

NEW YORK STATE AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

NORTH SECTION RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. North Section President. In accordance with the provisions of the New York State Amateur Hockey Association ("NYSAHA") Guide Book (By-Laws, and Rules and Regulations), responsibility for administration of the North Section rests with the NYSAHA Vice President for the North Section. This person is also known as the North Section President.
2. North Section President. In accordance with the NYSAHA Guide Book, the North Section shall elect alternate area vice presidents for a concurrent term with the North Section President. Each of the Area Vice Presidents shall be responsible for the proper administration of the area of the section he/she represents. He/she shall be responsible to assist the Section President in the administration of all Section and State Tournaments held in his/her section within the tournament rules and regulations.

At the spring meeting of the North Section the voting delegates of the North Section shall select from the elected Area Vice President's a Vice President by a simple majority vote who will be designated as Alternate President/Vice President-1. The appointed Alternate President/Vice President-1 shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the North Section President and shall also be responsible for the administration of the Section should the North Section President be absent or temporarily unable to do so. This shall be accomplished under the guidance of the NYSAHA Board of Directors. Any succession, due to death, incapacity, resignation or removal of the North Section President, for the un-expired balance of the North Section President's term, the appointed First Vice President would assume the duties and responsibilities of the North Section President.
- 2-A Term of Office. Elections will be conducted at the North Section Spring meeting on even years for the positions of, President of the North Section, Secretary, Treasurer, East Area VP, Capital Area VP, and Alternate President (VP-1) Odd years the positions of St. Lawrence Valley Area VP, Central Area VP will be conducted. In accordance with NYSAHA Inc. rules. Candidates for election to all offices for either section or state are to declare themselves, in writing to the Section President, who shall transmit it to the appropriate Secretary, thirty (30) days prior to the election date, except that the members present by two thirds may waive the rule.
3. Other Appointments. The North Section President may appoint such additional vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and other officers and coordinators as he/she deems necessary to carry out the business of the Section.
4. Compensation. The Section shall not pay salaries and compensation to its officers, but the North Section President may reimburse reasonable expenses upon the approval.
5. Section Dues. Section Dues shall be collected annually from every Association having membership within the North Section, in an amount fixed by a vote of the North Section membership at its Spring meeting, and such amount shall continue from year to year unless and until a different amount is fixed by the membership pursuant to this provision. Section Dues will become due and payable beginning September 1 or each year. Any Association that has not paid its Section Dues by December 31, shall have its "Good Standing" with NYSAHA (and thus USA Hockey) suspended upon written notice to said Association and ratification of such suspension by a vote of the NYSAHA Board of Directors. The North Section President may waive the collection of Section dues where such waiver is deemed to be appropriate. The North Section Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting the Section Dues.
6. Section Funds.
 - (a.) Section funds may be used for legitimate and ordinary expenses of the North Section; North Section meeting expenses and awards within the Section; Section expenses relating to the NYSAHA annual meeting; and to supplement and sponsor events in the North Section that benefit a broad range of participants.
 - (b.) A report of North Section finances shall be distributed at the North Section meetings.
7. Membership Admission Requests.
 - (a.) Requests for admission to membership in NYSAHA by organizations in the North Section shall be written application to the North Section President at least 30 days prior to a duly constituted Section meeting. The application (which may be in letter form) should indicate the scope of the proposed program; type of program; the names and relevant experience of owners, directors, officers, coordinators and other personnel in charge of the organization and program; the source of players and ice; whether the organization is for-profit or not-for-profit; any controversial issues relating to the application; and any other pertinent information. Admission requests ordinarily will be placed by the North Section President on the agenda of the next Section meeting for a vote. Appearance at the Section meeting by a principal of the organization is ordinarily required, but may be waived by the North Section President for a non-controversial application (e.g. a college club application).
 - (b.) Admission requests shall be determined by a vote of the Section membership at a duly constituted Section meeting. Admission requests are subject to approval by a majority vote of the members at the meeting entitled to vote. If an admission request is approved, the applicant shall become provisional member of NYSAHA, and shall be presented to the NYSAHA Board at its next meeting for ratification. If ratified, the provisional member Association shall become an official member Association of NYSAHA.

- (c.) When deemed by the Section President to be in the best interests of hockey, and not likely to encounter opposition at the next Section meeting, the North Section President may grant provisional membership to an applicant of a non-youth hockey program, that has submitted its application for membership and is on the agenda for the next Section meeting. Such provisional status shall be valid until the next Section meeting, at which time such application must be voted upon. Provisional status for an applicant can be granted only once, and cannot be renewed.
 - (d.) Admission requests may be made by an applicant for a maximum of two consecutive Section meeting, after which such rejected applicant will not be considered anew for membership for two Section meeting. The North Section President may refuse to accept an application request on the grounds that a new applicant is in reality the *alter ego* of an application that has been twice consecutively rejected by a vote of the North Section membership as provided above.
- 8. Program Type and Change Requests.
 - (a.) New Associations admitted to NYSAHA membership shall be admitted with a designated program type as provided by the NYSAHA Guide Book, e.g. learn to skate, recreational, non-travel, travel, etc. New Associations in their first year are not eligible for regional, sectional or other play leading to the State Championships, i.e. "classified" as tournament-bound Tier I, II or III. For an Association to be classified as "tournament-bound", see *Classification Applications And Change Request*, below.
 - (b.) For an Association to change its program type, e.g. from only "recreational" to "recreational/travel", the Association shall apply to the North Section President at least 30 days prior to a duly constituted Section meeting. Such application should indicate the basis for the request and how the Association will support the new
 - (c.) Program type. Section voting and NYSAHA ratification procedures shall be substantially similar as those for new member applications.
- 9. Classification Applications and Change Requests.
 - (a.) For an Association to change its program type to become "classified" as tournament-bound Tier I, II or III, or to change or eliminate its existing classification, the Association shall apply to the North Section President at least 30 days prior to the duly constituted **Spring** North Section meeting. Such application should indicate the basis and justification of the request and how the Association will support the classified program. Section voting and NYSAHA ratification procedures shall be substantially similar as those for new member applications.
 - (b.) An Association requesting to change from non-classified to classified, if approved as provided above, shall be classified at a Tier III. If exceptional circumstances exist, the non-classified Association can request the North Section President to permit a vote on having such Association enter at Tier II, but such request shall be determined solely in the discretion of the North Section President and, if rejected by the North Section President, shall be voted upon only for Tier III classification by the Section membership.
- 10. Tournament-Bound Section Play-downs and Section Tournaments.
(Adopted September 2008)
The North Section President shall be responsible for the format and conduct of play-downs or sectional tournaments, as appropriate, leading to the State Championships. The format shall be determined in consultation with the North Section Vice Presidents and Coordinators, and shall include an annual review of the competitive balance of the teams in the Section, so as to provide all properly classified and registered teams in the Section the opportunity to qualify for State Championships.
- 11. Should 9 (nine) or more teams register tournament bound at Tier I-II-III a pre-sectional will be conducted in the following manner. 2 (two) division containing as equal as possible the number of teams in each division. The top 2 (teams) in each division would advance to the Sectional tournament. Should 8 (eight) or less teams register in each Tier, (Tier I-II-III) a sectional tournament only will be conducted
- 12. Section Meeting Agendas. All items to be included in the Agenda for North Section meetings shall be submitted to the North Section President at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which such item is to be raised. The North Section President may make such exceptions to the 30-day rule as may be necessary. A submitted item may or may not be included in a meeting Agenda at the discretion of the North Section President. New items or items not included by the North Section President for a meeting Agenda, may be placed on the Agenda at the meeting by a motion from the floor that is approved by a 2/3 vote. Once added to the Agenda, such item shall be discussed (and if necessary voted upon) similar to any other item on the Agenda.
- 13. Tryouts. At the level where there is a National Tournament, tryouts can take place any time after the Monday following the conclusion of National Tournament. For other levels, tryouts can take place any time after the Monday following the conclusion of State Tournament. For levels where there is no State Tournament, tryouts can take place any time after the Monday following the conclusion of the State Tournament.
- 14. Association Listings. The North Section Secretary shall maintain a mailing and membership list of the Associations in the North Section. Each Association in the North Section shall notify the Secretary promptly of any changes regarding the Association's President, mailing address and other pertinent information.

15. Section Meeting Notification. The North Section President will notify all North Section Member Associations of the date of the Section Meeting no less than 45 days prior to the date of the North Section Meeting. The North Section President will prepare and send the agenda for the meeting no less than 7 days prior to the scheduled meeting.
- (a.) Section Voting Procedures – For Section Meetings Only. Per the NYSAHA Annual Guide, the following procedures will be adhered to in regards to voting:
 - (b.) The Section President will present the Section Secretary with the official Association Voter Delegate forms approved at the previous NYSAHA Annual Meeting. The number of votes is based on the previous year's Participant Members (players and coaches) and delegates identified on the voter delegate form.
 - (c.) Registration will commence at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the Section meeting. The Section Secretary will inform the Associations of their allocations. The Secretary will present the Association President or designee with voting cards for their association. This individual must sign for the voter cards for Section records.
 - (d.) The Association President or designee will determine the voting members to represent their teams/associations at the Section Meeting, if all members are not on the voter delegate form. Individuals selected to represent an association, who are not on the voter delegate form, must be current members of that Association.
 - (e.) To invoke voting privileges, a member must present their card to cast a vote.
 - (f.) The Section President will count and tally all votes. For elections, a USA Hockey representative will count all votes.
17. Residency Rule: (Adopted April 28, 2012)
- I. No Association shall be allowed to form a team under the Association umbrella that holds a majority (51%) of its practices and/or a majority (51%) of its home games in a sub-section of the North Section that is different from the sub-section that the Association resides in.
 - II. Teams and players within the four (4) sub-sections of the North Section are required to register with an association from within the sub-section where 65% or more of the team members reside. Those team(s) and player(s) that don't have 65% or more residing in that sub-section are required to register in the sub- section where the team plays 70% of their home games at the home rink of the Association which they are registered.
 - III. An Association's home rink shall be defined as the one in which a majority of practices and/or games (51%) take place within. The home rink's location will be determined by the County in which the Association resides in. In the case of more than one rink being utilized by an Association that resides in different counties, the rink that houses the majority will be named the home rink. An Association cannot be defined as belonging to more than one home rink.
 - IV. This rule does not apply to girls teams within the North Section as these teams are subject to current NYSAHA rules regarding tier status and declarations.
 - V. There will be no exceptions to this rule with regards to an Association's Tier status.
 - VI. In extenuating circumstances the North Section Executive Committee may grant waivers to this rule in the best interest of hockey in the North Section