



**Minnesota River Bulldog Youth Hockey
Association Handbook
2025-2026**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[WELCOME NOTE](#)

[MINNESOTA RIVER BULLDOG YOUTH HOCKEY OBJECTIVES](#)

[COMMUNICATIONS TO BULLDOG YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION](#)

[REGISTRATION FOR 2025-2026 SEASON](#)

[REGISTRATION](#)

[Payment Policies](#)

[Financial Assistance Process](#)

[Refund Policies](#)

[VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES](#)

[Volunteer Option](#)

[Buyout Option](#)

[Volunteer Deposit](#)

[No Show Policy](#)

[VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AND COMMITTEES](#)

[Non-critical Volunteer Positions](#)

[Critical Volunteer Positions](#)

[FUNDRAISING REQUIREMENTS FOR 2025-2026 SEASON](#)

[Fundraising Deposit](#)

[REGISTRATION FEES FOR 2025-2026 SEASON](#)

[Player levels](#)

[Squirt, Girls 10U, Girls 12U, PeeWee and Bantam players](#)

[Mite Level Players](#)

[BULLDOG HOCKEY EARLY ADVANCEMENT POLICY](#)

[Requirements](#)

[Team Need Process](#)

[Individual Request Process](#)

[HOC Guidelines for Playing and Ice Time](#)

[Team Guidelines](#)

[Player & Coach Equipment & Apparel](#)

[LOCKER ROOM SUPERVISION POLICY](#)

[Locker Room Monitor Rules](#)

[Mite Level Locker Room Policy](#)

[Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices](#)

[CO-ED LOCKER ROOM POLICY FOR SQUIRT/10U LEVELS AND ABOVE](#)

[MINNESOTA RIVER BULLDOG YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PLAYER, PARENT & COACHES CONDUCT CODE](#)

[GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE POLICY](#)

[THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS](#)

WELCOME TO MINNESOTA RIVER BULLDOG YOUTH HOCKEY

The puck is about to drop for the start of another BULLDOG Youth Hockey Association season! The Bulldog Hockey Handbook introduces the skater and their hockey family to the policies, procedures, and processes necessary for the season to be successful. Each year everything is assessed, tweaked, and updated, so please take the time to read and seek out answers to any questions.

MINNESOTA RIVER BULLDOG YOUTH HOCKEY OBJECTIVES

1. To provide youth the opportunity to participate in the sport of ice hockey.
2. To promote the participation of youth in the sport of ice hockey.
3. To prepare youth for the possibility of future participation in the sport of ice hockey.

MINNESOTA RIVER BULLDOG YOUTH HOCKEY COMMUNICATION

1. The Bulldog Youth Hockey [website](#) is the primary source of information about the Association. Team pages, calendars, policies & procedures, forms, board & committee contact information and the current Handbook are all available here. Please check here frequently throughout the season for updates.
2. Team Coordinators relay the majority of information throughout the season. Most team information and communication will be via email and SportsEngine.
3. SportsEngine App - A more informal yet team-specific way of communicating between coaches and parents. Please manage the settings on your SportsEngine account to receive alerts and communications via text or email.
4. Social Media- Follow our Facebook page [Bulldog Youth Hockey](#) and our Instagram page [bulldogyouthhockey](#) for various updates and event information.

REGISTRATION FOR 2025-2026 SEASON

Please visit the registration tab on the [Bulldog Hockey Website](#) for registration information, links and detailed instructions. The registration deadline for the 2025-2026 season is September 15th, 2025. If you have any outstanding fees from the previous season, payment is required before your registration for the current season will be accepted.

NOTE: Players not registered by the specified deadline will not be guaranteed a spot on a team.

*Registration for Mites Levels 1-4 is extended through November 30th, 2025.

Any registration questions should be directed to the Registrar via email at registrar@bulldoghockey.org.

The following registration requirements must be completed prior to participating in on-ice activities:

1. Obtain USA Hockey Number
2. Government-issued birth certificate - new players to the Bulldog Hockey association need to submit this to the Registrar
3. *NEW THIS SEASON* Volunteer Deposit Checks:
 - 12U/Bantam players who are in their last year of association hockey: please place Volunteer deposit check, post-dated 4/1/2026, in the Bulldog Youth Hockey dropbox (by concession stand) prior to 10/7/2025. Volunteer checks will only be returned if a family fulfills all of its volunteer hours. If all hours are not completed, the check will be cashed. If a portion of the required volunteer hours are completed a family will receive a check back for the remainder of hours not worked times \$50.
 - All other families: We will bill via SportsEngine at a rate of \$50/hour for any unfulfilled DIBS hours after April 1st, 2026. The due date for payment will be April 15th, 2026. Please monitor your volunteer hours on DIBS; watch for communication updates throughout the season regarding your balance. There will be no payment plan option for unfilled DIBS hours. The association reserves the right to require full buyout option

at registration in future seasons for anyone who fails to pay their volunteer hours balance by the April 15th deadline.

PAYMENT POLICIES

Registration fees may be paid in full at the time of registration or staggered payments may be made via the payment plan available at time of registration. The Association reserves the right to remove any player from their team if a payment is submitted with insufficient funds.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROCESS

In some instances, with limited financial resources, the MRBYHA Board may grant full or partial financial assistance in the form of discounted/waived registration fees and seasonal dues. Please contact the MRBYHA President by completing the following application: <https://forms.gle/HFepKZdz91yet6tL9> prior to September 7th, 2025 to be considered for financial assistance. The President will review your request (discussed confidentially with the MRBYHA board) before granting relief. A request must be submitted and reviewed prior to registering your player. Incomplete applications or applications not received prior to the deadline will not be accepted.

REFUND POLICIES

Any player who wishes to withdraw from the Association must submit a written request to the Association Registrar and President in writing prior to the deadlines below. Please note, no money earned through fundraising or fundraiser buyouts can be refunded. Refunds will be given based on the following guidelines:

- 100% of total registration fees and volunteer deposit/payment (if applicable) will be reimbursed if a written request is submitted to the Association Registrar before the first day of evaluations for player levels squirts/10U through Bantam/12U.
- 50% of total registration fees and 50% of volunteer requirement will be waived if the written request is submitted to the Association Registrar before November 1st.
- 10% of total registration fees and any earned refunds of volunteer hours will be reimbursed if the written request is submitted to the Association Registrar before December 1st.

*Bantam/12U players who register with the Association, but also intend to try out for HS Hockey must inform HOC, the Association Registrar and President in writing prior to the first day of youth hockey evaluations. The November 1st dropout deadline will be extended to one (1) day after HS team placement announcements. If a player chooses to withdraw from the Association at this time, families will be refunded the following: 50% of total registration fee amount, 50% of volunteer deposit check plus \$50/hr for each volunteer hour completed (not to exceed 12 hours).

Fundraising obligation will be waived, however any fundraising dollars already raised for the current season cannot be reimbursed.

VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES FOR 2025-2026 SEASON

As we are a volunteer-based association, the goal of the Volunteer (DIBS) option is to distribute the workload among ALL of the hockey families.

Our hockey Association benefits from volunteer hours in three distinct ways:

1. The Association cannot sustain itself without the work hours contributed by Bulldog families. Examples: working at hockey tournaments, gambling events or serving on an Association committee.
2. The Association receives revenue as a result of some volunteer hours. Example: our concession stand in the Le Sueur Community Center or various gambling activities.
3. Our teams could not operate without the time and efforts of the Bulldogs families and friends who step up to work directly with our players and families. Examples: team coordinators and coaches.

VOLUNTEER OPTION

For those who opt-in to volunteering: A family with one player is required to volunteer 25 DIBS hours. A multiple player family is required to volunteer 40 DIBS hours. If you have more than one skater in the program, you qualify as a multiple player family. Volunteer hours must be worked by an adult 18 years of age or older unless otherwise specified.

The association uses DIBS, an online tool for members to view and sign-up for volunteer opportunities. Site members can browse assigned Dib Sessions (volunteer opportunities) and claim responsibility for Dib Items. Please see the Bulldog website for more information. If you would like to donate any additional hours worked to families in need, please contact the volunteer coordinator at volunteer@bulldoghockey.org prior to claiming a volunteer session on Dibs.

Volunteer opportunities are available from April 1st, 2025 to March 31st, 2026. It is your responsibility to seek and complete volunteer opportunities to ensure you fulfill your required volunteer commitment.

Working the clock/scoreboard, penalty box, running music, or locker room monitoring does NOT count toward the required DIBS hours. Those duties are the shared responsibility of the team.

BUYOUT OPTION

Families who wish to “buyout” of volunteer hours may do so at the beginning of the season during online registration.

VOLUNTEER DEPOSIT

NEW Volunteer deposit checks will only be required for last year 12U/Bantam players. Post-dated checks (4/1/2026) should be placed in the Bulldog Youth Hockey dropbox (outside the concession stand) no later than October 7th, 2025. Families who decide to make staggered registration payments are still required to submit their full volunteer deposit check at the time of registration. If deposit checks are not received by October 7th, 2025, your player will not be allowed to take the ice until the deposit is received. Volunteer checks will only be returned if a family fulfills all of its volunteer hours. If all hours are not completed, the check will be cashed. If a portion of the required volunteer hours are completed a family will receive a check back for the remainder of hours not worked times \$50.

***ALL OTHER FAMILIES*:** We will not be collecting volunteer deposit checks this season. If families have remaining DIBS hours after March 31st, 2026 they will be billed the remainder of their balance at a rate of \$50/hour via SportsEngine with a due date of April 15th, 2026.

NO SHOW POLICY

No-show penalty: If you claim DIBS hours and are a “no show” or do not find a replacement, you will incur a \$50 fee for each missed shift. If you cannot work your claimed DIBS shift and are unable to find your own replacement you must contact the Volunteer Coordinator via email a minimum of 48 hours prior to the start of the shift, otherwise you are subject to the \$50 penalty. No-show penalties will be billed via SportsEngine for the appropriate amount, failure to submit payment within 7 days may cause your player to be ineligible to participate in on-ice activities until payment is received.

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AND COMMITTEES

The Minnesota River Bulldog Youth Hockey Association is also made up of several volunteer positions and committees. Positions are open to all members of the Association and in most cases would help fulfill volunteer hours. If you are interested in getting involved with a committee or position, please email board@bulldoghockey.org or visit the Bulldog website Committees page for more information on the different positions and committees.

Non-critical Volunteer Positions

The following non-critical Association positions will fulfill the volunteer obligation for one player (25h):

Board Member (elected position)
Rostered Head Coach (requires HOC approval)
Rostered Assistant Coach (requires HOC and Head Coach verification of hours for approval)
Team Coordinator (chosen by coach) – *co-Team Coordinators for Mites 1-4 will split 25 hours*
Association Equipment Manager (requires Board approval)
Referee Manager (requires Board approval)
Website Administrator (requires Board approval)
Clothing Manager (requires Board approval)
Recruitment and Retention Coordinator (requires Board approval)
SafeSport Coordinator (requires Board approval)
Ice Scheduler in training (requires Board approval)
Concession stand opener/closers

The following position will fulfill 10 required volunteer hours:

District 9 Representative

Critical Volunteer Positions

Each year, the Minnesota River Bulldog Youth Hockey Association relies heavily on the dedication and service of volunteers who generously give their time for the benefit of the Association. Certain critical volunteer roles demand significantly more time and effort than what is typically required to fulfill standard volunteer hours. To recognize this commitment and encourage broader participation in the ongoing operations of Bulldog Hockey, we are expanding these key roles to include additional compensation. This compensation will be applied as a reduction in annual costs and may also help offset fundraising obligations.

Critical Positions must be approved each year by the board and include but are not limited to:

- President (Requires Board approval)
- Treasurer (Requires Board approval)
- Registrar (Requires Board approval)
- Fundraising Chair (Requires Board approval)
- Ice Scheduler (Requires Board approval)
- Concession Manager (Requires Board approval)
- Association Coordinator (Requires Board approval)
- Referee Scheduler (Requires Board approval)
- Marketing Chair (Requires Board approval)
- Gambling Manager, plus board approved 12 positions (Requires Board approval)
- HOC Chair (Requires Board approval), and 5 committee members plus 1 Mite Director
- Tournament Chair (Requires Board Approval)
- Sponsorships Committee Chair (Requires approval)
- Gambling Manager (Requires approval)
- Golf Tournament Chair (requires Board approval)

FUNDRAISING REQUIREMENTS FOR 2025-2026 SEASON

Family Maximum = \$600

Mite Levels 1-2 = \$125

Mite Levels 3-4 = \$250

Squirt/10U = \$350

PeeWee/12U = \$350

Bantams = \$350

Families have the option to buy out of their fundraising at the time of registration if they would like. See the [Fundraising Page](#) on the website for details regarding this season's fundraisers.

FUNDRAISING DEPOSIT

NEW Fundraising deposit checks will not be collected this season. All Fundraising requirements need to be completed by January 31st, 2026. Any remaining fundraising balance will be billed directly through SportsEngine with a due date of February 10th, 2026. Any players with an unpaid balance after this date will be ineligible to participate in practices, games, tournaments, etc until paid in full. There will be no payment plan option for owed balances.

Registration Fees for 2025-2026 Season

Level	USA Hockey Fee	Registration Fee	Fundraising	Volunteer
Mite Level 1 & 2	\$17-\$69	\$0 New Mites (First Year) \$190 Returning Player	\$125 per player OR \$600 Family Max	Single Player=25 Hours (\$1250 buyout) OR Family Max=40 Hours (\$2000 buyout)
Mite Level 3	\$17-\$69	\$325	\$250 per player OR \$600 Family Max	Single Player=25 Hours (\$1250 buyout) OR Family Max=40 Hours (\$2000 buyout)
Mite Level 4	\$17-\$69	\$325	\$250 per player OR \$600 Family Max	Single Player=25 Hours (\$1250 buyout) OR Family Max=40 Hours (\$2000 buyout)
Squirt/10U	\$69	\$675	\$350 per player OR \$600 Family Max	Single Player=25 Hours (\$1250 buyout) OR Family Max=40 Hours (\$2000 buyout)
PeeWee/12U	\$61-\$69	\$800	\$350 per player OR \$600 Family Max	Single Player=25 Hours (\$1250 buyout) OR Family Max=40 Hours (\$2000 buyout)
Bantam	\$79	\$850	\$350 per player OR \$600 Family Max	Single Player=25 Hours (\$1250 buyout) OR Family Max=40 Hours (\$2000 buyout)

PLAYER LEVELS

2025-2026 USA Hockey Classifications:

Mite Level 1 born on June 1, 2016 – May 31, 2021
Mite Level 2 born on June 1, 2016 – May 31, 2020
Mite Level 3 born on June 1, 2016 – May 31, 2019
Mite Level 4 born on June 1, 2016 – May 31, 2018
Squirt/Girls 10U born on June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2016
PeeWee /Girls 12U born on June 1, 2012 – May 31, 2014
Bantam born on June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2012

All players must register to play and be evaluated within their age groups, which are specified by USA Hockey.

Squirt, Girls 10U, Girls 12U, PeeWee and Bantam players

Players at these levels will be able to access information regarding evaluations on the Association website. Players are expected to attend all evaluation sessions unless they have notified the registrar at registrar@bulldoghockey.org prior to evaluations.

Mite Level Players

All players must have:

1. A current USA Hockey number
2. Completed online registration with Bulldog Hockey
3. A copy of a government-issued birth certificate submitted to the Registrar (email: registrar@bulldoghockey.org) before being allowed on the ice.

Our Mite Program is designed to help the development of our youngest players. Guidelines for levels of play for registration in our Mite program:

- Mite 1 - First year player (ages 3-9 years old)
- Mite 2 - Second year player (currently in Preschool/Kindergarten)
- Mite 3 - Third year and fourth year players (currently in First Grade/Second Grade)
- Mite 4 - Fifth year player/Last year in Mite Program (currently in Third Grade)

Coaches will evaluate players throughout the season and determine if a player should be moved to a different level, adjustments will be made as needed. Level placements are a guideline and the coaches have the right to move players at any given time during the season as they see fit to maximize the player's development.

BULLDOG HOCKEY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE INDIVIDUAL REQUEST PROCESS

This policy addresses any requests/needs to move players up one age level and/or girls trying out for boys teams. All potential moves must be requested by the parents of the player before consideration will be given. As a general rule, the association prefers that players are rostered at their Minnesota Hockey assigned age level/group.

Move Up

Players will be allowed to move up an age level ONLY if the following criteria are met:

1. There is a NEED for numbers at the older age level (based upon the Bulldog Hockey policy on team size requirements and maximums).
2. The player wishing to move up has the talent to participate competitively at the higher level (no player will be moved up who is not physically capable of playing at that level).
3. A player/parent can petition for their child to move up early in cases of excessive peer group situations such as their grade in school.

Requirements

1. Any player/parent wishing to be considered for early entry into a higher level MUST present a written request to the HOC no later than Bulldog Hockey's registration deadline (September 15th, 2025) (this does NOT include any late registration dates). You can email the request to hoc@bulldoghockey.org
2. Anyone submitting a request after the Bulldog Hockey registration closure date will NOT be considered for a move.

Team Need Process

If additional players are needed to make a team at a higher level, those who are entering their last year at the level below will be notified of the opportunity to participate with the older age group. Players who are interested in being evaluated to make the higher level must then notify HOC of their interest to do so. After evaluations, the players who show the most potential and the ability to compete with the higher level will be determined by the HOC. HOC may identify that it is not in the best interest to move any players up after evaluations in which other options may need to be explored for the higher team needing more players and those at the lower level will remain in their appropriate age level.

Girls Opting to Try Out for Boys' Teams

Female players are expected to participate on their age-appropriate girls' team unless they elect to be evaluated for placement on a boys' team. By choosing to try out for a boys' team, a player and her family are making a commitment to **remain with the boys' program for the duration of the season**, regardless of which team she is ultimately placed on. While exceptions may be considered by the HOC in limited circumstances—such as roster size concerns for boys/girls teams or other extenuating factors—such exceptions are not guaranteed. This policy is intended to promote thoughtful and informed decision-making by families, particularly in cases where there may be uncertainty about the player's placement on a top-tier boys' team.

Individual Request Process

- The HOC will consider all association and individual play ramifications when contemplating move-up requests.
- The HOC will present move-up recommendations to the board for approval before evaluations.
- Those who have been granted permission to potentially move up early will take part in the regular Bulldog Hockey evaluation process of the older age group.
- Decisions of approved move-ups will be made during the evaluations; players will be placed on their respective teams at the end of evaluations.
- If an individual who requested to move up does not make the top team at the higher level, he/she will remain at their age-appropriate level.
- If a player is moved up, they will be billed for the remaining registration fee of the upper level.

HOC Guidelines for Playing and Ice Time

- Refer to next section for playing time guidelines.
- Practice to game ratio shall be a minimum of 2:1 at the Squirt, PeeWee and Bantam levels and 4:1 at the Mite level. Tryout hours are included in practice hours. All tournament games, excluding District Regional, and State, will count towards figuring practice to game ratios at all levels.
- There may be 1 ½ hour blocks of time at the Squirt, PeeWee and Bantam levels which can be broken up by those respective coaches to allow for solo ice for the teams at each level.
- The following guidelines will be followed for number of events allowed at each level:
 - Mite: 10 (including tournament/Jamboree games)
 - Squirt/Girls 10U: 20-25 (including tournaments)
 - PeeWee/Girls 12U: 22-27 (including tournaments)
 - Bantam/Girls 15U: 25-30 (including tournaments)
- **No Parents or Siblings are allowed on benches during practices or games**

Team Guidelines

The following guidelines are to be followed regarding playing time at the Squirt, Girls 10U, Girls 12U, PeeWee and Bantam levels. Any playing time guidelines below are based on the assumption of adequate practice attendance and participation (effort, conduct) by the player. Playing time may be reduced if a player does not satisfy attendance and participation requirements. Coaches will review requirements and penalties at the beginning of the season with parents and players.

Level of play	Playing time	Power Play unit	Short Handed unit
Squirt A **	Equal over the course of the season.	Rotate lines	Allowed
Squirt B [^] , C Girls 10U [^]	Equal, rotate lines	Rotate lines	Rotate lines
PeeWee A	Earned, may not be equal, but should try to be equal over the course of the season.	Allowed	Allowed
PeeWee B* ^ Girls 12U* [^] Both **	Equal over the course of the season.	Rotate lines	Allowed
PeeWee C *	Equal, rotate lines	Rotate lines	Rotate lines
Bantam A	Earned, not necessarily equal.	Allowed	Allowed
Bantam B * [^] Girls 15UB B * [^]	Earned, may not be equal, but should try to be equal over the course of the season.	Allowed	Allowed
Bantam C *	Equal over the course of the season.	Rotate	Allowed

*Beginning players at these levels may be kept out of games, or play at a reduced amount, until the coach feels the player is ready.

**A goalie at these levels is not guaranteed 100% playing time as a goalie through the season even if they were the only one that tried out as a goalie. Players are encouraged to try the goalie position if they are interested. [^]If these are the highest registered levels at a given age level the playing time/power play/short handed rules of the "A" designation will apply to the "B" level

PLAYER & COACH EQUIPMENT & APPAREL

The Association maintains a consistent look for apparel and logos. There are no required apparel items, but spirit wear stores open throughout the season. Ordering windows are shared by email and on Bulldog social media.

Jersey Policy - Mites

All Mites are supplied with one player jersey when they become a Bulldog. The Bulldog jerseys are for the players to keep. The jersey is to be worn to all practices and games unless an alternate game jersey is given to the player. If an alternate game jersey is given to a player, that jersey must be returned at the end of the event or season. Jerseys should not be washed in bleach or dry cleaned.

Jersey Policy - Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam, Girls 10u & 12u:

The Minnesota River Youth Bulldog Hockey Association will have a consistent look with their game jerseys. No teams in the MRYBHA will have uniforms that differ from the MRYBHA approved uniform, unless approved by the board. (Ex. third alternate game jersey)

Game jerseys cannot be altered in any way. If a player's jersey is altered in any way it may prevent the player from participating in on-ice team events.

- Game jerseys cannot be signed by another player or professional player.
- Player patches (personal awards) cannot be sewn onto the game jerseys.
- Parents will purchase jerseys with the number assigned by the clothing manager.

Mite Level Equipment

As part of the player participation fees, the Association will provide shoulder pads, elbow pads, breezers, gloves, shin pads and skates for Mite skaters. Please note helmets, neck guards and sticks are not provided by the Association. Mite families please reference the website for dates and times of the equipment check-outs and check-ins. First time Mite skaters will receive a jersey to keep.

If you need assistance in finding equipment, contact the Equipment Manager, equipment@bulldoghockey.org.

Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam, Girls 10U & 12U Player Equipment

Families must purchase all player equipment. All players at these levels must also purchase a set of home and away game jerseys and coordinating socks. Jerseys can be reused each season until outgrown or damaged.

Player numbers are assigned at the beginning of Squirt/10U year. This number stays with the player through the end of Bantam season, unless a request to change is submitted. Please contact the Clothing Manager for a number assignment.

Goalie Equipment

The Mite, Squirt and Girls 10U levels will have goalie equipment provided as needed and subject to availability. Girls 12U, PeeWee and Bantam goaltenders must provide their own equipment.

Coaches

All coaches are required to wear a helmet during all on ice activities per Minnesota Hockey.

LOCKER ROOM SUPERVISION POLICY

It is the intent of the Bulldog Hockey Association to provide a place for our youth to change into and out of their hockey equipment in a safe environment.

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

Locker Room Monitor Rules

Minnesota Hockey (MH) acknowledges the Locker Room Monitoring Policy as established by USA Hockey. Monitors must be the same gender as the players and undergo background screening, SafeSport certification by MH, and board approval to serve in this capacity. When coaches are not the same gender as the players, coaches may not be in the locker room while players are changing unless the players have a base layer on or come to the rink in a base layer.

- No team or player shall be allowed to enter a locker room prior to a scheduled event until a locker room monitor is present in the locker room and such monitor shall remain in the locker room until the last player leaves the locker room unless coaches are present. When coaches are present in the locker room, they may serve as locker room monitors.
- Any coach's(es') meeting(s) with an individual, minor player shall be conducted on the ice, on the bench, in the locker room with the other team members and/or locker room monitor(s) present, or in an observable and interruptible setting.
- When a player is ejected from a game there must be at least two adults consisting either of locker room monitors or coaches in the locker room with the suspended player. If there is a break and players go to the locker room without coaches, a locker room monitor must be inside the locker room.
- Alleged violations of these rules shall cause a mandatory hearing to be held in accordance with MH Bylaw Article 6. If warranted, a suspension penalty may be levied upon the head coach or person in charge of the team if the head coach is not present. The penalty for violations of this rule shall be \$500 for the first offense, \$1,000 for the second offense, and \$2,500 for the third offense. These fines are the responsibility of the offending team and shall be paid to the applicable district.

MN River Bulldog Hockey team levels Squirts/10U and above shall require all locker room supervisors to complete a background check, complete SafeSport certification and be approved by the SafeSport Coordinator prior to entering any locker room.

Parents/family members who do not have this approval are not allowed in the locker rooms under any circumstances and will be considered in violation of USA Hockey SafeSport Guidelines. Coaches may serve as locker room monitors for the intended purpose.

Mite Level Locker Room Policy

Mite level players are encouraged to arrive in the locker room already dressed in a base layer. Naturally, with our youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed. We encourage parents to teach their players as young as possible how to get dressed so that players will learn as early as possible how to get dressed independently. In circumstances where parents are permitted in the locker room, no parent or coach should be alone in a locker room with an individual minor player who is not their child. One or more Mite level players will not be allowed in a locker room unsupervised.

Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, are not permitted to be used or visible in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be taken outside of the locker room. It may be permissible to have the locker room supervisor collect phones.

CO-ED LOCKER ROOM POLICY FOR SQUIRT/10U LEVELS AND ABOVE

The Bulldog Hockey Association has adopted the *minimum attire policy* for teams that are co-ed. This locker room policy is set forth by USA Hockey which states:

- *All players should be required to arrive at the rink wearing their hockey base layers or shorts and t-shirts (in good condition - no holes or tears in clothing) under their street clothes. All members of the team must have this minimum attire before entering a co-ed locker room so that no player of one gender has the opportunity to see players of the opposite gender in a state of dress/undress.*
- **MN RIVER BULLDOG YOUTH HOCKEY WILL STRICTLY ENFORCE THE CO-ED LOCKER ROOM POLICY. ANY PLAYER WHO IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A SAFESPORT MISCONDUCT VIOLATION AND SUBSEQUENT PENALTIES.**

MINNESOTA RIVER BULLDOG YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PLAYER, PARENT & COACHES CONDUCT CODE

The Minnesota River Youth Bulldog Hockey Association was organized to promote youth hockey at all levels. This organization strives to develop hockey skills, self-confidence, self-discipline, a sense of team loyalty and good sportsmanship in a fun and enjoyable atmosphere.

The success of the organization depends upon the commitment of players, parents and coaches. By accepting membership in the Minnesota River Youth Bulldog Hockey Association, players, parents and coaches agree to adhere to the standards of this organization. The MRYBHA reserves the right to dismiss any player or coach, or take appropriate action against any parent, whose conduct is detrimental to the organization without refund of any fees that may have been paid.

Expectations of Player Conduct

Bulldog hockey players are expected to strive to the best of their ability to achieve coach's practice and game objectives.

- A. Players will be on time for practices and games, and will notify the coach in advance if unable to attend.
- B. Excused absences include family emergencies, required church or school activities, illness, weather related emergencies and court orders.
- C. Unexcused absences will be dealt with by the respective coach and may include a one or more period suspension. Bulldog hockey players are expected to be loyal to their team and their teammates.
- D. Enthusiasm, leadership and supportive play are encouraged.
- E. Negative criticism of teammates will not be tolerated.

Bulldog hockey players are expected to condition their bodies and strive to improve their hockey skills.

- A. Players will perform to the best of their ability at all games and practices.
- B. Players will work to condition their bodies for peak performance.
- C. Players will work diligently to master all aspects of the game.

Bulldog hockey players are expected to be responsible for their own conduct and its consequences both on and off the ice.

- A. Players will compete with USA Hockey Official Playing Rules and graciously accept the decisions of game officials.
- B. Players will refrain from obscene language or gestures.
- C. Use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs is expressly prohibited, as per Minnesota Hockey guidelines.
- D. Players will respect the property of the arenas in which they play.
- E. Any conduct deemed inappropriate by the coach will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Expectations of Parent and Coaches Conduct

Parents and coaches of Bulldog hockey players are expected to accept winning and losing as mature adults. It is the parents and coaches' duty to teach players to understand the meaning of winning and losing.

- A. Parents and coaches will react graciously to wins and refrain from seeking scapegoats such as biased officials, poor ice surface, or poor performance by players or coaches when the team loses.
- B. Parents and coaches will help players learn from their losses, to put a lost game behind them and to look forward to the opportunity to play in the next game.
- C. Parents and coaches will convey a positive attitude toward the Bulldog Hockey Association; its philosophy and goals.

Parents and coaches of Bulldog hockey players are expected as spectators and coaches to conduct themselves in a manner that exemplifies good sportsmanship.

- A. Parents and coaches will accept the decisions of game officials without criticizing, booing or using obscene language towards officials at any time during or after a game.
- B. Parents and coaches will treat other players with the courtesy, respect and considerations that they would want other parents and coaches to show their sons and daughters.
- C. Parents and coaches will not attend practices or games while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. The Association reserves the right to request such individuals to leave the arena.

Parents of Bulldog hockey players are expected to support all coaches and coaching decisions.

- A. Parents will ensure their players are on time for all practices and games.
- B. Parents are encouraged to attend as many games as possible to show their support for the team.
- C. Practice and games are under the direction of the coaching staff. Parents will allow the coaches to coach and correct deficiencies in hockey skills.
- D. Parents are encouraged to make suggestions or to resolve conflicts with coaching staff by following appropriate channels stated in the Grievance Policy.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE POLICY

The Minnesota River Youth Bulldog Hockey Association is committed to ensuring fair play and treatment for all members of the Association, as well as our volunteer and paid partners. The Association recognizes that, during its activities, diverging opinions and difficulties can arise leading to complaints about a member, team official, policy or practice. The MRYBHA Grievance Policy is intended to provide our members, volunteers and referees access to a process by which complaints, disputes, or other significant concerns can be addressed, reviewed and resolved in a fair and balanced approach. This process is intended to provide individuals a forum to communicate with members of the MRYBHA Board when all attempts to resolve an issue have failed. Player conduct, attendance, swearing, attitude and other minor items should be handled through team rules.

1. The aggrieved party should discuss, in person, any complaints, disputes or other significant concerns directly with the individual(s) immediately involved in or having knowledge of the issue. Ideally, most issues are resolved at this level. Players and parents agree to wait at least 24 hours after a game or practice prior to initiating this conversation. Parents and coaches, or other involved parties, agree to conduct themselves professionally and respectfully at all times.
2. If the issue remains unresolved, the individual may file a Grievance Report with the President by completing the form in the following link: <https://forms.gle/fvCeHiptz9v7dnyn6> . He or she will convene a group to include him/herself, another member of the Board, and a member of HOC (Hockey Operations Committee) or other committees applicable to the complaint. This group will review the facts of the situation with the parties involved and identify a fair resolution to the issue. This group will report all grievances reported and the recommended resolution to the Board of Directors. All decisions made by the BHA Board of Directors as laid out above are final.
3. No grievances will be heard by any member of the Board until a Grievance Report has been filed.
4. No grievances will be addressed at monthly Board meetings.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please visit the [Board page](#) on the Bulldog website for contact information for current board members. The Board generally meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Please check the Bulldog website calendar each month to confirm the exact meeting time and location. An annual meeting of the membership is held each spring to elect directors and to provide a summary of the previous season.

