-chief utilizes regional instructors to conduct seminars. The officiating program has developed a full line of instructional materials for on-ice officials and most recently, a manual for off-ice officials such as timekeepers and scorekeepers.

COACHING EDUCATION PROGRAM
USA Hockey’s Coaching Education Program includes five levels of certification for coaches, from beginners to highly skilled experts. A registered coach’s membership fee for playing is waived.

USA HOCKEY MAGAZINE/USAHOCKEY.COM
Published throughout the year, USA Hockey Magazine is one of the primary communications vehicles of USA Hockey and the world’s most widely distributed hockey publication. The organization’s official website, usahockey.com, also provides up-to-the-minute coverage of news and events specifically related to adult hockey in the United States as well as countless member services, including online registration.

INSURANCE COVERAGE
There are three insurance coverages that are designed to protect registered members of USA Hockey while participating as a member of a registered team during a USA Hockey-sanctioned game, a USA Hockey-sanctioned tournament game, controlled scrimmage or practices.

General Liability Coverage
Provides broad legal liability protection for USA Hockey and USA Hockey affiliated organizations, their officers, directors, coaches, managers, officials, players, sponsors and volunteers against lawsuits arising due to accidental bodily injury that results from a claim of negligence being brought against them while acting within the scope of their responsibilities on behalf of USA Hockey.

Catastrophic Coverage
The policy is written on an occurrence form with a limit of $2,000,000 per occurrence and without a general aggregate limit. Products-Completed Operations does, however, have a $2,000,000 aggregate.

All sanctioned activities necessary or incidental to the conduct of practice, exhibition, post season and scheduled games including, but not limited to, fundraising, meetings and award banquets are covered by this basic legal liability policy.

Excess Accident Coverage
ACCIDENTAL EXCESS MEDICAL EXPENSE – Covered Medical and Dental expenses payable, secondary to any valid and collectible insurance the registered member has in force at the time of the accident. The member must meet a $1,000 out-of-pocket expense obligation, per accident, before this coverage begins. If the registered member has no valid and collectible insurance in force at the time of the accident, a deductible of $3,500 per accident will apply.

The company will pay up to a maximum of $50,000 of usual and customary costs for covered medical expenses incurred within two years (104 weeks) from the covered accident date and submitted within 15 months from the date of the accident, for necessary medical treatment required as a result of an accidental bodily injury. The first covered expenses must be incurred within 30 days of the accidental bodily injury. There are limited dental and physical therapy benefits. Please contact K&K Insurance at (800) 237-2917, prompt 2, for these limits.

Catastrophic Coverage
The Catastrophic injury coverage will pay benefits up to $2,000,000, insured person, subject to a $50,000 deductible for losses due to a catastrophic injury and in excess of other valid and collectible insurance in force at the time of the injury.

As with any policy, there are exclusions and limitations specific to this coverage that appear in the master policy. For more information contact Janean Harter at K&K Insurance Company – (800) 237-2917, ext. 5623.

USA HOCKEY ADULT EVENTS

EVENTS APP
The Adult Hockey Events App is the best way to stay informed, navigate and connect with fans & participants at the USA Hockey Adult Events. The app is available on Apple Store and Google Play.
• Follow real-time scores, standings and results of games from every venue during the tournament.
• View upcoming schedules for your team or any team that you are interested in following.
• Receive push notifications with important updates for athletes and fans.
• Upload photos, videos and posts while at the tournament to share experiences with other participants and fans.

ONLINE EVENT REGISTRATION/ROSTER MANAGEMENT
Registration and roster management are even easier with online event registration for all adult hockey events.

HOCKEY CLASSICS
USA Hockey sponsors an annual series of recreational, non-checking tournaments for adult players. These tournaments are open to registered teams in 21+ Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Over-30, Over-40 and Women’s divisions, and all are held in distinctive locations, such as Lake Placid, Ft. Lauderdale, Las Vegas and Dallas.

LABATT BLUE/USA HOCKEY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
USA Hockey conducts eight different levels of Labatt Blue/USA Hockey National Championship tournaments. There are nine non-check divisions (Novice, 40-, 50-, 60-, and-Over Men and 30-, 40- and 50- and Over Women).

LABATT BLUE/USA HOCKEY POND HOCKEY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
USA Hockey will return to Eagle River, Wisconsin, for the 13th year to offer the 2018 Labatt Blue/USA Hockey Pond Hockey National Championships. The event has grown from 40 teams in 2006 to more than 300 in 2017. This unique playing opportunity features 19 men’s and women’s divisions and is played on banks made of snow banks. The 2018 Labatt Blue/USA Hockey Pond Hockey National Championships will take place February 9-11 on Dollar Lake.

ADULT SKILLS CLINICS
USA Hockey invites you to participate in our adult hockey skills clinic because you are never too old to improve your hockey skills! The purpose of these clinics is to provide adults 21 years of age and older a fun, relaxed atmosphere to further develop the basic skills of hockey such as skating, shooting and passing. Beginners to intermediate-level players are welcome and our clinics are first-come, first-served.

NHL ADULT EVENTS
USA Hockey’s adult hockey department has teamed up with the NHL’s Anaheim Ducks, Columbus Blue Jackets, Dallas Stars, New York Islanders, Florida Panthers, Nashville Predators and others to present adult hockey specific events such as adult skills clinics, adult Try Hockey for Free and adult tournaments.