

**White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association
2017-2018 Handbook**



8/2/2017

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** Information can change depending on new information or actions taken by the WBLAHA board, District 2, Minnesota Hockey or USA Hockey.

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Mission Statement

The goal of the White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association is to develop skilled hockey players, to stress good sportsmanship and fair play and to teach each participant to accept both victory and defeat in a gracious manner. Our membership will strive to achieve the following:

- Give each player the opportunity to participate to the best of his/her ability.
- Teach the fundamental skills of hockey through practice and game play.
- To contribute to the social, emotional and physical development of players.
- To reinforce the traits of commitment, loyalty, respect, responsibility and teamwork in all players.

White Bear's Hockey History Extends More than a Century

Francis X. "Moose" Goheen was born in Saint Paul on February 9, 1894, but the family soon moved to White Bear Lake where he grew up and learned the game. After playing in White Bear, he joined the St. Paul Athletic Club Team. In 1920, Goheen and several of his teammates – Tony Conroy, Ed Fitzgerald and Cy Weidenborner joined the first ever United States Olympic hockey team and competed in the 1920 games in Antwerp, Belgium during April of 1920.

There is no doubt in the minds of hockey historians that “Moose” had helped establish the beginning of the State of Hockey. Goheen was elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto in 1952 as only the second American to be honored there and was among the first group to be enshrined in the U. S. Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth in 1973. Today his legacy is honored on several weekends throughout the hockey season as the White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association hosts tournaments named in his honor.

In those early days of White Bear hockey all activities would have been held on outdoor ice. By the 1920s, the Ramsey County Agricultural Society decided they wanted to invest in the fairgrounds which were then located on what is today the site of Central Middle School. The Hippodrome, or the "Hipp" where most of our young players learn to skate, was constructed as the County Fair Exhibition building in 1926.

Today that tradition continues. During the 1990s and in 2000 several renovations and upgrades were made to the building including a zamboni garage and improved changing areas for the players. The tradition of shoveling the "snow" off the ice continues as well since the zamboni only performs every other hour at the rink.

During the 1930s local Elwyn "Doc" Romnes was the star of the White Bear hockey scene. Romnes was the first Minnesotan to play in the National Hockey League. His career started

with the St. Paul Saints at the end of the 1920s after playing for Mechanic Arts High School. He went on to win two Stanley Cups with the Chicago Blackhawks – one in 1934 and one in 1938 becoming the first Minnesotan to get his name on the coveted cup. In 1936 he was also awarded the Lady Byng Trophy which is awarded for sportsmanship and gentlemanly conduct combined with a high level of play.

Following his NHL career, Romnes was head coach for Michigan Tech Huskies (1941-43) and the Minnesota Gophers (1947-52) and was highly regarded for his coaching skills. He was also among the charter group enshrined to the United States Hockey Hall of Fame in 1973. The original plaques that were on display at the Hall of Fame for both Romnes and Goheen are now at the White Bear Sports Center.

The 1940s brought along a different excitement for the game of hockey, its players and its fans. The Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament celebrated its inaugural year in 1945 and White Bear was right there to be part of the action. During the first game of the first state tournament held at the St. Paul Auditorium in February of 1945 the Bears faced Thief River Falls. They fell to the “Thieves,” as they were called locally, 3-2. The following game against Staples proved to be a close one until the third period when the Bears broke a 1-1 tie with four goals for the win and advancement to the consolation championship game. The final game was a 4-0 victory over Granite Falls for the consolation trophy.

At the award ceremony held in the auditorium back on the White Bear High School campus team captain, James LeVasseur expressed the common sentiment that the Bears “would not be satisfied until we win first place”. More than seventy years and several additional consolation championships later the White Bear Bears and their fans are still waiting for that first place trophy.

Interest in hockey in White Bear Lake ran high in the 1960s with the high school team playing in the State Tournament in both 1966 and 1967. Prior to the development of the association, the youth in White Bear Lake either played for the Legion and/or the VFW teams. Jim Arend, one of the founders of the association and the first President, wanted to have a “united” organization that would enable White Bear to compete at high levels with other towns as well as form teams for all youth who wanted to play the game.

In 1967, Jim traveled to Rochester to meet with the president of its association. He obtained a copy of their bylaws as well as copies of the MAHA and USA Hockey rules to help develop the White Bear Association. In 1968, Jim, Bob Atkinson, Don Hisdahl, Jim Shearen, Milt Stellmacher, Bob Samuelson and John Frederickson wrote our first bylaws and completed all necessary paperwork to incorporate the White Bear Hockey and Skating Association (WBHSA). Their major goals were to further the development of the sport of hockey and to build an indoor arena in the community. At that time, the Squirts skated in the St. Paul Suburban League, while

the Peewees and A and B Bantams skated in District 2. Almost all practices and games, at all levels, were played on outdoor ice.

In the 1970s and 1980s, the hockey program grew at an amazing rate. From 60 families, the association increased to over 850 families with over 1,200 boys and girls participating in the program from Clinic to Junior Gold.

The White Bear community had a shot at the top prize in the 1982 State Tournament when the Mariner Dolphins led by coach Tom Simpson made it all the way to the final game. Unfortunately, the Dolphins lost 6-0 to Edina and the coveted hardware was not to be had. Prior to that run Mariner teams had skated to section finals four times.

In 1989, the City of White Bear Lake, with the help of many association volunteers and funds, completed renovation and the ultimate transformation of the old White Bear Racquet Club into the White Bear Sports Center. This provided much needed ice for the growing program. This resulting arena was the culmination of twenty years of effort by association members to provide this facility for our youth.

Other changes were also in the works for the hockey community. The White Bear Lake Girls Program started as a Ringette Program in 1991 and by 1994 White Bear had Girls Hockey. In 1992, the White Bear Hockey and Skating Association became the largest association in the United States. By 2000 the popularity of girls hockey had far outpaced that of Ringette and by 2002 the White Bear Lake Girls Varsity Team was on their way to the State Tournament with a 3-0 victory over Hill-Murray. The team returned home with a second place trophy.

The White Bear Hockey and Skating Association eventually became two separate organizations. The White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association is totally self-supporting with all of its operating funds coming from registration, sponsors' fees, and fundraising efforts. The first association fundraiser was a dance held at the old Rod and Gun Club. Check out the plaque containing the button sold for this event at the Sports Center -- compliments of Don Hisdahl. Along with this button, they sold pink garbage bags that contained the slogan, "think rink -- buy pink". Since that time, there have been a variety of fundraising drives. The association currently operates a charitable gambling operation at local establishments under the direction of its Gambling Manager.

It is a tribute to the founders and the hundreds of volunteers who have followed them that thousands of White Bear Lake boys and girls have not only learned the game of hockey, but more importantly, have had many memorable moments playing hockey in our association. Dozens of White Bear Lake skaters can be found on college, pro, and semi-pro rosters around the country, and they all started in the same place - learning to stand up on skates at the Hippodrome.

Hockey Equipment Requirements

The following equipment is required for all participants in Clinic through Junior Gold programs:

- Helmet (black is required for traveling teams only) and face mask (must be HECC and Minnesota Hockey approved)
- Mouth guard - colored
- Pads - shin pads, elbow pads, and shoulder pads
- Breezers - short padded hockey pants (black recommended)
- Protective cup
- Hockey gloves (black recommended)

SKATES

Properly fitted skates will enable your child to perform to the best of his/her ability on the ice.

Generally, a sewn skate will fit a size to a 1/2 size down from the regular shoe size. A proper fit is obtained best after trying on a few different sizes and walking around. Sitting down, the skater should put the skate on and immediately kick the heel back into the rear of the boot. The toes should “feather” the toe cap and not be crushed or curled in any way.

Lace up the boot, continuously kicking the heel back, ensuring that the lacing is being tightened evenly from the bottom to the top. The tightening should be firm but not so tight that circulation in the foot is hampered. A proper fitting skate does not require extremely tight lacing, only a “snug” fit.

After the boot is completely laced up, get up and walk around. The rear area of the foot should feel snug and secure with no movement or slipping. The foot should rest comfortably on the foot bed as looseness in this area will result in “sloppiness”. The toes should extend flat within the toe cap area. If the toes are stretched (pushed ahead) you should be able to “feather” the toe cap.

Fitting Children

Room for growth must be allowed but care must be taken not to fit too large. The most allowance you should make is about 1/2” (a thumb behind the heel width) when the foot is pushed forward as far as it will go in the unlaced skate.

Children’s feet grow an average of 1/3” per year between the ages of four and eleven. Skate sizes are in increments of 1/3”. Theoretically, a child following the normal growth rate should need a new pair of skates 1/2 size larger every six months.

HOCKEY STICK

Be sure to choose one that is not too large for your child to grip. Stick length can be determined by placing the front, bottom edge of the stick on the ice between the skates. The top of the shaft should touch the player’s face between the chin and the tip of the nose.

HELMET/FACE MASK

All equipment must be HECC approved. Make sure it is large enough to get the hood of a sweatshirt under the helmet. A hat worn underneath the helmet often falls down over the eyes. Do not over-size so that the helmet turns on the child.

GLOVES

Size is important. Not too large, yet not too small. He/she should be able to wear a pair of finger gloves underneath when the weather is cold.

ELBOW PADS

It is important to have a heavy fiber cap covered with a shock-absorbing material. Again, do not over-size.

SHIN PADS

Don't buy shin pads too large. When buying, be sure he/she tries them on with his/her skates, so as not to get them too long to fit with the skates. The tongue of the skate should go outside the shin pad.

MOUTH PIECE

A colored mouth guard is required to be worn at all times while on the ice – both practice and games.

JERSEYS/SOCKS

All players, Squirt/10U through Junior Gold/19U are furnished with two jerseys and two pair of socks. Clinic through Mite/8U aged players will receive at least one jersey and Mite/8U aged players will also receive at least one pair of socks. Traveling A teams may have up to three jerseys with the third jersey funded through team fees and/or additional sponsorships.

Proper care and maintenance of jerseys is crucial to prolonging their use and is the responsibility of the players/parents. Please follow these guidelines:

1. Game jerseys are to be kept in garment bags (if issued) and worn for WBLAHA games only. Small tears or holes should be mended immediately to prevent them from spreading and to prevent injuries to players from occurring.
2. Laundering should be done in cold water using mild detergent – DO NOT USE BLEACH. Hang and dry at room temperature. DO NOT PUT IN DRYER!!!
3. Jerseys will be collected by team managers/coaches at the end of the season and will be turned into the Jersey Coordinator on the designated date unless other arrangements are made. Socks are not to be returned. An \$80 replacement fee will be charged for jerseys not returned by the designated date (state tournament qualifies for exemption) or for jerseys returned in a manner which prevents re-use.

*****ALL JERSEYS ISSUED TO PLAYERS MUST BE RETURNED AT THE END OF THE SEASON*****

Team Levels & Eligibility Requirements

Players skate in age levels established by Minnesota Hockey, reference table below. WBLAHA skaters must reside or attend a school within the boundaries of the WBL School District (ISD 624).

Level	Ages	Date of Birth	Level	Ages	Date of Birth
Junior Gold/U16	15 through 18	7/1/98- 6/30/02	19/U	15 through 18	7/1/98- 6/30/01
Bantam	13 or 14	7/1/02 - 6/30/04	15U	13 or 14	7/1/01 - 6/30/04
Pee Wee	11 or 12	7/1/04 - 6/30/06	12U	11 or 12	7/1/04 - 6/30/06
Squirt	9 or 10	7/1/06 - 6/30/08	10U	9 or 10	7/1/06 - 6/30/08
Mites	8 and under	7/1/08 - 6/30/12	8U	8 and under	7/1/08 - 6/30/12
Clinic*	10 and under	7/1/08 - 6/30/13	Clinic*	10 and under	7/1/08 - 6/30/13

First year skaters, both boys and girls, must begin in the Clinic program. Players may be moved to Mite/8U programs based on skill or need of that level at the discretion of the level director.

Play-Up Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of the play-up policy is to establish written standards to make the play up selection fair and equitable.

PLAY-UP BY GRADE LEVEL

Players may register to play at a higher level than their age allows if they are enrolled in the following grade:

Boys		Girls	
Level	Grade	Level	Grade
Squirt	4th	10U	4 th
Pee Wee	6th	12U	6 th
Bantam	8th	14U	8 th

GIRLS PROGRAM

Girls may be moved up in order to accommodate a full roster at the discretion of the Girls Director. Players being moved up will only be eligible for the lowest level team at that age group. A full girl's roster will have a minimum of 12 skaters and one goalie, with a preference to have 15 skaters and two goalies.

LEVEL CONSIDERATIONS

Play ups will not be allowed at the Pee Wee and Bantam levels, unless they are in the level's school grade for the appropriate level

Mite players in their final year of eligibility only, will have the OPTION of having their child try out at the Squirt level pending approval by the Boys Director. The number of play ups using this provision cannot exceed 5 players total. Additional play-ups beyond 5 may be considered by the Boys/Girls Director at his/her discretion.

Players must have played at the highest level of the mite program the previous year.

Players must make the "A" or the top 50% of the "B" pool Squirt /10U teams. If not, they return to the mite program.

APPLICATION TO PLAY UP

The parents of a player who requests to play at a higher level must complete the Move Up Form on the Registration Page at WBLHockey.com and submit to the Boys/Girls Hockey Director. The Boys/Girls Hockey Director, Vice President of Hockey and coaches will review the request and will inform the participant of the tryout decision prior to the start of tryouts. No WBLAHA player will otherwise be allowed to prematurely move up into Pee Wee, Bantam or Jr. Gold level.

Approved by special board meeting (date to TBD). Please contact your level coordinator for more information.

All decisions of the board are final and are not subject to appeal.

RESIDENCY WAIVER POLICY & PROCEDURES

It is the intention of the WBLAHA to give preference to players who live within the WBLAHA's borders. For a player who is waiving into the WBLAHA prior to tryouts, and said player is enrolled in White Bear Lake School District (ISD 624) for the corresponding school year, the player is allowed to petition to try out for their respective level of play, however they will only be eligible to tryout for a "B" team in their first year of waived in play. If a waiving player does not petition to try out, they will be placed on the lowest level team. This is to ensure that no WBLAHA player is unnecessarily displaced.

To waiver into or out of the WBLAHA you must obtain a waiver form from their association of residency and have both the losing and gaining association President(s) and District Director(s) sign the form.

COACHING REQUIREMENTS

Enacted during the 2011-2012 season, the coaching education requirements changed. For full Coaching Education Program (CEP) rules and required documentation please visit the USA Hockey website at www.usahockey.com. Coaches must also register at www.wblhockey.com. Failure to register with the WBLAHA will result in disqualification from coaching.

In conjunction with USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey, the WBLAHA requires that all head coaches and assistant coaches carry a valid, up-to-date CEP card and documentation showing that you have completed the appropriate age level mod for the level at which you are coaching.

***** Coaches must have their online module completed before they can step on the ice ***
Waiting until Dec. 31 to complete the age-specific modules is NO LONGER an option.**

All coaches listed on a team's roster must have ALL necessary coaching certification documentation prior to taking the ice in October for their respective level. If this information is not completed and included in the roster book at district roster sign-off, the coach or coaches who are missing information will be red-lined and not allowed on the ice with their team until all documentation has been secured and the district has signed off on their roster supplement. No roster changes or supplements will be allowed after December 31.

*****Coaches with incomplete CEP certification, mod completion, background check and association registration after December 31 will be red-lined and will not be allowed on the ice or on the bench. NO EXCEPTIONS.*****

COACHING SELECTION PROCESS

- The Coach Selection Committee will at a minimum, consist of the Boys/Girls Hockey Director, VP of Hockey Operations and the President.
- At the discretion of the Boys/Girls Hockey Director other members may be selected. Any other members of the committee will be considered advisors.
- The Boys/Girls Hockey Director shall have the overall responsibility for the process.
- In the event only 1 candidate applies for a position, it is at the discretion of the Boys/Girls Hockey Director whether to assemble a Coaches Selection Committee or not. The candidate will still need board approval prior to finalizing the selection.
- As it pertains to the Girls program, it is typical for B coaches to be selected after the tryouts have been completed and the A teams have been picked. The candidates will still need board approval prior to finalizing the selection.
- The Boys/Girls Hockey Director will recruit and contact the candidates and set up the coaching interviews. Two of the following three members must agree in order to recommend a coach to the Board for final approval. Boys/Girls Hockey Director, VP of Hockey Operations and the President.
- The Board will consider the Coach Selection Committee's recommendations and either approve or reject the recommendations on the basis of a majority vote.
- Assistant coaches. Head coaches may select their own assistant coaches with the following restrictions:

All assistant coaches are subject to the approval by the Boys/Girls Hockey Director.

No assistant coach may be selected or named before the season begins if he or she has a player at the same level where he or she intends to coach unless having Boys/Girls Hockey Director and Board approval

- A head coach's player is not guaranteed a position on the head coach's team before the tryout process is complete.
- Coaches will be evaluated using parent mid-season feedback evaluations, parent end-season feedback evaluations, coordinator evaluations and Boys/Girls Hockey Director evaluations. After the Boys/Girls Hockey Director evaluates the coach and it is decided that the coach will return the following year at the same position, two of the following three members must agree in order to recommend this coach to the Board for final approval. Boys/Girls Hockey Director, VP of Hockey Operations and the President.

COACH REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

The Directors at each level shall by no later than the August Board Meeting, propose coaches and the amount that each coach will be reimbursed. Reimbursement applies to both parent and non-parent coaches. Please contact your level coordinator for details on reimbursement amounts by level. Once information becomes available it will be added here.

Coach reimbursement includes, but is not limited to:

Lodging expenses

Meals

Coaching materials (i.e. Pucks, puck bags, clipboards, etc.)

Equipment

Mileage

Assistant coaches

Skate sharpening

Insurance

CEP

The amounts proposed shall cover ALL coach's expenses and coaches are not able to acquire additional reimbursements. This policy does not take into account tenure or differentiate between Boys or Girls. (Approved at WBLAHA September 2016 Board Meeting.)

Squirt/10U Level:

A Level = up to \$3,500.00

B Level = up to \$1000.00

C Level = up to \$1000.00

Peewee/12U Level

AA Level up to \$4,000.00

A Level = up to \$3,000.00

B1 Level = up to \$2,500.00

B2 Level = up to \$1,500.00

C Level = up to \$1000.00

Bantam/14U Level:

AA Level = up to \$4,000.00

A Level = up to \$3,000.00

B1 Level = up to \$2,500.00

B2 Level = up to \$1,500.00

C Level = \$1000.00

JR Gold Level/19U:

A Level = up to \$4,000.00

B Level = up to \$3,000.00

U16 Level = up to \$1,500.00

An itemized expense reimbursement report **with receipts dated within the current season** must be submitted to the Treasurer prior to being reimbursed. Expenses will not be reimbursed without an expense report. Expenses will be reimbursed by April 15 of every year

Coaches in the Girls Program will be reimbursed off the top level of the matching boys - for example 12U A would be reimbursed as the Peewee AA and 12U B would be reimbursed the same as Peewee B1.

Roster Size & District 2 Teams

It is recommended that all teams roster 15-18 players however final roster numbers for the 2017-2018 season will be determined by the age level directors.

All teams in both the Boys and Girls Traveling Programs will compete against other teams in District 2. District 2 is comprised of teams from Forest Lake, Mahtomedi, Mounds View, North St. Paul, Roseville, St. Paul Highland, Stillwater, Tartan and White Bear Lake in Minnesota and Hudson, New Richmond/Somerset and River Falls in Wisconsin.

Game Recommendations

The following recommendations are established by USA Hockey and endorsed by the WBLAHA Board of Directors for all youth teams.

Level	Practice / Game Ratio	WBLAHA Recommendation
Junior Gold/U16	2 or 3:1	45-55 games
Bantam/14U	2 or 3:1	40-50 games
Pee Wee/12U	2 or 3:1	30-40 games
Squirt/10U	3:1	15-25 games
Mites/8U	3:1	10-20 games



2017-2018

Moose Goheen & Jeffrey Hayne Memorial Invitational Tournaments

Level	Dates	Entry Fee (Includes \$325 Gate Fee)
Bantam B1	12/1 – 12/3, 2017	\$1150.00
Pee Wee B1	12/1 – 12/3, 2017	\$1150.00
Bantam B2	12/7 – 12/10, 2017	\$1150.00
Pee Wee B2	12/7 – 12/10, 2017	\$1150.00
Girls 10UA	12/14 – 12/17, 2017	\$1000.00
Girls 10UB	12/14 – 12/17, 2017	\$1000.00
Jr. Gold A	1/18 – 1/21, 2018	\$1400.00
Jr. Gold B	1/18 – 1/21, 2018	\$1400.00
Bantam AA	1/25 -11/28, 2018	\$1400.00
Pee Wee AA	1/25 -11/28, 2018	\$1400.00
Squirt A	2/1 – 2/4, 2018	\$1350.00
Squirt B	2/1 – 2/4, 2018	\$1350.00

Junior Gold/16 & Under

The Junior Gold program is designed for skaters between the ages of 15 and 18. The 15 and 16 year olds may participate in Junior Gold tryouts at the A & B level or play at the 16 & Under level. All players must tryout. A mandatory parent meeting will be held in November. Please check website, www.wblhockey.com, for date, time and location of this year's meeting. All Junior Gold teams will play in the Metro Hockey League, which may require driving to games anywhere in the seven county metro area. Games start the first week of December and teams may play into the middle of March if they make playoffs and continue on to state. Games and practices are usually the later hours of ice time, after 9:15pm on school nights. There is typically 1 or 2 out of town tournaments requiring an overnight stay. No player will be allowed to have his/her own hotel room. Minnesota Hockey dictates an adult must accompany the player, even if the player has turned 18.

A Player/Parent meeting will be held on Thursday, the day after the HS team is picked. More detailed information will be distributed at the meeting and posted on the website at that time. Tryouts will start the Friday after the player/parent meeting.

Dual Roster

High School Varsity and Junior Varsity players may NOT compete on WBLAHA teams. Skaters cut from the Varsity and Junior Varsity tryouts may compete in WBLAHA, however the skater may NOT return to the Varsity or Junior Varsity team after competing in the WBLAHA for that season.

Junior Gold/16 & Under Banquet

A Junior Gold/16 & Under banquet for all teams at this level will be held at season's end and is funded by the registration fees (budgeted by WBLAHA as a program expense and includes 1 player and 2 parents). The event is structured to honor the graduating seniors and is also used to recognize players for sportsmanship, leadership, and MVP (one each per team). The coaching staff of each team selects these players.

Team Fees

This level can expect to pay between \$1000 and \$2000 (not including travel expenses, hotel expenses, etc.). These additional fees pay for tournament entry fees, ice rental, referees, league fees and other items as determined by the coaches and team manager.

Boys A & B Traveling Program

The boys A & B Traveling program is managed by the Vice President of Hockey Operations, a member of the WBLAHA Board of Directors. Coaches for the Boys A & B Traveling program are interviewed by an advisory panel and then provide feedback to the Vice President of Hockey Operations based on criteria established by the board.

Skaters in the traveling program should expect to participate in a number of tournaments during the year, depending on the age level of the particular player. They may also participate in District 2 playoffs, regional, and state tournaments where applicable.

SQUIRT PROGRAM

Each team will consist of 13 to 15 skaters and up to two (2) goalies. Shorter rosters will allow for more ice time and greater flexibility for our coaches to move kids to different positions. The expanded Squirt B program also gives more kids the opportunity to play at a higher level. This additional team does not affect our “play up” policy – skaters will still be chosen based on ability. We will continue to evaluate the need for this additional team on a year-by-year basis and field as many teams as our talent and numbers allow. *The goal and focus of this level will be on skill development - not wins and losses.*

PEE WEE PROGRAM

Since the 2011 – 2012 season, checking is no longer be allowed in Pee Wees. USA Hockey voted upon and enacted this policy at its summer meeting during in 2011. Additional information on this policy can be found on USA Hockey’s website at www.usahockey.com.

BANTAM PROGRAM

TRYOUT AND TEAM SELECTION POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of the tryout and team selection policy is to ensure that each player is given a fair and unbiased evaluation and that all players are placed at the most appropriate level for their abilities. This policy applies to the Squirt, 10U, Pee Wee, 12U, Bantam, 14U, and Junior Gold levels.

GENERAL TRYOUT RULES

- **Tryouts will be closed to the public.** Only evaluators for that level and Board Members approved by the Boys/Girls Hockey Director are allowed in the rink. Board Members wishing to be at tryouts must demonstrate that their presence is necessary to facilitate the tryout process. Team events during the tryout process (i.e., scrimmages) may be open to the public at the Boys/Girls Hockey Director's discretion.
- The Boys/Girls Hockey Director and the VP of Hockey Operations will determine the number teams at each level based on the registration for that year.
- Girls that choose to tryout for a Boy's team will commit to the boy's program for the entire season. There is no transferring back to the Girls Program once tryouts begin.
- Trying out in the AA/A tryouts Phase I, does **NOT**, guarantee a player all the hours designated for that tryout session. The evaluators will notify when parents should check the website for player cuts. If at any year there is a single A team, this team will be picked from the B1 pool and will consist of the highest 12-15 ranked skaters and two goalies. There will be no preference given to the number of years at that level (first year vs. second year).
- During the tryout process, there can be no unnecessary communication between parents and the evaluators. Any necessary communication (i.e., illness, injury or equipment problems) must be initiated by the player and/or parent via the Boys/Girls Hockey Director.
- Any attempt by a parent at "lobbying" their child during the tryout process will be reported by the evaluator or coach being lobbied to the Vice President of Hockey. This action will be a violation of the Parent Code of Conduct.
- All players shall wear their tryout jerseys. All AAA team stickers, or other summer league team stickers, must be removed from the player's helmet prior to the tryout process.

- Any player unable to participate in tryouts due to injury or illness will be evaluated based on their prior year performance and coaches' recommendations to determine tryout ranking and team placement.
- Players will be given one excused tryout miss for in-season sport conflicts. Any misses outside of one may be considered only on a case by case basis. The Boys/Girls Hockey Director will need to be notified in order to take any consideration.
- Tryout fees may only be used to pay for the ice time to conduct tryouts and to compensate the outside evaluators and on-ice instructors.

EVALUATORS

- Evaluators for tryouts will consist of the following for each level:
 Head coaches
 Assistant coaches
 Up to three head coaches from other levels at the Boys/Girls Hockey Director's discretion
 Level Coordinator (if they are a non-parent at that level)
 Up to three outside evaluators,
- **A minimum of three evaluators is required.** If three evaluators cannot be accomplished through the above criteria, additional evaluators will be appointed by the Boys/Girls Hockey Director. An appointed evaluator cannot be a parent of a child trying out at the level of play he/she is evaluating.
- If a coach has a child in the Association at a level different from the level being coached, that coach cannot evaluate at that given level. If a coach has a child playing at the level that is being coached, that coach can evaluate for their team only and the coaches' child will be evaluated by the other evaluators.
- There shall be no evaluators who have children under evaluation at the level(s) they are evaluating.
- Head coaches select their teams. The outside evaluators are involved simply for evaluation of players during tryouts.
- Outside evaluators need to be present at every tryout session, including scrimmages.

GENERAL TRYOUT PROCESS

- Each tryout at each level will consist of skill drills, small games and scrimmages.
- The tryout plans for each level will be determined by the Head Coach, Boys/Girls Hockey Director and Level Coordinator.
- Individual skills, team skills, hustle, teamwork, attitude, sportsmanship and conduct will be evaluated during the tryout process.
- During scrimmages, players should be assigned to both offensive positions and defensive positions.
- At least one hour of the tryout process will be dedicated to goalies.
- Each level (Squirt, Pee Wee and Bantam) will be broken up into two phases.

BOYS PROGRAM TRYOUTS BY LEVEL

- **AA Pee Wee/Bantam Phase I**
 - There are no guarantees to the number of sessions each player will be able to participate in. Players may be released after the first session.
 - The Head Coach may or may not be on the ice for this phase.
 - Phase I will start on Thursday or Friday and end on Sunday. Phase I will consist of individual skills, small area games and scrimmages.
 - At the end of Phase I the coaches and evaluators will select between 15-24 skaters and 2-4 goalies to move into Phase II.
 - Players not selected for AA Phase II will report to B1/A Phase I.
- **AA Pee Wee/Bantam Phase II**

Phase II will start as soon as the first Monday following Phase I and will last approximately one week.

 - There are no guarantees to the number of sessions each player will be able to participate in. Players may be released after the first session.
 - This phase will consist of team practices and outside scrimmages. The Head Coach and coaching staff will conduct this phase on the ice. The evaluators will be present at all Phase II events.
 - Any players not selected to the AA team during phase II will be moved to the B1 player pool and at a minimum will play at the B1 level. If there is an A team, players moving during AA Phase II are not guaranteed a position on the A team. Players that are not selected for the AA team at the end of phase II will be placed on the A team.
 - The players not selected at the end of phase II to the AA team will be given the opportunity to meet with the AA Head Coach, the level coordinator and the Boys Hockey Director. This meeting will be set up upon parent request to the Boys Hockey Director.

- **B1/A Pee Wee/Bantam Phase I**

Phase I will start on the Thursday or Friday one week after the AA level Phase I and will end Sunday.

- There are no guarantees to the number of sessions each player will be able to participate in. Players may be released after the first session.
- If at any year there is an A team, it will be picked from the B1 pool.
- At the end of Phase I the coaches and evaluators will select players for Phase II. The number of players selected each year will be based on the number of teams and roster sizes for that year.
- Any players not selected for Phase II will be considered for the B2 team if needed to meet roster requirements.

- **B1/A Pee Wee/Bantam Phase II**

Phase II will start as soon as the first Monday following Phase I and will last approximately one week.

- There are no guarantees to the number of sessions each player will be able to participate in. Players may be released after the first session.
- This phase will consist of team practices and may have outside scrimmages. The Head Coaches and coaching staff will conduct this phase on the ice. The evaluators will be present at all Phase II events.
- Any players not selected during phase II will be placed on the B2 team. In the event that there are more than enough players to fill the B2 roster, the remaining players will report to C level grading

- **C Level Grading**

Grading will start after B1/A ends and will consist of 2 hours.

- Players will be graded on individual skill and team skills.
- Players will be divided equally based on skill to make as many teams as needed.

- **A Squirt Phase I**

- There are no guarantees to the number of sessions each player will be able to participate in. Players may be released after the first session.
- The Head Coach may or may not be on the ice for this phase.
- Phase I will start on Thursday or Friday and end on Sunday. Phase I will consist of individual skills, small area games and scrimmages.
- At the end of Phase I the coaches and evaluators will select between 15-24 skaters and 2-4 goalies to move into Phase II.
- Players not selected for A Phase II will report to B Phase I.

- **A Squirt Phase II**

Phase II will start as soon as the first Monday following Phase I and will last approximately one week.

- Once again, there are no guarantees to the number of sessions each player will be able to participate in. Players may be released after the first session.
- This phase will consist of team practices and outside scrimmages. The Head Coach and coaching staff will conduct this phase on the ice. The evaluators will be present at all Phase II events.
- Any players not selected to the A team during phase II will be moved to the B player pool and at a minimum will play at the B level.
- The players not selected at the end of phase II to the A team will be given the opportunity to meet with the A Head Coach, the level coordinator and the Boys Hockey Director. This meeting will be set up upon parent request to the Boys Hockey Director.

- **B Squirt Phase I**

Phase I will start on the Thursday or Friday one week after the A level Phase I and will end Sunday.

- There are no guarantees to the number of sessions each player will be able to participate in. Players may be released after the first session.
- At the end of Phase I the coaches and evaluators will select players for Phase II. The number of players selected each year will be based on the number of teams and roster sizes for that year.
- Any players not selected for Phase II will report to C level grading.

- **B Squirt Phase II**

Phase II will start as soon as the first Monday following Phase I and will last approximately one week.

- There are no guarantees to the number of sessions each player will be able to participate in. Players may be released after the first session.
- This phase will consist of team practices and internal scrimmages. The Head Coaches and coaching staff will conduct this phase on the ice. The evaluators will be present at all Phase II events.
- Any players not selected to a B team during phase II will report to C level grading.

- **C Level Grading**

Grading will start after B ends and will consist of 2-4 hours.

- Players will be graded on individual skill and team skills.
- Players will be divided equally based on skill to make as many teams as needed.

GIRLS PROGRAM TRYOUTS BY LEVEL

Girls 19U

- There are no tryouts for the 19U team.
- More information will be posted on the Girls Hockey page with further details.

GIRLS 15U

- Tryouts will be held in November after the High School tryouts are complete.
- More information will be posted on the Girls' Hockey page at that time.

GIRLS 12U

- Phase 1 will consist of the following:
 - Day 1 (1 hour) skills grading
 - Day 2 (2 hours) will be 3 v 3, 4 v4 and small area game scrimmaging.
 - Day 2 will also include a 15-20 minute individual goalie evaluation/grading.

At the end of Day 2, the 12UA camp team will be selected. Tryout numbers for the 12UA Camp team will be posted on the Girls Hockey page. Those not on the list will report to the 12UB grading session.

- Phase 2 will consist of the following:
 - Players selected for the 12UA Camp team will play in up to 2 scrimmages against outside associations.
 - All players selected to the 12UA Camp team will play in both A Camp scrimmages.
 - After the 2nd 12UA Camp scrimmage, the final 12UA team will be picked and finalized.
 - The 12UA coach will contact ALL 12UA Camp players not selected for the 12U A team.
 - After this has been completed, the final 12UA team selections will be posted on the girls hockey website by tryout jersey number.
 - Players NOT selected for the 12UA Camp team will report to 12UB grading.
 - The 12UB coaches will conduct a series of drills, small area games and scrimmages to further evaluate the players.
 - At the conclusion of the 12UB grading, 2 equal teams will be picked.
 - Day 1 and 2 tryout evaluations as well as results from the 12UB grading will be used to pick the 12UB teams as equal as possible.
 - The picking of the 12UB teams will be moderated by the Girls Director.

GIRLS 10U

- 10U Tryouts will consist of the following:
 - Day 1 (1 hour) skills grading
 - Day 2 (1 hour) will be 3 v 3, 4 v4 and small area game scrimmaging.

At the end of Day 2, the 10UA team will be selected. Tryout numbers for the 10UA team will be posted on the Girls Hockey website. Those not on the list will be on the 10UB and will be contacted by 10UB coach.

TEAM SELECTION

- The appropriate level director shall be present during the team selection (Boys Director, Girls Director)
- Head coaches select their teams. The outside evaluators are involved simply for evaluation of players during tryouts.
- Roster sizes for all teams, from AA, A, B1, B2 and C, will be comprised of no less than 12 skaters and 1-2 goalies. The Boys/Girls Hockey Director, VP of Ops and Level Coordinator will make the final decisions based on final registration and tryout results.
- If a head coach is a parent of a child at that level, the majority of evaluators must agree that his/her child deserves to be on his/her team based on the child's performance during the tryout process. The parent head coach must remove himself/herself from that decision.
- During a draft of two or more teams at identical levels (i.e., B Squirt, B1 Pee Wee, B1 Bantam, 10U B, 12U B, 14U B), the player selection must be competitive.
- Once teams have been selected and the tryout auditor closes the draft, trading of players will not be allowed.

TRYOUT AUDITOR

Each level will have a tryout auditor chosen by the Boys/Girls Director. The role of the auditor is to facilitate the tryout process and verify that the above processes were followed. The auditor will report the overall summary to the Boys/Girls Director, VP of Hockey Ops and the President.

TEAM FEES

Traveling team players can expect to have expenses between \$1000 and \$2000 (not including travel expenses, hotel expenses, etc.). These additional fees pay for tournament entry fees, ice rental, referees, league fees and other items as determined by the coaches and team manager.

BOYS C TRAVELING PROGRAM

The C level is a traveling level, no different from their A and B counterparts. C teams may play other District 2 teams and have a recommended maximum of 35 games.

If your son is not selected for an A or B team this means they currently lack the skill to perform at those levels, it does not mean that your child does not have the *potential* to make an A or B team. The primary purpose of the C level is to develop hockey skills, a hockey work ethic and to learn about the highest level of sportsmanship.

The C level is not a recreational league. C level players and parents expect their coaches to advance their player's game just as at the A and B levels. Recreational leagues are typically run by a city and are for those kids that have a casual interest in playing hockey. C level association players, parents and coaches have much higher expectations.

Coaching Staff

The coaching staff consists of a head coach, two assistant coaches, a manager and a booster representative. C level coaches are typically parent coaches, however there are exceptions. All C level Bantam and Pee Wee coaches are required to possess Level 3 coaching certification through USA Hockey (or plan to attain their Level 3 certification by 12/31 of the current year). Squirt coaches require a Level 2 certification. Coaches and assistant coaches without valid certification will be removed from actively participating in coaching a team.

At the C level, coaches try their best to allow players to play both offense and defense. Kids play the game because they want to win. Coaches determine who is best suited for each position.

Regardless of their position, coaches will provide each skater an equal amount of shifts during a game. Coaches may decide that during the last two minutes of a game they want their most aggressive players on the ice, for instance, when a goalie is pulled. This is a specific situation and is not a strategy to be employed for the duration of whole games or periods. C level coaches will roll their lines.

The number of teams can vary seasonally. The primary determinants are the number of players registered, the number of A and B teams and the number of rostered players taken on the A and B teams. The ideal team has 16 rostered players, six defensemen, nine forwards and a goalie. There are advantages and disadvantages to having more or fewer players on a team. More players mean lower team fees but fewer shifts and fewer players mean more shifts but higher team fees.

Coach/Parent Communication

It is expected that both coaches and parents adhere to the Code of Conduct supported by USA Hockey, Minnesota Hockey and the WBLAHA. Invariably there will be disputes over the course of the season however the expectation is that both parties will conduct themselves as adults. If a

dispute resolution cannot be attained, the C Level Director and Coordinator will become involved to mediate the situation. Coaches are expected to update parents with team progress and parents are expected to understand that coaches are responsible for the progress of the team as a whole.

Ice Time

In the beginning of the season it is not unusual for your skater to have up to six practices per week. As the season progresses a typical week will consist of three to four practices and one game. Late in the season the ration of practices to games may be 3:2 or 4:2.

Tournaments

This year's Bantam C & Pee Wee C Moose Goheen Tournament will be held 11/25-11/27, 2016. If there are more than two teams at Pee Wees and Bantams, a lottery will be held on draft day to determine which White Bear C Pee Wee and Bantam teams will be asked to participate. As the WBLAHA is hosting the event there will be required volunteer hours to be fulfilled by team parents. This may consist of working concession hours, working the penalty box or scorer's table, set up and tear down of arena decorations, planning and purchasing or wearing the *orange jacket* (an at-large helper for out-of-town teams).

Concessions

Concessions expectations will be communicated at the beginning of the season. If you have questions, please contact Concessions@wblhockey.com.

Discipline

Players that cause problems will be disciplined appropriately by the coach. Coaches are not expected to put up with verbal abuse, obnoxious locker room behavior, fighting, swearing or complaining. Depending on the offense, coaches are allowed to determine reasonable punishment. The punishment for fighting is not determined by the coach, but rather by District 2 and Minnesota Hockey. Failure to report a fight will affect the head coach.

C Grading Sessions

Grading sessions are two hours in length and are designed to provide a rating for players in order to create a draft list. Players enter the arena and are randomly given either a white or black pullover jersey. Grading consists of performing five pre-determined drills, one of which will be timed. Graders consistently rate the players while they perform each drill on a scale of one to five. At the end of the session players are split by jersey color and will scrimmage. The scrimmage is used by coaches to make note of players who they believe have a particular skill. For example, Coach X notes that number 28 has an excellent shot or back-checks well. The coach can then use his notes when drafting to try and secure that player for his team.

Draft Process

The draft process begins after the C players have been graded. Typically the level Coordinator and the level Director sit down with the selected coaches and perform a competitive draft. Coaches choose a face down playing card to determine the order of the draft. After the draft order is determined coaches are able to “protect” players such as their own sons, the sons of two assistant coaches and the son of the manager. This means that no other coach can select those players. Depending on the number of players there may be up to eight rounds of drafting. If a “protected” player falls in a draft round, the coach of the protected player is excluded from drafting that round. Players are drafted based on scores received in grading. When the player list is exhausted goalies are then selected based on the same procedure.

Move Ups

Move ups are aggressively discouraged at the Pee Wee and Bantam C levels.

Team Fees

Team fees have typically remained between \$700 and \$1200 per year. Variances can be caused by the number of rostered team players and such things as purchasing practice jerseys, warm-up outfits and the number of tournaments in which a team chooses to participate.

C LEVEL PLAYER RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Rights – Players

- The right to participate in hockey.
- The right to participate at a level commensurate with the player's maturity and ability.
- The right to have qualified adult leadership.
- The right to participate in safe and healthy environments.
- The right to proper preparation for participation in hockey.
- The right to equal playing time.
- The right of players to share in the leadership and decision making of their hockey participation.
- The right to be treated with dignity.
- The right to play as a youth; not as an adult.
- The right to have fun.

Responsibilities – Players and Parents

- Players and parents are to honor the game.
- Players and parents are to understand that effort and teamwork are more important than winning.
- Players and parents are to understand they have control over their situation, but not at the expense of other players, parents, teams, referees, associations or communities.
- Players and parents are to understand that the purpose of C level hockey is to develop ALL players.
- Players and parents agree to discipline their emotions in a way that honors the team, program and community.
- Players and parents understand that unsportsmanlike conduct, fighting, arguing, name calling and swearing are unacceptable behaviors whether on the ice, on the bench, in the stands or in the locker room.
- Players and parents are to understand that they are subject to fair and reasonable punishments for ignoring these responsibilities.

Responsibilities – Coaches

- Coaches will have a documented plan for the season.
- Coaches or qualified assistant coaches will be present for all games and practices.
- Coaches will monitor their locker rooms at all times.
- Coaches will not shorten their bench. At the second occurrence you will be suspended for two games and your removal will be recommended.
- Coaches are to understand and promote the concept that winning is a product of inspiration, motivation, effort and team work.
- Coaches will report all incidents of unsportsmanlike conduct, fighting and unruly

behavior by parents in the stands.

- Coaches are to understand that player's skills progress at different rates.
- Coaches are to understand that the purpose of C level hockey is to develop ALL players.
- Coaches are to care more about the player than the win.
- Coaches are to understand that skill and talent are not grounds for more or less playing time.
- Coaches agree to treat all players, coaches, parents and referees with respect.
- Coaches are to recognize their potential to have a huge impact on players.
- Coaches agree to be consistent with regards to discipline, star players or otherwise.
- Coaches are to recognize that EVERY player on your team must feel as an important part of team success. This concept is your responsibility to reinforce.
- Coaches will recognize their responsibility to develop ALL players.
- Coaches will recognize that fear inhibits creativity, potential, motivation and effort.

MITE PROGRAM

The Mite program is designed for boys and girls 8 years old and under who have completed at least one year of Clinic and have graded into the Mite Program.

Mite skaters will receive information to register for Fall Warm-Up. This is an optional opportunity for the kids to get their “skate legs” back prior to grading.

The official Mite season begins with the Mite Skill Camp which is held at the Hippodrome. This two week camp reviews the skills that were taught the past season and prepares players for the grading session. Players are divided according to where they finished play at the end of last season and should remain in these groups for both sessions. This allows the Camp Director to prepare practice plans appropriate to the skill level of each group. All players who played in Clinic last year, and are still eligible to play Mites this year, should attend the fall skills camp. Date and time information for the Mite Skill Camp will be posted on the website at www.wblhockey.com.

The Mite guidelines are as follows:

- **Mite 3 & 4** - players are generally 7 to 8 years old, have usually completed 1-2 years of the Mite program and have graded into the higher end of the Mite program. These levels stress skating, stick handling skills, shooting, individual creativeness as well as passing for each of the players. These levels also introduce team play and rules of the game (off-sides and changing on the fly) early in the season during weekly scrimmages and practices. Many of these players will be transitioning up to Squirts so it is essential to provide a basic foundation of the game of hockey combined with the individual skill development and team play.

- **Mite 2** - players are generally 6 to 7 years old, have completed 1 year of the Mite program and have graded into the middle of the Mite program. Mite 2 concentrates on the skating and puck handling skills of the players. Individual creativeness and competitiveness are important concepts that are coached early at this level during weekly scrimmages and practices. Team play and a few rules of the game (off-sides and positions on the ice) will be introduced toward the end of the season. Some of these players will be transitioning up to Squirts so it is important to provide a basic foundation of the game of hockey combined with individual skill development.

- **Mite 1** - players are generally 5 to 6 years old, have completed the Clinic program and have either not attended the grading session or have graded to the lower end of the Mite program. Mite 1 concentrates on the skating skills and development of the individual players while introducing the game of hockey in weekly scrimmages and practices. Players will be placed at the level which best matches their skill level. Occasionally, there may be

moves early in the season if a player demonstrates that the move is needed due to the skills demonstrated. Players will only be allowed to move up to the next higher level from where they are placed. It is the intention of the Association to avoid having a situation where a player becomes frustrated due to an inability to participate at the same level as their teammates.

The Mite program will continue to focus on the development of individual skills. All Mite teams will practice a minimum of twice each week with dates and times for each level to be determined by the Mite Coordinator. Additional hours of outdoor ice may be available as weather permits and at the discretion of the Mite Coordinator and coaches. Occasionally, there will be more ice late in the season as other teams finish (February and March).

Mite Play-Ups

Parents of Mite players in their final year of eligibility only, will have the OPTION of having their child try-out at the Squirt Level, or remain in the Mite Program for their final year of eligibility. If you choose to have your child try out at the Squirt Level, your child can try-out for A or B Squirts. If a child tries out and is not selected to play at either the A or the top 50% of the B Squirt level, they will return to Mites. For more information, please see the Play-Up Policy on pages 10-11.

If you require any additional information or have any questions, please contact the Mite Coordinator at mitecoord@wblhockey.com.

MITE GRADING

Evaluation Requirements:

- Players must have completed at least one year of Clinic or Mites
- Players must attend the Mite grading session
- Players must grade into the Mite program

All sessions will be held at the Hippodrome. Specific date and time information be posted on the website at www.wblhockey.com.

Players must be ready to go on the ice 15 minutes prior to scheduled time to allow for check-in and to receive a grading jersey.

Switching of grading times will NOT be allowed without prior approval of the Mite Director.

A draft is held after the grading is complete. At that time, the coaches select their teams and will be contacting each player to inform them of team meeting and first practice times.

The Mites will play an all White Bear schedule, which includes a Mite year-end jamboree played

in March.

MITE COACHES AND MITE LEVEL DIRECTORS

All of the coaches are volunteers and must have a valid Initiation/Level 1 certification from the USA Hockey Coaching Education Program, be registered with USA and White Bear Lake Area Hockey and have completed an electronic background check to be on the ice. Head coaching assignments will not be determined until after the completion of the player evaluations. The exceptions to this rule are returning Mite 4 coaches. Head coaches will be picked by the Mite Coordinator once each player has been evaluated. The head coach will be able to recommend and choose their coaching assistants.

Teams are allotted some indoor ice at the Hippodrome, with each coach determining the use of outdoor practice ice. The Mite level focuses on fun, individual skill development and the early stages of team play.

Each level of Mites will have a Mite Level Director. The Mite Level Director will assist the Mite Coordinator in making sure that each Mite level is following the intended skill development and curriculum. They will also act as another option of communication between the Mite coaches and the Mite Coordinator. The Mite Level Director position is designed to provide a more positive experience for both coaches and players in the Mite program.

Team Fees

Because these teams practice and play all their games at the Hippodrome, the team fees are \$250 - \$350. This covers items such as ice fees, apparel, the end of the year Mite Jamboree and other items as determined by the coaches and Team Manager.

CLINIC PROGRAM

The clinic program offers lessons in basic skating and hockey skills for all first year players 4 to 10 years (as of June 30, 2017) of age. All coaches at this level are volunteers and must have a valid Initiation/Level 1 Certification from the USA Hockey Coaching Education Program to be on the ice.

Both boys and girls will be required to begin in this program. There will be two sessions this season that includes boys and girls. Both sessions will be held at the Hippodrome on one weekend day per week and will be one hour in length. Clinic sessions will begin early November and run through the first week of March. Dates and times for Clinic sessions will be posted on the website at www.wblhockey.com.

Most seasons, a small number of clinic players will be asked to play on a Mite 1 or Girls 8U team to fill out those rosters. The decisions for these move-ups will be determined by the Director of Player Development, Mite Coordinator, Girls Director, Girls Coordinator and Clinic Coordinator. No children born after July 1, 2011 will be moved up into the white level. This process will be complete no later than the third week of clinic.

Clinic Players **MUST NOT** attend the Mite skill camp.

A celebratory game involving clinic players will be held at the end of the season.

GIRLS A & B TRAVELING PROGRAM

Information pertaining to tryouts will be posted on the website at www.wblhockey.com when they become available. Players must register for the level that accommodates their age, do **NOT** register up.

The Girls Hockey Program will offer the following at each age level this season:

- 19 and Under – will do everything possible to field a team each year depending upon interest (no A or B designation per District 2)
- 15 and Under – 1 A team
- 12 and Under – 1 A team and 1 B team
- 10 and Under – 1 A team and 1 or 2 B teams
- 8 and Under – 3 or 4 teams based on registration

Note: All teams at each level will be dependent on the number of girls registered at that level.

General Information

The Girls A & B Traveling Program is managed by the Girls Director, a member of the WBLAHA Board of Directors and assisted by the Girls Coordinator, who is appointed by the Girls Director. Coaches for the A & B Traveling program are selected by a committee appointed by the Girls Director, who makes their decision based on criteria established by the board and recommended by the Girls Director.

10U through 19U players should expect to travel to away games and participate in two to four tournaments during the season, depending on the age level of the particular player. Players may also participate in district playoffs, regional and state tournaments where applicable.

Girl's hockey will be played with the same rules as the boys with the exception that there is no checking in girl's hockey at any level.

ALL 15U Girls trying out for the High School Girls Hockey Team still need to register. If you make the High School team you will receive a refund and a waiver.

8U – 15U girls will receive information to register for Fall Warm-Up which will help prepare the girls for tryouts. This is an optional opportunity for the girls to get their “skate legs” back prior to tryouts.

8U Girls are invited to attend the Mite Skill Camp which will be held at the Hippodrome. You should attend the ice sessions in the White Mite group using the first initial of your last name. Specific date and time information will be posted on the website at www.wblhockey.com.

8U girls will practice at the Hippodrome. As the season progresses and the weather allows, additional practices may be held at one of the outdoor facilities at the discretion of the coaching staff.

Request to Play-Up/Move-up Forms

The Girls Program will follow the formal approval process for move-ups as stated on the form unless the need to create or fill out an existing team's roster becomes an issue. The Girls Program can bring about special circumstances as the numbers are often lower and may require moving players around to fill teams in the best interest of the players and the program. The Girls Director must approve the request before the board will consider hearing the request.

*****All board decisions are final and are not subject to appeal*****

Tryouts

All skaters must wear full equipment including helmet with face mask, mouth guard, shoulder

pads, shin pads, elbow pads, breezers and protective cup. Goalie equipment is available through the Equipment Manager. You must call the Equipment Manager in advance for an appointment to find the proper equipment your player can use.

Players not registered, or with incomplete registration paperwork, will not be allowed to participate in tryouts.

Any girl that registers to tryout for the Boys Program will remain in the Boys Program for the duration of that season and is NOT eligible to play in the Girls Program for that season.

This allows both the boys and girls programs to accurately pick teams during the tryout process.

10U through 15U Levels

- Tryouts are held to offer players an opportunity to play on a traveling team. The Girls Director will appoint a selection committee for each level tryout consisting of association coaches and graders.
- Players are selected based on their hockey skills demonstrated during tryouts for the A and B teams.
- Selection to a team as a first year player will not entitle the player to a roster spot on a team at the same level in the player's second year. Players must make the team year to year based on their demonstrated skill and development.
- All sessions will be held at either the White Bear Sports Center or the Vadnais Sports Center, with the exception of the 8U level which will have a grading session at the Hippodrome. Please refer to the tryout schedule posted on the Girls Hockey page of the website at www.wblhockey.com to ensure you go to the correct arena.
- Players are required to arrive 45 minutes before their first scheduled tryout session to allow time for sign-in and distribution of tryout jerseys. Tryout jerseys must be returned to the head coach, Girls Director or Girls Coordinator after the final tryout session.
- All players will be contacted within 24 hours of final tryout by their head coach with date and time information for their team meeting and first practice. Tryout results will also be posted on the website, www.wblhockey.com, at the conclusion of each level's tryout session.

8U Level

A grading session conducted by the Girls Coordinator and 8U coaches will be held at the

Hippodrome. Full equipment, as described above, is required by all participants. Players are required to arrive 45 minutes before their scheduled grading to allow time for sign-in and distribution of grading jerseys. 8U teams will be divided by age, experience and skill level for the season in the best interest of the players and the program.

Any questions regarding the tryout process for the Girls Program should be directed to the Girls Director at girls.director@wblhockey.com.

Team Fees

Girls A & B Traveling (10U-19U)

Traveling team players can expect to have expenses between \$1000 and \$1900 (not including travel expenses, hotel expenses, etc.). These additional fees pay for tournament entry fees, ice rental, referees, league fees, apparel and other items as determined by the coaches and team manager.

8U TEAM FEES

8U players can expect to have expenses up to \$450. These additional fees pay for ice rental, league fees, apparel and other items as determined by the coaches and team manager.

GOALIE INFORMATION

WBLAHA is investing in the development of our goalies. This includes both goalie coach and player clinics during the winter season, as well as a continued effort to ensure our goalies utilize safe and right-sized equipment.

Goalie Equipment Program

The cost of new goalie equipment can easily exceed \$1000. This burden is especially difficult at the younger ages where players are encouraged to experiment with the position. The goalie equipment program is designed to make it easier and more affordable for families that have goalies or for those making the decision to become a goalie. WBLAHA will continue to maintain an inventory of equipment to outfit our Mite, Squirt, 8U, and 10U goalies. Players at these levels will have use of the equipment during the entire hockey season, and will return it at the end of the season. What we ask in return is to take good care of the equipment and not to swap with other goalies unless the goalie equipment committee are notified and have given prior approval. It is rare that a goalie utilizes the same set of equipment for more than two seasons simply due to growth of the player. We need our goalies to be properly protected and will make every effort to get the right sized equipment issued to the player.

If WBLAHA equipment is used for street or basement hockey and shows unusual wear the renter will be liable for the purchase of the damaged equipment at a used price.

Goalie Equipment Rental Fees Rental Fees and Policies	Full Set	Half Set
Squirts, 10U	(glove, blocker, chest protector, leg pads) FREE	(leg pads only or any one of the other items) FREE

The Association does not pay for or provide skates, sticks, or helmets.

Mites and 8U equipment sets are assigned to the coaches at no cost. The equipment will consist of 1-2 sets per team (glove, blocker, chest protector, leg pads, and stick in a carrying bag). A \$275 deposit per team is required, which will be refunded to the team, in the form of a check, once the equipment is returned.

Equipment Pick up – please contact the Goalie Equipment committee to arrange pick up of the equipment.

Equipment return – Goalie equipment must be returned at the conclusion of the Squirt/10U season, or the Mite Jamboree and/or 8U Reese’s Cup. Upon receipt of the equipment, the Goalie Equipment committee will provide the team with a check for \$275.

WBLAHA will no longer maintain a regular inventory of equipment for the Peewee, Bantam, Junior Gold, 12U, or 15U level goalies. Instead, we will work individually with each family in need of assistance. WBLAHA will host an equipment swap shortly after registration. During this swap, the Goalie Equipment committee will buy/sell equipment and facilitate equipment exchanges between goalies. Throughout the season, the committee will be available to assist with

solutions to equipment needs, on a case-by-case basis. The solution may include a sale of equipment at a reduced price and/or rental of used equipment from the association's inventory. In the case of a rental, a flat rate of \$100 (full set) or \$50 (partial set) will apply for a season's use. WBLAHA is always looking to buy good quality, used equipment. If you have purchased your own equipment and would like to negotiate a price, we are happy to talk to you. The equipment must be orange, black or white. If you know of used equipment for sale that fits the above requirements please let us know.

REPAIR POLICIES

Please do not repair equipment unless you plan on paying for the repairs yourself. Any repairs that would be paid for by the WBLAHA need to be approved by the Goalie Equipment committee prior to getting the work done. WBLAHA has made arrangements with a leather shop to do the work with the proper approval.

Who Is Responsible for Assigned Equipment

Each set will have an assigned person who is responsible for taking good care of the equipment. In most cases this will be the goalie, but in the younger ages it may be the coach. Abuse of the equipment (i.e. street hockey) or trading without consent of the Goalie Equipment committee will not be tolerated. If either happens, appropriate action will be taken by the Association.

GOALIES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO FINALIZE THEIR REGISTRATION UNTIL THEY ARE CURRENT WITH EQUIPMENT FEES.

Goalies and the Swap Meet

Any goalie families with association gear must bring it to the swap meet event, even if they intend to continue using it for the season. This will allow the Goalie Equipment committee to update condition, and make sure all records are current.

As the teams are selected during tryouts, any updated equipment will be handed out and other equipment will be turned in. During this period, goalies will be contacted to make the exchange. This period is also the best time to obtain the best possible equipment. Exceptions are made if there are safety concerns due to repairs or size mismatches. Trying to receive equipment before your age group is handled lowers the possibility of obtaining the "best available" equipment. We will always make the best effort to provide quality equipment.

Goalie Training

Throughout the season, WBLAHA will be providing goalie training. Further information regarding goalie training, including dates and times, will be available at the Goalie table during the swap meet and will also be posted on the website at www.wblhockey.com.

****PLEASE VISIT THE GOALIE TABLE AT THE SWAP MEET****

Locker Room Policy

In 2010 USA Hockey has instituted the following Locker Room policy:

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

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

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

All responsible adults serving as locker room monitors should be gender correct and the co-ed locker room policy must be followed as described in the current USA Hockey Annual Guide. Monitors must be screened and meet all USA Hockey screening standards.”

The enacting of this policy covers all practice times, games/scrimmages and tournament events at **ALL** levels of play. Teams will now be required to designate one or two gender appropriate adults to be “Locker Room Monitors” for the entire season. These people will need to complete a background check form and submit it to the Registrar for processing.

Cell Phones and Recording Devices

In accordance with District 2 and Minnesota Hockey, the White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association strictly prohibits individuals from possessing and or utilizing any photo or video capturing devices within the locker room area. Prohibited devices include cell phones, all cameras (still & digital), iPods/mp3 players or digital media players and/or game systems capable of taking still photos or recording video. Failure to comply with the aforementioned policy will result in disciplinary action taken against those to be found in noncompliance. These disciplinary actions may range from coach and player suspensions to possible removal from the team.

2017-2018 Registration & Fees

Level of Play	Birthdate	Registration Amount
Junior Gold/16U	7/1/98 - 6/30/01	\$225
Girls 19U	7/1/98 - 6/30/01	\$225
Bantam/Girls 15U	7/1/01 - 6/30/04	\$205
Peewee/Girls 12U	7/1/04- 6/30/06	\$205
Squirt/Girls 10U	7/1/06 - 6/30/08	\$200
Mite/Girls 8U	7/1/08 - 6/30/12	\$125
Clinic (2 nd Year)	7/1/08 – 6/30/13	\$75
Clinic (1 st Year)	7/1/08 - 6/30/13	Free
Tryout fee for Squirt, Peewee, Bantam-tryout jerseys must be picked up at swap meet.		\$50/player

2017-2018 Refund Process

Clinic through Mites/8U

Withdraw before start of first session Full registration, less \$50 cancellation fee

Squirt

Withdraw before start of first tryout session Full registration, less tryout fee(s) & \$50 cancellation fee

Pee Wee

Withdraw before start of first tryout session Full registration, less tryout fee(s) & \$50 cancellation fee

Bantam

Withdraw before start of first tryout session Full registration, less tryout fee(s) & \$50 cancellation fee

Girls 19U/14U/12U/10U

Withdraw before start of first tryout session Full registration, less \$50 cancellation fee

Jr Gold/16U

Withdraw before start of first tryout session Full registration, less \$50 cancellation fee

*If a player does not make a Junior Gold/16 & under team the player will receive a full refund.

Refunds will no longer be given after the following:

Squirt/10U through Jr Gold/16U – once tryouts have begun

Girls 19U – after the first practice has taken place

Mites/8U & Clinic – after the first practice has taken place

To request a refund, fill out the form below (no refunds will be issued without a completed form) and mail to: WBLAHA

Attn: Registrar

P.O. Box 10585

White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**Areas for WBLAHA use only -

REFUND REQUEST	Date Request Completed	**Date Received By Association
Skater's Name	Level	**Refund Check Number
Address		**Amount of Refund
Reason for Withdrawal		
Parent		Phone

WBLAHS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY

All families requesting WBLAHA Financial Assistance must complete the Rob Sund Financial Aid Application. Incomplete applications will be returned. (Application is available online or by contacting the Association Secretary).

Applicants may apply for: (a) full assistance, (b) partial assistance, (c) payment plan. As part of its annual budget, WBLAHA will determine a dollar amount that will be set aside as financial aid to subsidize the Rob Sund Scholarship Fund.

Note: The Rob Sund Fund is subsidized by donations from outside donors, corporation “matching” dollar funds for volunteers who apply and state WBLAHA on their applications, and a portion of budgeted funds from WBLAHA General Account as determined by the current WBLAHA Board of Directors.

Financial assistance is designed to help families get through periods of financial stress. It is not designed as an annual subsidy, and is limited to 2 years per skater. Applications for skaters that have received Rob Sund Funds for two years, and have applied for Rob Sund Funds for a third year and beyond, will be considered on a case by case basis. Preference will be given to those families who qualify for public assistance programs such as school lunch subsidies, medical assistance, and unemployment insurance.

Financial assistance in the form of a Rob Sund Scholarship will be provided to cover WBLAHA Registration Fees only. Only in instances of severe financial hardship will it be granted to cover team assistance.

If a financial hardship befalls upon a family during the season, an application for financial assistance via the Rob Sund Fund may be submitted. Examples of a financial hardship are, but not limited to, loss of employment and death or debilitation of a parent.

ROB SUND

Rob Sund was a self-described hockey dad. He and his wife Lyn were passionate for both the game and the hockey community that the game created. Born in Duluth he was the oldest son of five children. He was an electronic engineer for Cardiac Pacemakers Incorporated. Rob's children, Jeremy in hockey and Kristin playing volleyball, both note they remember their Dad being in the stands for all of their games. Rob loved to watch kids play sports, he loved the leagues in which his kids played and he loved belonging to the youth sports communities.

At the age of 42 Rob Sund died in December 1987 during quadruple bypass surgery.

The Rob Sund Fund was initially established as a means to thank the hockey community for the love and support the Sund family received during the very difficult time after Rob's death.

Community. Passion. Empathy. These are the tenets that the Rob Sund Fund represents. Daughter Kristin, a volleyball coach, still imparts to her teams the examples she learned from her parents as a child. Get to know one another, recognize “too crazy”, love the bleachers, and cheer for each child as if they were your own. As an association we maintain this fund because we

believe as many kids as possible should play hockey. Our hockey family is like any other; we'll have siblings that squabble. The Rob Sund Fund reminds us that regardless of our personal differences, when one of our members is in need, help will be provided.

By reading the comments provided by Rob's family hopefully we'll all understand that it is not the destination we'll remember, but the journey.

Lyn (wife)

In fact Jeremy still plays hockey in an adult league in Denver. His response pretty much sums it up about Rob; he was "just" a hockey Dad who was always there for volunteering, supporting the league and especially his son. So this was a salute to all hockey dads. He was only 42 when he passed away in December 1987 during quadruple bypass surgery. He was an electronic engineer for Cardiac Pacemaker, ironic I know. I believe I established the scholarship fund in 1988 or 89 with an annual golf tournament to support it. I agree Hockey truly creates a sense of community as our hockey "family" was so supportive for our family during a very difficult time that this was a way of saying thank you. I don't know what we would have done without them.

Jeremy(son)

My father passed away when I was 13. He never missed one of my games. He was an amazing father and he loved Hockey! I do remember him giving my old equipment away to kids that needed it. I can tell you there wasn't a single game that I looked in the stands and couldn't find my parents.

Kristin(daughter)

My Dad, and Mom for that matter, were the consummate hockey parents. My Dad came to love hockey by being born into a hockey family from Duluth, he was the oldest of four brothers and a sister. My Grandfather coached and I'm pretty sure everyone in the bloodlines played hockey including the current generations. I really don't have any childhood memories that don't include hockey-talk or a bunch of guys yelling at a TV. To this day I don't know how my parents managed to be at every game of every sport we played.

I played volleyball and I could hear my Dad's voice at every game and then there was the game overview on the way home. Jeremy had the same play-by-play post-game review with Dad too.

I share stories about my dad with all the parents each year. I encourage them to get to know each other, get to know each jersey and cheer for every kid like they were your own, get all crazy about bad calls but keep each other in check, learn to love the bleachers (or in my dad's case your breath on the glass during hockey season), and have a hug for your kid no matter what the scoreboard says –thanks Dad.

Was he "just" a hockey dad? Yep, that's what he would tell you. That's how hockey dads are. If the memorial fund can pass along these sentiments to more families and provide some financial relief, I hope you can keep it going. We lost our Dad way too early but having this fund contribute to building new hockey communities helps us know his spirit is still alive.

Application Process:

Applicants must submit a confidential Rob Sund Scholarship Application (provided below). Applications must be received no later than one week prior to close of registration for your player's level to the following address:

WBLAHA
Rob Sund Application
P.O.Box 10585
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

The Financial Assistance Committee, which consists of the WBLAHA President, Registrar(s), Treasurer, and Financial Assistance Coordinator, will review ALL applications. Financial Assistance will be granted based on eligibility, the total number of applicants, the amount of budgeted funds, and other financial factors considered relevant by the committee.

The Financial Assistance Committee reserves the right to request additional information. Applicant's names and all information will be kept strictly confidential. Only the Financial Assistance Committee will review the applications, and by issuing Rob Sund Scholarship funds in the form of registration fee waivers there will be no applicant's financial knowledge transferred to Team Managers.

All decisions made by the Financial Assistance Committee are final; there is no appeal process. If at the end of the season a team fee reimbursement is distributed to members of a team, a family who receives Financial Assistance must not receive a refund if the refund is less than or equal to the amount received. If the refund is more than the Financial Assistance awarded, the family may get a refund for the difference. The refund may be 100% of what all other families are receiving if the family receiving Financial Assistance volunteers an additional 5 hours of DIBS in addition to what the family and their respective team is obligated to perform.

Has your child/children received assistance from the Rob Sund Fund in the past?

_____Yes___No

If Yes, which child/children and year assistance received? _____

Are there extenuating circumstances that should be considered?

What additional volunteer work are you able to perform for the association? (Concession stand, Tournament staffing, other talents- please explain)

I hereby certify that all of the above information is true and correct, and I understand that WBLAHA may verify the information on the application or ask for additional information.

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

I hereby certify that I understand that if at the end of the season a team fee reimbursement is distributed to members of a team, I will not receive a refund if the refund is less than or equal to the amount received. If the refund is more than the Financial Assistance awarded, I may get a refund for the difference.

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING

The WBLAHA is a non-profit corporation that manages the youth hockey program in White Bear Lake and with the constant rising costs associated with the sport of hockey, fundraising is becoming a much more focused association function. The following will outline the WBLAHA fundraising efforts and opportunities for assisting the White Bear youth hockey player enjoy a less costly season in 2017-2018.

ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISERS

WBLAHA is very conscious of the economic burden associated with playing hockey, and as such, the WBLAHA has begun to add additional fundraising opportunities for our membership. The Fundraising efforts will be used to keep registration fees at a minimum and to assist the families who struggle with meeting the financial obligations of the hockey season through the Rob Sund Fund. Here is a list of potential fundraising opportunities for 2017-2018:

Golf Outing – August 13, 2017

Calendar Raffle – Fall 2017

A WBLAHA Calendar Raffle will be conducted during the 2017-2018 season through the Gambling Association of the WBLAHA. More details will be coming soon. Please contact Gambling Manager, Christine Olson with questions.

CONCESSION HOURS

The concession stands are an important fundraising tool for the WBLAHA. Profits from the concession stands can be used to fund the Rob Sund Fund, purchase new goalie equipment or assist in paying for specialized training. As with any non-profit, fundraising is important in maintaining our organizations solvency.

Each player on each team is required to fulfill a minimum of 4 hours of concessions hours per season. Exclusions from this would be a parent coach, manager or active member of the WBLAHA Board. Junior Gold teams, U19 and clinic players are also exempt and are not required to work the concessions but may be asked to fill in if needed. There is a maximum of 4 coaches and 1 manager per team for exclusions – please work this out within your teams if there are more than 4 coaches and 1 manager.

The opt out or buyout fee for the 2017-18 season will remain \$80. Failure to complete your requirements will result in a \$125 fee being billed to you at the end of the season. You may hire someone to work your hours for whatever fee you agree upon – you are still responsible for your “hire” to show up and complete the shift. No shows will be billed the \$125. Cleaning fee is \$25 – please keep the concessions clean and leave them clean for the next shift. Arriving late or leaving early will also result in fees of \$25 per 15 minutes – cameras are in use for this purpose. Please be on time and stay until you are scheduled or the ice schedule allows you to close early (please text site coordinator if this is the case).

All shifts need to be scheduled through Dibs and each family needs to schedule their shifts with the correct player – if you have 3 kids in WBLAHA please make sure you are selecting the

correct child when signing up. Cancelling your shift is allowable up to 14 days prior but you must contact the Concessions manager via email to remove your name from the schedule – **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SHIFT AS LONG AS YOUR NAME IS THERE, PLEASE HELP US OUT BY CHECKING BACK TO MAKE SURE THE CHANGE HAS BEEN MADE.** Within 14 days of your shift you are responsible for filling the shift. Concessions managers and site coordinators are not available to cover your shifts or find coverage for you. Please have a backup plan in case you can't make it or get sick.

Dibs will be updated as we get the ice schedules. If you don't see a shift available check back, the schedule changes often. Drop sheets are required for each person and each shift – this is how we track your shifts. If your drop sheet is not filled out properly you may not get proper credit for your shift.

If you have questions, please contact concessions@wblhockey.com

TEAM SPECIFIC FUNDRAISERS

Each Team in the WBLAHA acts as a single entity when putting together team needs and the fees associated with covering those needs. Each team is encouraged to organize and conduct fundraisers as they see fit, so long as they do not directly conflict with any fundraising the association has declared to be an association-wide fundraiser. The Association will not be responsible for any individual team fundraising. Teams conducting this fundraising are solely responsible for any and all shortfalls. All net proceeds must benefit all player/families on the team equally. Donations made directly to teams are NOT tax deductible.

Examples of team fundraisers include:

- Banner sponsor sales
- Grocery bagging
- Trash can delivery
- Taco feed/spaghetti dinner

SPONSORS

We are seeking sponsors to support the teams of our association for the 2017-2018 hockey season. Contributions by these businesses and/or individuals are vital to the success of the WBLAHA teams. The level of sponsorship varies based on the level of play of a particular team. If you know of anyone who is interested in sponsoring a team, please have them contact the sponsor coordinator via email at sponsors@wblhockey.com.

WBLAHA JUDICIAL PROCESS & GRIEVANCE POLICY

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure an efficient resolution to all grievances and to give all parties an opportunity to present their case.

Definitions:

Grievance: A Grievance is a violation of the Code of Conduct or Bylaws of the Association.

Day: A day is one 24 hour calendar day.

Complainant: A Complainant is the party who lodges the complaint

Privacy

All grievance issues shall be kept private and confidential. No member of the Judicial Board, the White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association (WBLAHA) Board of Directors, or a party to the grievance shall discuss, disclose, or otherwise disseminate any information that is related to a grievance to any non-party.

Judicial Board:

- The Judicial Board is to have a total of three (3) members
- The members must be a parent or legal guardian of a registered hockey player in the Association during their tenure on the Judicial Board.
- The members represent the level of hockey within the Association which their child is registered to play in the year that the member serves.
- These members are considered volunteers, and will receive a credit of 14 hours of volunteer service to the Association for the year they serve on the Judicial Board regardless of whether they actually hear any grievances.

Selection:

The following levels of the Association shall be represented on the Judicial Board: Mites, Squirts, Peewees, and Bantams; Girls 8U, 10U, 12U and 15U, and Junior Gold.

These three (3) members are to be nominated by the President and approved by a simple majority by the Board of Directors.

Judicial Board Chair:

The President is to appoint one (1) of the three (3) members to serve a term of three (3) years as the Judicial Board Chair. This person must be approved by a simple majority by the Board

Length of Term:

- Each member is to serve a three (3) year, staggered term
- No member may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms, or more than six (6) consecutive years
- To phase in this system, the term length of the initial Judicial Board members shall be as follows:
 - Two members shall serve for one (1) year
 - Three members shall serve for two (2) years
 - Two members shall serve for three (3) years

Levels in the Process:

- The initial complaint is filed,
- Fact finding will be conducted by the Investigative Committee,
- The Committee will have a hearing and reach a resolution;
- Each party has a right to appeal to District 2- District 2's process controls the appellate process.

Judicial Board Process

- Initial Complaint
- Upon a breach of the official Code of Conduct or Bylaws, a complainant may: a) Notify the Level Coordinator; or b) Follow the process outlined in Section B of this section.
- Upon notification by the complainant, and upon belief that the facts relayed MAY arise to a violation of the Association's Code of Conduct or Bylaws, the Level Coordinator MUST advise the complainant that their issue may arise to a Code of Conduct or Bylaws violation and advise the complainant that their grievance must be filed in accordance with the Association's Grievance Policy.
- The Level Coordinator shall not attempt to resolve the issue. The Level Coordinator is to only convey information to the complainant.
- The Level Coordinator shall document their conversation with the Complainant and notify the Judicial Board Chair of their contact with the Complainant in writing, either by email or US Mail.

Contents of Complaint:

- To file a complaint, one must fill out a Grievance Form (see "Attachment A").
- A complainant must fill out each section of the Grievance Form for their complaint to be investigated.

Whom to send the Grievance Form to:

- The complainant must send the completed Grievance Form to the Judicial Board Chairperson via e-mail or mail within a reasonable amount of time from the date of the incident.

Judicial Board Responsibilities:

- Within one (1) day of receiving the complaint, the Judicial Board Chairperson must inform the complainant in writing, via e-mail that they received the complaint.

If the Complaint is incomplete:

- Within one (1) day receipt of the complaint, the Judicial Board Chairperson must communicate in writing, via e-mail the deficiency to the complainant and advise the complainant that no action will be taken until the written complaint is completed.
- Incompleteness in the Grievance Form shall include but are not limited to:
- The form is unsigned or the form is not fully completed.

If the Complaint is complete:

Investigative Committee:

- Within one (1) day of receiving the complaint, the Judicial Board Chairperson must randomly select three (3) members of the Judicial Board to investigate and resolve the complaint.
- The members of the Investigative Committee must be from different levels.
- Within one (1) day of receiving the complaint, the Judicial Board Chairperson must randomly select one (1) member of the Investigative Committee to serve as Fact Finder.
- Within one (1) day of receiving the complaint, the Judicial Board Chairperson must notify the Judicial Board members who are assigned to the Investigative Committee and which of the three (3) will serve as Fact Finder.
- Within one (1) day of receiving the written complaint, the Judicial Board Chairperson must send an electronic copy of the written complaint to all three (3) Investigative Committee members
- Within one (1) day of receiving the written complaint, the Judicial Board Chairperson must notify the Association President in writing via electronic mail:
 - That a complaint has been filed and the Judicial Board Process has been initiated.
 - The identity of the parties and the specific Code of Conduct or Bylaws provision alleged to have been violated.
 - The President shall not divulge this information to anyone.

Duties of the Fact Finder

- The Fact Finder is responsible for communicating with all relevant people to the dispute, which includes but is not limited to:
 - Investigating the complaint,
 - Talking to the witnesses,
 - Talking to the complainant, and
 - Talking with the accused.
- The Fact Finder shall execute their duties within five (5) days of the Judicial Board Chairperson's receipt of the complaint

Investigative Committee Hearing:

- Within ten (10) calendar days of the Judicial Board Chairperson receiving the complaint, the Investigative Committee will conduct a hearing to discuss the facts and circumstances surrounding the complaint.
- Hearing schedule:
 - The complainant and the accused may attend the hearing.
 - Each party may present facts to support their position.
 - Each party will be permitted five (5) minutes to communicate directly to the Investigative Committee at the hearing.
 - The Fact Finder will strictly enforce the five (5) minute time limit.
 - An opposing party may not be in the room while the other party is presenting their case to the Investigative Committee.
 - One or both parties may choose to not appear at the hearing.
 - By not appearing at the hearing, a party does not concede any part, or the merits in general, of their case.

- The Investigative Committee shall make a finding of whether a Code of Conduct violation has occurred and what the appropriate sanction should be.
- The Committee shall meet together, in private, and out of the presence of the complainant and the accused.
- The Investigative Committee must unanimously decide that a Code of Conduct or Bylaws violation has occurred.
- If there is no unanimous agreement, the complaint is dismissed without prejudice.
- The Judicial Board Chairperson shall inform the complainant and the accused the results of the panel's decision and the sanction imposed.
- The Judicial Board Chairperson shall maintain a file of the complaint, the Fact Finder's notes, the Investigative Committee's notes, and the Investigative Committee's disposition documentation.
- The Judicial Board Chair shall notify the Association President and Secretary in writing of the outcome of the hearing, the recommended sanctions, and the location of the documented file of the complaint.

Enforcement

- The Association President is solely responsible for enforcement of the Investigative Committee's sanction.
- The Association President shall notify the appropriate level directors of the sanction and their responsibilities for enforcement.
- The Association President, within one (1) day of receipt of the findings and sanction shall notify the parties and discuss with them the procedure for enforcement and the limitations on their participation in the Association if applicable.
- All decisions are final and not eligible for appeal to the Association.

WBLAHA GRIEVANCE FORM

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Complainant's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Player's Name: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Team/Level: _____

EVENT IN QUESTION

Date of Offense: _____ Accused's Name: _____

Specific Rule Violated: _____

Accused's Parent: _____

Witnesses: _____

_____ Team/Level: _____

In the space provided, please describe with specificity the event in question:

In the space provided, please describe how you would like to see the violation(s) resolved:

Complainant Signature

Date

CODE OF CONDUCT

Player Conduct

As a member of the WBLAHA it is important to develop hockey players and sportsmanship. Players should be aware that while wearing the Black and Orange that they represent both our association and our community. Any player representing White Bear hockey involved in disruptive, abusive, obnoxious or delinquent behavior may be disciplined by a coach, Program Director, the Board of Directors, or, if necessary, District Directors. All players are expected to read, understand and sign a code of conduct form. Failure to sign this code may result in the player being ineligible to play.

Dismissal of Players

No C Level or Traveling team coach may drop a player from a team's roster without first consulting with, and having the approval of, the WBLAHA Board of Directors. The following is a brief summary of major infractions and how they are dealt with in the C Level program:

Derogatory Language/Expletives

Player's use of derogatory language, expletives or verbally abusing another person may allow them eligible to receive a game misconduct or disqualification. Coaches, parents and team mates should reinforce the idea that to play this game is a privilege, not a right. The WBLAHA expects all its representatives to display the highest level of sportsmanship.

Fighting

1st Offense - Suspension for that game and the next game.

2nd Offense - Suspension for that game and the next two games.

3rd Offense - Suspension until a hearing is held before the WBLAHA Board of Directors.

Gross Misconduct/Match Penalty

The Referee-in-Chief will always be notified if any fighting, gross misconduct, use of derogatory language, or match penalties occur. He will, in turn, notify the Vice President of Hockey. Action on gross misconduct and match penalties will be referred to the WBLAHA Board of Directors for appropriate action.

All of the above mentioned penalties will be referred to the District 2 Director for action. Players are reminded that their coach and team mates deserve respect. The use of alcohol, cigarettes, chewing tobacco or illegal drugs can be considered cause for immediate dismissal from the program.

PLAYER GUIDELINES

- Be gracious and courteous in victory and defeat.
- Obey rules in spirit and in letter.
- Treat officials with respect and accept their decisions calmly.
- Play hard, play fair.
- Be a team player and give due credit to your teammates. Do not criticize your fellow teammates or coaches.
- Follow the directions of your coach and be willing to accept criticism of your

shortcomings.

- Attend all scheduled team activities except when properly excused.

Parent Conduct

Due to increased involvement in youth sports, associations now require parents to read, understand and sign a Code of Conduct form. Pressure to perform and improve often results in players losing interest in sports. This loss of interest by our youth occurs at all levels of play. It is for this reason that the WBLAHA encourages parents to adopt the guidelines listed below.

PARENT GUIDELINES

- Put the welfare of the player and team ahead of personal reflected glory.
- Do not over-emphasize winning. Losing games teaches valuable lessons.
- Know the requirements of team participation and see that your child lives up to them.
- Praise, don't criticize; point out the things he/she did well.
- Be humble after winning, graceful in defeat.
- Get to know the coach. Discuss your problems or the progress of your child with him/her at the proper time. The proper time is never right after a difficult defeat or in the company of other players or parents.
- Understand the coach is responsible for the entire team in both the locker room and on the ice.
- Do not impose your standards onto, or compare your past accomplishments with, your child.
- Understand that the chances of your child making a D1 or NHL team are small.
- Be a positive role model by showing good sportsmanship at all times to the coaches, referees, opponents, and teammates.

The association is requiring that both parents of Mites/8U through Junior Gold/19U players sign a code of conduct covering parental behavior during hockey events. We believe that participation in the WBLAHA a privilege extended to those willing to abide by rules of conduct that enhances the experience for all of us. Only skaters whose parents have signed the code of conduct will be allowed to participate in the WBLAHA. This code will be presented at the team meeting, and the signed code will be retained by the team managers. Failure to sign this code of conduct may result in the ineligibility for your player.

Any parent using derogatory language toward another person will be removed from the arena and may face further action by the WBLAHA Board of Directors.

Coaches Conduct

The WBLAHA takes pride in our coaches. Coaches spend an extraordinary amount of time with the youth of our association so it is vital they behave in a manner beyond reproach. Coaches wanting respect will conduct themselves respectfully.

COACH GUIDELINES

- Demonstrate a positive attitude to players, coaches and officials.
- Be prepared and plan ahead for all practices

- Be present at all practices and games. Make arrangements for assistant coaches to run practices when impossible to attend.
- Treat all players fairly.
- Strive to provide each player with positive and constructive feedback.
- Coaches are accountable to their level directors and the WBLAHA Board of Directors. Coaches will be required to sign a code of conduct. Failure to sign this code may result in the ineligibility to coach for the WBLAHA.

Player Code of Conduct Consequences

Failure to comply with the player code of conduct is detrimental to the team, our sport and our organization. If a player violates the code, parents are first encouraged to work toward problem resolution with coaches and team managers. If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, the level director should be contacted.

If the issue remains unresolved after discussion with their coaches, the manager and the level director, a parent may request a meeting with the WBLAHA Board of Directors to discuss the violation. The head coach will be notified if a meeting is to take place.

After this meeting, the WBLAHA Board of Directors will make a final determination as to who will arbitrate the situation. Board members of the WBLAHA are within their rights to set forth a penalty ranging from a one game suspension to a player removal from the team depending on the severity of the infraction. Continued violations of the Code of Conduct can result in permanent removal of members from the White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association.

Parent Code of Conduct Consequences

Violation of the parent code of conduct is detrimental to players, teams and our association. Any witness can bring a complaint regarding a violation of the code to the attention of a coach, manager or board member. Valid complaints will be addressed by the WBLAHA Board of Directors as soon as possible.

The WBLAHA Board of Directors is within its rights to set forth penalties ranging from a verbal warning to parental suspension from all team functions for any amount of time including the remainder of a season. During the suspension, the parent will not be allowed in any facility during a WBLAHA hockey event, regardless if the offending parent has another child on a different team.

Continued violations of the Parental Code of Conduct can result in permanent removal of a member from the White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association.

Coaches Code of Conduct Consequences

Violation of the Coaches Code of Conduct may be brought by any witness to a level director or the WBLAHA Board of Directors. The WBLAHA Board of Directors is within its rights to set forth a penalties ranging from verbal warnings to outright removal depending on the severity and frequency of the offense(s).

Policy Statement & Member Conduct

As an association we strive to develop skill, sportsmanship, effort and teamwork through the game of hockey. Players, parents, and volunteers are reminded that when they are involved in activities associated with the WBLAHA they represent our community. The expectation of the Association is that all members and its affiliates conduct themselves appropriately. The following policy statement and member conduct forms require signatures by coaches, players and parents and provided to team manager in order for teams to be registered for district play this season.

Any member or affiliate involved in use of profane language, in disruptive, threatening, abusive, or otherwise socially unacceptable behavior will be subject to disciplinary action.

Disciplinary actions will be based on the severity and frequency of violations. Results can range from verbal warnings to expulsion from the WBLAHA.

The following guidelines should be followed when reporting a conduct issue:

- A written report must be made of observed unacceptable behavior. The report should be communicated with the appropriate association member/authority.
 - 1st level - Head Coach,
 - 2nd level - Level Director,
 - 3rd level – Board of Directors Member.
- Any person of authority is required to pursue and investigate the report. All head coaches receiving complaints shall also involve the Level Director as soon as a report has been communicated.
- The Level Director shall within 24 hours, assess the severity of the offense and make the following determination:
 - A) The investigated offense does not warrant action,
 - B) Corrective action has been recommended to the individual(s) and is deemed acceptable, and
 - C) Forward to the Corrective Action Committee for a formal review.
- Any of the parties involved that do not agree with the determination of the Level Director may request a formal review by the Corrective Action Committee.
- Members of the Corrective Action Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.
- If a formal review is required, a maximum of two persons from opposing sides of the alleged infraction will be allowed to be present. The review will be held within 72 hours of alleged infraction.
- The determination of the Corrective Committee shall be deemed final.

The following is a brief summation of major infractions and their penalties.

- Any player, coach, parent or volunteer using derogatory language towards anyone will receive a game misconduct or disqualification.

- Fighting
 - 1st offense - game misconduct,
 - 2nd offense - game misconduct plus one game,
 - 3rd offense - suspension until hearing by Corrective Action Committee.
- Gross Misconduct/Match Penalty - suspension until hearing by Corrective Action Committee.
- Smoking or use of a controlled substance - suspension until hearing by Corrective Action Committee.

Dismissal of Player: C Level/Traveling Coaches or the Corrective Action Committee are not authorized to drop a player from the team roster or the WBLAHA without first consulting with, and having the approval of, the WBLAHA Board of Directors.

I understand and agree to the WBLAHA Member Conduct Policy Statement

Player Signature & Date	Parent Signature & Date



White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association Player Code of Conduct

I understand that it is a privilege to play hockey in the White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association and as a member of the _____ team for the 2017-2018 season, I, _____, agree to the following Code of Conduct:

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, fans, volunteers and referees at every practice and game.
- I will not swear or use abusive language on the bench, in the locker room, in the arena and/or at any team function.
- I will not throw equipment.
- I will treat teammates, coaches, opponents, facilities, fans and referees with respect.
- I will not drink alcohol, smoke, chew tobacco or use any other illegal substance at the rink or any team function.
- I will respect and adhere to all rules and Code of Conduct of the WBLAHA, District 2, Minnesota Hockey and USA Hockey.
- I will express any concern through proper channels in a respectful manner.
- I understand that any player who cannot abide by these rules or violates them will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the WBLAHA handbook.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

This signed Code of Conduct must be submitted to your team manager. Your manager must submit all Conduct forms to the Registrar in order for your team to be registered for the season. Noncompliance may result in ineligibility for the player.



White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

As a parent of a White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association youth hockey player, _____
_____, I understand that:

- It is a privilege, not a right, for my child to play youth hockey.
- Sportsmanship and fair play are essential to the sport of hockey and are important skills that our children learn from youth hockey.
- Our children learn from our examples, and we as parents need to exemplify the highest level of sportsmanship by supporting all players, coaches, team manager, referees and parents.

Therefore, I agree to the following Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct:

- I will fulfill my team financial obligation promptly.
- I will fulfill my team/Association volunteer responsibilities.
- I will never use abusive behavior towards anyone involved in my child's game, or while attending an association game, at any arena.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, fans, volunteers and referees at every game.
- I will not create a public display of anger toward coaches, players and/or spectators in any arena or via email, letter and/or phone calls to the team.
- I agree to the 24 hour rule which states "no parent in a fit of frustration or anger over their player's playing time, position or coaching will contact the coach in any manner until 24 hours has passed."
- I will respect and adhere to all rules and Code of Conduct of the WBLAHA, District 2, Minnesota Hockey and USA Hockey.
- I will express any concern through proper channels in a respectful manner.
- I understand that any player who cannot abide by these rules or violates them will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the WBLAHA handbook.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

This signed Code of Conduct must be submitted to your team manager. The team manager must submit all Conduct forms to the Registrar in order for your team to be registered for the season. Noncompliance may result in ineligibility for your player.



White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association Coaches Code of Conduct

The White Bear Lake Area Hockey Association takes pride in our coaches. As the highest representative of the WBLAHA at any game and/or team function, it is important that our coaches set the example for the team and the community.

Therefore:

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, fans, volunteers and referees at every youth hockey event.
- I will treat players, parents, fellow coaches, opponents, facilities, fans and referees with respect.
- I will refrain from the use of any inappropriate language within the presences of players.
- I will not drink alcohol, smoke, chew tobacco or use any other illegal substance at the rink or while the players on my team are under my supervision/responsibility.
- I will respect and adhere to all rules and Code of Conduct of the WBLAHA, District 2, Minnesota Hockey and USA Hockey.
- I will express any concern through proper channels in a respectful manner.
- I understand that if I cannot abide by these rules or violates them I will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the WBLAHA handbook.

Coach's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Coach's Name (printed): _____

This signed Code of Conduct must be submitted to your team manager. The team manager must submit all Conduct forms to the Registrar in order for your team to be registered for the season. Noncompliance may result in ineligibility for your team.

USAH INSURANCE

By registering as a member of USA Hockey you are automatically enrolled in the USA Hockey insurance program. For current information on coverage and filing a claim, please visit usahockey.com and look under the "Membership" tab.