

# Rules Committee Report 2015 Winter Meeting

rev. 1 12/8/2014



The Mn Hockey Rules Committee met on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Playing Rules, para. H requires Fall pre-season HS team coaches to be CEP certified. This is a problem since there are no clinics available for coaches at that time of year. Will refer to Hockey Operations for ways to resolve.

There was a question about addressing cyber-bullying in our Handbook. This should be covered by SafeSport and was referred to Scott Gray. Also, Scott needs to look at Bylaw Article 14 and our Screening Policy to determine if changes in those provisions are needed to be consistent with SafeSport.

There are some situations where the District Directors appear to be OK with multi-team scrimmages not being handled as tournaments (round-robin set-up, no elimination format, no winner is declared). This has been referred to the District Directors Committee for consideration and direction.

Dan Beckman reviewed our Bylaws and determined that we have some issues to deal with. Bob and Dan will meet separately to go through these – we'll have something to bring to the board on this at the Spring Meeting.

We have noticed some discrepancies in our Suspensions/Appeals/Dispute Resolution policy compared to what is required by USA Hockey. To be consistent we will probably modify our language to mirror theirs. Dan and Bob will work on this and hope to have something for the Board to consider in April.

Since participation is based on where you live or where you go to school, there has been interest in better defining "school". This has been delegated to a separate ad-hoc committee, but Rules will eventually become involved.

Modifications to the Bylaws and Youth Rules are proposed, as shown below for Board consideration.

## Bylaws Changes

*B1. Remove "Expense Reimbursements" from the Bylaws – it is covered in our Financial Policies.*

### ARTICLE 7 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[B1]

~~**Expense Reimbursements:** Expense Reimbursements: Expenses of Officers and Directors incurred while conducting MH business are reimbursable, in accordance with the current expense reimbursement policy, upon submission of a MH Expense Report subject to the limits as indicated on the report form and as approved by MH. Such reimbursements may also include a reasonable allowance for spouse's/significant other's expenses at state meetings. MH will pay the expenses of the following to attend state meetings: Board Members, District Directors, other Directors (HS, Adults, etc.), MH Coach in Chief, Referee Section Director, Executive Director, Non Board Committee Chairs, Coordinators of Fund Raisers and invited guests. Further, MH will pay the expenses for the Supervisor of Officials for all districts and significant others to attend the spring meeting.~~

## Youth Rules Changes

*R1. We no longer need the requirement to register teams where 80% of the players are members.*

### I. TEAM REGISTRATION

[R1]

~~**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.~~

R2. *Players are presently not ineligible to play at the highest level if they change schools without changing residence during the transition from elementary school to Middle School or between Middle School and High School (typically a change of building). The District Directors want to remove this provision, but it can still be approved where appropriate under the provisions of paragraph (d).*

R3. *Add verbiage to participation rule #6 to indicate that trying out in an association is participation.*

#### IV. PARTICIPATION

##### 5. Changing Schools

- [R2]
- a. Players who change schools without a related change of residence shall elect one of the following:
    1. Have full eligibility to compete at any division in their Association of Residence; or
    - ~~2. 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~~
    23. 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.~~
    - ~~4. "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.~~
  - 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:
    1. Have full eligibility to compete at any division with 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
    2. Be eligible at all except the highest division in their Association of Residence for one (1) year beginning with the first day that they notify in writing both involved associations of their intent to return to their Association of Residence.
  - c. For purposes of this rule, a team eligible to participate in "AA" end-of-season playoffs will be considered a higher division than a team within the same association eligible to participate in "A" level 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. **Trying out in an association is considered participation.** A player that participates without a necessary waiver is considered an ineligible player. Refer to the section entitled Eligibility Provisions.
- [R3]

R4. *The District Directors want a minimum of three hours rest for District/Regions/State games.*

R5. *The District Directors want to set up separate cross-district leagues for the AA teams. The Competition Committee asked for a rule so there would be a common way to govern these leagues.*

#### VIII. PLAYING RULES

O. LOCATION/FORMAT/GAME SCHEDULE - The location (community and arena) of each region and state tournament must be submitted by the hosting District Director or the cognizant Divisional Vice President to the Tournaments Committee Chair on or before the MH Summer Meeting. Schedules must be arranged so that no team playing their second game of the day is competing against a team playing their first game of the day. **Teams participating in District/Region/State games shall have a minimum of three hours rest between games on the same day.** The tournament formats, including tournament dates and game times must be submitted to the Tournaments Committee Chair no later than...

[R4]

##### R. Leagues

- [R5]
3. Leagues consisting of teams from two or more MH districts can be approved with the consent of the district directors of the MH districts in which the teams originate. **For leagues consisting of teams from two or more districts, Playing Rules shall be those of the district of the home team, and administrative rules shall be those of the district administering the league.**

R6. Modify Youth Rules para. X-F to allow for state tournaments with less than eight teams.

## X. DISTRICT, REGION & STATE TOURNAMENTS

[R6] F. STATE TOURNAMENT FORMAT MH State youth tournaments shall consist of eight teams. ~~The format shall be~~ using a championship single elimination format with a consolation division unless approved otherwise by the Tournaments Committee. There shall be games...

R7. Change the deadline for sanctioning invitational tournaments from Jan 15th to Feb. 1st.

## XI. INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING

[R7] 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 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~~ February 1 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.

[R7] C. The conditions for sanctioning invitational tournaments are as follows:  
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 15~~ February 1.

R8. Recognize that AA levels will get the same officiating system as A levels. Also remove the requirement dictating the system to use for District games (all levels).

## XII. ON-ICE OFFICIALS

[R8] 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, Jr. Gold 16, Bantam AA/A, Girls 14&Under A and Women's 19 & Under ~~District~~, Playoffs, Region and State Tournament games.  
2. The three-official system is mandatory for all Bantam B, Peewee A and Girls 12&Under A State Tournament games. The three-official system is recommended for Bantam B, Peewee AA/A and Girls 12&Under A ~~District~~, Playoffs and Region Tournament games.  
3. The two-official system will be used for all Peewee B, Girls 14&Under B, Girls 12&Under B and Sr. Women ~~District~~, Playoffs, Region and State Tournament games.

[End of Rules Committee Report]