

**BY-LAWS OF  
THE NEW MEXICO AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**ARTICLE I  
NAME**

This organization shall be known as the New Mexico Amateur Hockey Association ("NMAHA" or "the Association").

**ARTICLE II  
ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION**

This organization exists as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of New Mexico, Sections 53-8-1 et. seq. (1978) as from time to time amended and supplemented by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico.

**ARTICLE III  
PURPOSE**

**SECTION 1. Purpose**

The purpose of NMAHA is to promote the ideals of good sportsmanship, citizenship and lifelong physical fitness for youth playing on Association teams. We value honesty, loyalty, courage, self-discipline and respect for others. The Association will achieve its purpose by providing supervised hockey programs in Recreational and High School teams. Within the recreational league, the teams should be kept evenly balanced with equity of participation for all players. Coaches must be endorsed by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE IV  
REGISTERED AGENT AND REGISTERED ADDRESS**

**SECTION 1. Registered Agents and Address**

The Registrar of the Association shall serve as the registered agent of the corporation. The NMAHA address is 1013 Rockaway Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87144.

**SECTION 2. Reports**

The Registrar of the Association shall file with the State Corporation Commission such reports as are required by law.

**SECTION 3. Resignation**

A registered agent of NMAHA may resign as agent upon filing a written notice, executed in duplicate, with the state Corporation Commission, the appointment of the agent shall terminate upon the expiration of thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice of resignation by the State Corporation Commission.

## SECTION 4. Forms

Copies of the Statement of Change of Registered Agent and/or Registered Office, the Affidavit, and the Resolution are retained by the Registrar of the Association in the official Association files.

## **ARTICLE V** MEMBERSHIP AND FEES

### SECTION 1. Classes of Membership

- A. Voting Members: each family unit of a player meeting the age and classification requirements according to USA Hockey guidelines and whose prescribed fees are paid is a voting member of the Association. Each family unit is entitled to one vote in all matters pertaining to the Association for each skater registered and with no delinquent fees in good standing with the Association. Parents exercise voting rights as representatives of their children registered with the Association. Any voting member is expected to perform reasonable service as needed by the Association and as requested by the Board of Directors.
- B. Non-Voting Member: non-voting members are those that do not qualify for voting status as defined under part A above.

### SECTION 2. Suspension

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend or revoke the membership of any individual of any class membership by a two-thirds vote, subject to USA Hockey guidelines governing such suspension or to NMAHA rules and regulations as provided for in these by-laws.

## **ARTICLE VI** QUORUM

### SECTION 1. Quorum of Directors

A majority of the voting Directors present in person, by telephone conference call, or by written proxy shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of the Board of Directors. Members of the Board of Directors may participate in and vote by conference telephone call. "The minutes of the meeting shall record members attending by conference call and by written proxy.

### SECTION 2. Quorum of Membership

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting members of the Association present in person or present through a written proxy delivered to the Secretary before the meeting shall constitute a quorum at meetings of the Association. A quorum, once obtained, shall be deemed to continue until the meeting is adjourned, notwithstanding the voluntary withdrawal of enough members or Directors to defeat a quorum.

### SECTION 3. Act of The Association

The act of the majority at a meeting where a quorum is present shall be the act of the Association.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

#### **SECTION 1. Board of Directors**

- A. The members of the Board of Directors shall be the elected officials of the Association. Nine Directors shall be elected for 2-year terms with five Directors elected in each odd-numbered year and four Directors elected in each even-numbered year.
- B. Board members shall be elected by majority vote on a secret ballot by the voting membership at the annual meeting (Article XIII, Section 3). Mailed ballots sent to the Chair of the Elections Committee by the deadline written on the ballots will be counted at the meeting and added to the totals of members voting in person at the meeting (Article X III, Section 4). If there is only one nominee for any open Director position, and no write-in candidates for that Director position, it shall be in order to move that the Secretary cast the elective ballot of the Association for the single nominee.
- C. Board members shall assume their official duties following the close of the annual meeting (Article XIII, Section 3) and shall serve for a term of two years or until the election or appointment of their successor.
- D. Each individual elected to the Board of Directors by the Voting Membership shall be a Voting Board Member. A Board member elected by the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy shall only be a Voting Board Member if they are a Voting Member. Seven of the nine members of the Board of Directors must be Voting Board Members, while up to two non-voting members of the Association may serve on the Board.

#### **SECTION 2. Officers**

At the first meeting of the newly-elected Board, Board members shall elect from among the Board the following officers: President, Vice President of Recreational Hockey, Vice President of High School Hockey, Treasurer, and Secretary. The term of office for all officers and committee chairpersons shall be two years.

#### **SECTION 3. Vacancies**

In case a vacancy occurs in any office, the Board will elect a successor at the next meeting from among remaining Board members. Vacancies on the Board will be filled by a person elected by majority vote of the remaining members of the Board to serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the Board member.

#### **SECTION 4. Identical Offices**

Under no circumstance shall the offices of President, Vice President of High School Hockey, Treasurer, or Secretary be held by the same person as another of these offices. The Office of Vice President of Recreational Hockey may be held by the same person holding another office listed in Section 2 above. Regardless of office, each Voting Board Member has one vote on any issue before the Board.

## SECTION 5. Removal

Elected officials under Section 2 above or other officials appointed by the Board may be removed from office by the persons authorized to elect or appoint the officials. Elected officials may be impeached according to Roberts' Rules of Order. Appointed officials may be removed by a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VIII** **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### SECTION 1. President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors; perform such other duties as may be prescribed in these By-Laws or assigned to him or her by the Association or by the Board of Directors; be an ex-officio member of all committees; chair the Disciplinary Committee (Article X, Section 4); coordinate the work of the officers and committees of the Association in order that the purposes of the Association will be accomplished; and serve as one of the NMAHA representatives to the Land of Enchantment Amateur Hockey Association ("LOEAHA").

### SECTION 2. Vice President for Recreational (House) Hockey

The Vice President for Recreational (House) Hockey shall oversee all recreational teams mounted by the Association. This individual is responsible for making recommendations to the Board for coaches of recreational teams; coordinating communication between the Board and other Association officials with coaches, assistant coaches and managers of recreational teams; assisting coaches and team managers in resolving discipline problems involving recreational team players; ensuring that recreational teams represent good standards of conduct and sportsmanship; and arbitrating issues arising between members of recreational teams including players, parents and coaches that cannot be successfully resolved at the team manager level.

### SECTION 3. Vice President for High School Hockey

The Vice President for High School Hockey shall oversee all High School teams mounted by the Association. This individual is responsible for making recommendations to the Board for coaches of High School teams; coordinating communication between the Board and other Association officials with coaches, assistant coaches and managers of High School teams; assisting coaches and team managers in resolving discipline problems involving High School team players according to rules of the New Mexico High School League; ensuring that High School teams represent good standards of conduct and sportsmanship; and arbitrating issues arising between members of High School teams including players, parents and coaches that cannot be successfully resolved at the team manager level.

### SECTION 4. Secretary

The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated to this office.

## SECTION 5. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have custody of all the funds of the Association; shall keep a full and accurate account of the receipts and expenditures; shall make disbursements as authorized by the Board of Directors; and shall submit a budget for the upcoming fiscal year to the Board for approval within thirty days of the start of the fiscal year. The annual budget can be amended by a majority vote of the Board at any time during the fiscal year. The Treasurer shall present a financial report at every meeting of the Board of Directors and shall prepare a full financial statement to be given to the Board at least ten (10) days before the annual meeting. The Treasurer shall also make a full financial statement at the annual meeting. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of such books of account and records to conform to the requirements of ARTICLE XIII, Section 1.

## SECTION 6. Additional Duties

Officers of the Association may have other duties assigned to them by the Board for periods of time prescribed by the Board.

### **ARTICLE IX**

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Board of Directors may vote to solicit, interview and hire an Executive Director. The Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors during Board meetings and as required by the board, perform such duties as prescribed by the Board. At a minimum, the Executive Director will perform the duties of fundraising for the Association and the major administrative duties required by the Board of Directors. Compensation for this position shall be determined by the Board of Directors on an annual basis but shall only be authorized based on available assets and revenues to justify the expenditure of Association funds for this purpose. The Executive Director shall not be a family member of any member of the Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE X**

#### STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

##### SECTION 1. Standing Committees

The standing committees of the Association shall be the Election and Disciplinary Committees.

##### SECTION 2. Special Committees

The Board may form special committees by majority vote. The motion to create a special committee shall state the purpose and duration of each special committee. Special committees will automatically cease to exist on the stated expiration date in the motion, unless amended by the Board of Directors.

##### SECTION 3. Election Committee

- A. An election committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and be composed of at least three (3) members of the Association, none of whom shall be running for office in the upcoming election. The Board shall appoint one of these members to be Chair of the committee.
- B. The election committee shall seek qualified nominees for each elected office to be filled and report its nominees to the membership at least 14 days prior to the annual meeting. Official ballots shall provide a place for members to place write-in candidates.

## SECTION 4: Disciplinary Committee

The President shall be responsible for forming a Disciplinary Committee before the start of each season to review and investigate all incidents requiring review by such a committee under USA Hockey rules or the NMAHA Code of Conduct as it deems necessary. The Disciplinary Committee shall conduct all hearings as outlined in the USA Hockey Annual Guide. A majority of members of the Disciplinary Committee must be members of the Association.

### **ARTICLE XI**

#### CODE OF CONDUCT AND LEAGUE PLAYING RULES

A Code of Conduct and League Playing Rules as adopted and amended from time to time by the Board of Directors shall be attached to these By-Laws as Exhibit "A." The Code of Conduct and League Playing Rules shall supplement, and shall be consistent with, the USA Hockey Rules. In case of conflicts between the Code of Conduct and League Playing Rules and USA Hockey Rules, USA Hockey Rules will prevail. The Association shall, at the beginning of each playing season, distribute the Code of Conduct and League Rules to the players, the parents, the coaches, and the State Referee-in-Chief.

### **ARTICLE XII**

#### REGISTRATION AND FEES

##### SECTION 1. Registration

Registration shall be held at such times and places as the Board of Directors shall determine.

##### SECTION 2. Dues and Fees

All persons registering with NMAHA shall have all applicable fees and dues paid in accordance with fee schedules distributed at registration in order to participate in Association activities. If, during the playing season, a person becomes delinquent in dues or fees by more than thirty (30) days or by dates set by the Board, he or she will not be allowed to participate in NMAHA activities until the delinquent dues or fees are paid.

### **ARTICLE XIII**

#### BOOKS AND RECORDS

##### SECTION 1. Place of Keeping

The corporate books and records of accounts and the official files of the Association shall be kept at the registered office or the principal office of the Association. All official records, both financial and administrative, shall be retained for a period of not less than six (6) years. All records shall be maintained in such a manner that succeeding members of the Board of Directors can readily and easily access the information. The Corporate records shall be available for inspection by the members.

##### SECTION 2. Notice of Meetings of the Board of Directors

Notice to members of regular meetings of the Board of Directors or of the Association members shall be given on a timely basis. Announcing the date, time and place of the next meeting at the close of the prior meeting fulfills this requirement. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held once a month during the

playing season designated by the Board. The Board may meet at its discretion outside the dates of the regular playing season.

### SECTION 3. Annual Membership Meeting

The annual meeting of the voting members of the Association shall be held each year during the month of April at a place and time to be designated by the Board of Directors.

### SECTION 4. Voting and Proxies

Each member of the Association designated a "voting member" in Article V shall have one vote for each skater who is a member of that family unit registered with the Association and in good standing (no delinquent fees) on each matter submitted to vote of the membership. Members may vote in person at the Annual meeting (Article XIII, Section 3) or additional membership meetings called by the Board (Article XIII, Section 6), by submitting written ballots by the deadline specified on the ballot in cases in which the Board of Directors utilizes a written ballot, or by giving a written proxy to the NMAHA secretary prior to the meeting for which votes are being taken for all other matters.

### SECTION 5. Consent in Writing

Any action which may be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action to be taken, is signed by the appropriate number of Directors entitled to vote on the matter.

### SECTION 6. Additional Membership Meetings

Additional meetings of the voting members of the Association may be held each year on dates, place and time designated by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE XIV** FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of this Association shall begin on April 1 and end the following March 31.

## **ARTICLE XV** COMPENSATION

The Association may compensate and or reimburse in a reasonable amount its members when such compensation is approved by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE XVI** LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION

### SECTION 1. Personal Liability

No Director, Officer, or member of this Association shall be personally liable for the obligations of the Association.

## SECTION 2. Indemnification

The Association may, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, indemnify any Director, Officer, former Director or former officer against the expenses, costs, and attorney's fees of any action, suit or proceeding, civil or criminal in which that Director, Officer, former Director or former officer is made a party by reason of being or having been a Director or officer of the Association. No person, however, shall be indemnified if he or she is guilty of negligence or misconduct in the performance of his or her duties as a Director of this Association.

## **ARTICLE XVII**

### AMENDMENTS/REVISIONS TO THE BY-LAWS

Revisions or amendments to these by-laws may be proposed by any member, including any member of the Board of Directors. Proposed revisions or amendments to the by-laws must be considered by the Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting. In order to be considered by the full membership, proposed revisions or amendments must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the Board. Proposed revisions or amendments approved by the Board must be submitted to the membership for approval. At its discretion, the Board may call a meeting of the membership to approve proposed amendments and revisions that may or may not include a provision for mailed ballots as outlined in Article XIII, Section 2 of these by-laws, or may choose to conduct a written ballot only. If a meeting of the membership is called by the Board, members may also vote by giving a written proxy to the Secretary before the meeting (Article XIII, Section 4). Proposed amendments submitted to the membership require a two-thirds vote of the members voting in person, by written ballot or by proxy. Members must be given a period of fourteen (14) working days to consider and vote on all proposed revisions and amendments to these by-laws.

All amendments or revisions to the by-laws approved by the Board of Directors and the membership shall be filed with the State Corporation Commission no later than thirty (30) days after adoption by the Association.



**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT AND LEAGUE PLAYING RULES**

A Code of Conduct and League Playing Rules as adopted and amended from time to time by the Board of Directors shall be attached to the By-Laws. The Association shall, at the beginning of each playing season, distribute the Code of Conduct and the League Playing Rules to the Players, Coaches, Parents and the State Referee-in-Chief.

**SECTION 1. Code of Conduct**

The players and participants of NMAHA recognize that their conduct is a critical factor in the success of the organization. In an effort to ensure that all players and participants understand what is expected of them, NMAHA has developed the following Code of Conduct. This Code is in keeping with the goals of USA Hockey and reflects NMAHA's commitment to make youth hockey a safe and enjoyable experience. Association coaches, players, managers and family members will:

- A. Conduct themselves, both on and off the ice, in a manner consistent with good sportsmanship, fair play, and respect for all others.
- B. Not use profanity, racial and/or ethnic slurs, gestures, or language that antagonizes, criticizes or damages another's self-esteem.
- C. Conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the physical safety of all players, participants and spectators.
- D. Conduct themselves before, during and after practices and games in accordance with the rules of NMAHA and USA Hockey and in a manner that does not disrupt or interfere with the ability of others to enjoy the sport and improve their skills.
- E. Treat the equipment and facilities (rink, locker rooms) with care and respect.
- F. Treat the personal property of others with care and respect.

In the event that a player, coach or manager does not abide by these rules of conduct and/or the rules of USA hockey, he or she will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the rules of USA Hockey and/or NMAHA

**SECTION 2. League Playing Rules**

All games and practices shall be governed by USA Hockey and LOEAHA rules and regulations. In cases in which LOEAHA rules conflict with USA Hockey rules, USA Hockey rules will prevail.

**SECTION 3. Protests**

Protests involving officiating at league games shall be governed by USA Hockey rules and regulations. No protest of a game will be considered unless it involves a misinterpretation of the playing rules. A protest should be registered with the Head Referee.

#### SECTION 4. Player Misconduct

Any player who receives a game penalty shall automatically be suspended from playing the next game of that team. That means if a game misconduct penalty is given to a player in the recreational league, it does not affect any competitive team (i.e., NM Warriors) he or she may be on. Players receiving a match penalty are suspended from all play on all teams until a disciplinary hearing is held.

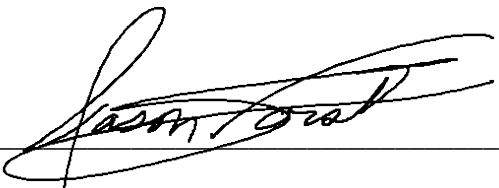
#### SECTION 5. Coaches Missing Practice

Coaches who miss games or practices without proper notification may be suspended by the Board of Directors at its discretion.

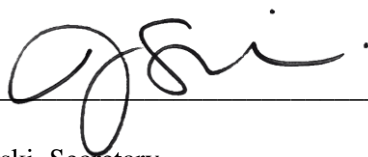
#### SECTION 6. Personnel on The Ice or Player's Bench

Only those individuals sanctioned by USA Hockey are allowed onto the ice or on the players' bench during a practice or a game.


**Date Approved/Signed:** July 2, 2024



Jason Foist, President



Jasy Shiparski, Secretary



Margaret McNatt, Registrar