

**USA HOCKEY, INC.**  
**2023 ANNUAL MEETING: USA HOCKEY CONGRESS MEETING**  
**LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM**

**PROPOSAL NUMBER:** 2023 AM – High School Section Proposal #1

**NAME OF PUBLICATION:** Annual Guide

**MAIN HEADING:** Rules & Regulations

**REGULATION (Heading):** CLASSIFICATIONS

**BY-LAW (Heading):**

**Section:** II CLASSIFICATIONS

**Reference (sub-section):** II B. (1)

**Paragraph / Page no(s):** pages 149-150

**CURRENT WORDING:** (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11)

**HIGH SCHOOL**

Restricted to amateurs who are enrolled as full-time students (grades 9-12), and under 20 years of age on or before December 31 of the Playing Season. Eligibility shall not exceed eight (8) consecutive semesters starting with the player's freshman year (9th grade).

For home-schooled students, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at a high school and is designated as carrying sufficient credits to be considered a full time-student for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the high school upon the student completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements.

**Clarification:** Those High School students graduating mid-year shall no longer be considered full-time students and, therefore, are no longer eligible to play High School hockey, effective on their last day of attending classes full-time as defined by the school.

The High School National Championship shall be divided into four (4) divisions; Division I (Pure), Division II (Combined), Prep School Division and Girls. All four (4) divisions will be played under the High School National Championship Tournament. Each division shall compete for their own National Championship. Following definitions for each division:

**Division I (Pure):** A community based academic high school where teams consist of players attending the same high school as full-time students who are eligible to play in sanctioned varsity sports at that school.

**Division II (Combined):** Community or non-community based academic high schools where teams consist of players representing more than one high school who are full-time students eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at any one of the combined schools.

A High School player residing in one Affiliate may not play on a National Tournament bound Division II (Combined) High School team in a different Affiliate unless both the Affiliate where the player resides and the Affiliate where the player desires to play have granted permission. In the event that a High School player has been denied such permission to play on a Division II (Combined) High School team other than in the Affiliate where the player resides, the player may appeal such denial to the National Championship Appeal Committee.

**Prep School Division:** Boarding schools or Academies that house players in a school dormitory or with billet families, and non-community based high schools consisting of full-time students attending the same school and non-community based online schools. All teams, players and coaches must register with USA Hockey prior to application for participation.

**Girls Division:** Pure, Combined, or prep school teams consisting of full-time, female students attending the same high school or prep school, attending more than one high school/prep school, or full-time students that are eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at that school.

***NOTE:*** High School teams shall compete in their appropriate division which shall be governed by eligibility requirements by the respective Affiliates before determining its representation. To encourage the growth of Division I (Pure), an Affiliate with Division I (Pure) teams must send a Division I team to the High School National Championship Tournament before applying for a spot in the Division II (combined) division. All High School Division teams must play a regular season schedule in a high school league as a team and shall not be an "all-star" team formed for the purpose of attending a High School National Championship Tournament.

Any Affiliate with a Division I (Pure) team that cannot be fielded for that tournament, for whatever reason, can petition the USA Hockey High School Section for a waiver of the Division I requirement. Waivers will be considered on an individual basis.

These classifications apply completely and without modification to all interleague and interstate or interdistrict series in USA Hockey regional playoffs and national championships.

**SPECIFIC WORDING OF PROPOSAL:** (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11)  
(as it should appear with new wording-**bold**, Deletions-~~strike~~through)

**HIGH SCHOOL – Pure (Division 1), Combined (Division 2), Prep and Girls Teams**

Restricted to amateurs who are enrolled as full-time students (grades 9-12), and under 20 years of age on or before December 31 of the Playing Season. Eligibility shall not exceed eight (8) consecutive semesters starting with the player's freshman year (9th grade). **Fifth year and Postgraduate (PG) players are not eligible to participate on USA Hockey High School national championship bound registered teams.**

For home-schooled students, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at a high school and is designated as carrying sufficient credits to be considered a full time-student for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the high school upon the student completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements.

**Clarification:** Those High School students graduating mid-year shall no longer be considered full-time students and, therefore, are no longer eligible to play High School hockey, effective on their last day of attending classes full-time as defined by the school.

**High School teams shall register in their appropriate division which shall be governed by eligibility requirements of the respective Affiliates.**

~~The High School National Championship shall be divided into four (4) divisions; Division I (Pure), Division II (Combined), Prep School Division and Girls. All four (4) divisions will be played under the High School National Championship Tournament. Each division shall compete for their own National Championship.~~ **The following definitions apply to High School team registration classifications:**  
~~for each division:~~

**Division I (Pure):** ~~A community-based academic high school~~ **High school teams where teams that** consist of players attending the same high school **or participating in the same educational program** as full-time students who are eligible to play in sanctioned varsity sports at that school.

**Division II (Combined):** Community or non-community based academic high schools where teams consist of players representing more than one high school who

are full-time students eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at any one of the combined schools.

~~A High School player residing in one Affiliate may not play on a National Tournament bound Division II (Combined) High School team in a different Affiliate unless both the Affiliate where the player resides and the Affiliate where the player desires to play have granted permission. In the event that a High School player has been denied such permission to play on a Division II (Combined) High School team other than in the Affiliate where the player resides, the player may appeal such denial to the National Championship Appeal Committee.~~

**Prep School Division:** Boarding schools or Academies that house players in a school dormitory or with billet families, and non-community based high schools consisting of full-time students attending the same school and non-community based online schools. All teams, players and coaches must register with USA Hockey prior to application for participation.

**Girls Division:** Pure, Combined, or Prep school-teams consisting of full-time, female students attending the same high school or prep school, attending more than one high school/prep school, or full-time students that are eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at that school.

~~**NOTE:** High School teams shall compete in their appropriate division which shall be governed by eligibility requirements by the respective Affiliates before determining its representation. To encourage the growth of Division I (Pure), an Affiliate with Division I (Pure) teams must send a Division I team to the High School National Championship Tournament before applying for a spot in the Division II (combined) division. All High School Division teams must play a regular season schedule in a high school league as a team and shall not be an "all-star" team formed for the purpose of attending a High School National Championship Tournament. Any Affiliate with a Division I (Pure) team that cannot be fielded for that tournament, for whatever reason, can petition the USA Hockey High School Section for a waiver of the Division I requirement. Waivers will be considered on an individual basis.~~

~~These classifications apply completely and without modification to all interleague and interstate or interdistrict series in USA Hockey regional playoffs and national championships.~~

#### **INTENTION OF PROPOSAL:**

Relocate language on High School National Championships to Rules and Regulations Section IX. Limit the language in this Section to High School Registration classifications.

Submitter:

Don Wright, High School Section Chair

*Proposal directed also to (Board, Council, Committee, Section): Board of Directors and all Councils, Committees and Sections*

Youth Council, VP – Keith Barrett

Girls Council VP – Don Gould

National Championship Tournament Chairperson

Affiliate Presidents Committee Chair

**AUTHOR:** Don Wright, High School Section Chair

**AFFILIATION:** High School Section Chair and Michigan District High School Section Representative

**EMAIL:** donvwright89@gmail.com

Date Submitted/sent to Affiliate (Dist Org): \_\_\_\_\_

Date submitted/sent to respective Council/Committee chairperson: March 28, 2023

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Please type or print all information. *(Please use another sheet if the current or proposed language does not fit in the space provided on the form)*
- When typing the "Specific Wording of Proposal", bold new wording and strike through deletions.
- Receipt of submission to the USA Hockey Executive Office has to be **on or before April 1, 2023.**
- E-mail to: **lauren.tesler@usahockey.org**
- Submit one copy to the respective Affiliate or District Organization/District Director(s) and a copy to the Chairperson of the appropriate Council, Committee or Section. The Affiliate may submit any comments to the USA Hockey National Office within one week of receipt.
- Use one form per proposal. Please reproduce this form as needed.
- You will receive confirmation from the Executive Director's office of receipt of the submitted agenda item/proposal(s). The deadline for receipt of submission will be strictly enforced in accordance with USA Hockey Bylaws.

**NAME OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEE/SECTION SUBMITTED TO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Review by Council/Committee/Section (*comment/recommendation*)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMITTED TO DISTRICT DIRECTOR(S):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Director(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Review by District Director(s) (*comment/recommendation*):**

\_\_\_\_\_