



## HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

### ARTICLE I OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE

The mission of FWAHA is to provide all local hockey players, families and coaches with a premier development experience.

The FWAHA vision is to develop the whole athlete and allow players to showcase their skills at all levels of competitive hockey.

A. The League is organized as a segment of FWAHA and shall be operated to:

1. Organize, facilitate and oversee an amateur competitive hockey program in which members of the Association may participate in league competition, competition with other programs within the State of Indiana and other surrounding states.
2. Facilitate and foster national sports competition through participation in the Indiana state high school tournaments known as the Indiana State High School Hockey Association State Invitational Tournament (the "State Championship Tournament").
3. Promote the education of Indiana high school student athletes about the sport of hockey, its technical fundamentals, and the importance of team interaction.
4. Help support and promote the state sponsored all Team Indiana teams.
5. Help support the FWAHA 16U/18U teams through coordinated scheduling.

B. Teams shall be organized to allow interested and qualified players an opportunity to play high school hockey in a competitive local and state environment. This program will provide players with the opportunity to develop their hockey talent, physical skills, and social skills. The primary objectives of the Fort Wayne Amateur Hockey Association - High School Hockey League are as follows:

1. Ice hockey is a team sport! The play, training, coaching, and education should be emphasized as such.
2. Individual player records should be de-emphasized at all levels, while true



emphasis should be placed upon individual effort, team play, sportsmanship, intensity, determination, and player development.

3. The mutual development of the individual participant as both a team player and as an individual person is to be stressed.
4. The development of both the physical and the mental skills necessary in ice hockey are to be pursued throughout the season through game situations, on practice ice, in educational sessions, and in dryland training.
5. Sportsmanship and fair play are to be emphasized.
6. High School Hockey requires a commitment and a level of intensity not generally found in other noncompetitive environments. As such, this level of play should encourage student athletes to develop and exhibit control over the higher levels of intensity required in reaching their fullest potential.
7. While High School Hockey is not guaranteed to provide equal ice time for all players, through the course of the season, coaches will make every effort to allow all players an equitable amount of playing time, in balancing team results and individual needs.

## **ARTICLE II HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE COMMITTEE**

- A. The FWAHA High School Hockey Commissioner shall chair this committee. All references to Commissioner as contained in this document refer to the FWAHA High School Hockey Commissioner as appointed by the FWAHA Board of Directors.
- B. **Commissioner:** The Commissioner should be a non-team individual, have a hockey background, great organizational skills, be fair and open minded, and a good communicator. The Commissioner shall have the duty to organize, coordinate, manage, and otherwise act as a tournament director for the League Tournament and other high school hockey tournaments hosted by the Association. In addition, the Commissioner shall provide information on the tournament dates, locations, format, playing rules, disciplinary procedure, entry fees and other pertinent matters to the Member Teams at such times as the FWAHA Board of Directors deems appropriate. The Commissioner shall oversee preparing the league schedule each year and coordinating with the rinks to obtain the necessary ice times for all varsity and junior varsity league games and league tournament games. The Commissioner shall have the duty to draft any proposed amendments to the Fort Wayne High School Hockey League Regulations and Procedures. The Commissioner shall perform other such duties as



determined by the FWAHA President, Board of Directors, FWAHA By-Laws and these High School Hockey League Regulations and Procedures.

- C. Suggested High School Hockey League Committee members shall also include:
1. **Team Director of each Member Team:** Each Varsity Member team is entitled to appoint one (1) director to serve on the High School Hockey League Committee. Usually this is the Team President but can also be delegated to another member of the team. Each Director shall promote the interests of the League and Association and not solely the interests of the Varsity Member Team which appointed such Director.
  2. **Registrar / SafeSport Coordinator:** The Registrar/SafeSport Coordinator shall be in charge of preparing each team's official USA Hockey roster and verifying that all players, coaches, and other volunteers are eligible to participate as per all the requirements of USA Hockey. In addition, the Registrar/SafeSport Coordinator will oversee that all aspects of SafeSport are followed and reported as needed. The Registrar/SafeSport Coordinator will also provide updates to USA Hockey Rules and Guidelines to the High School Hockey Commissioner, Team Presidents, and other Committee members.
  3. **Statistician:** The statistician shall be in charge of monitoring the receipt of and analyzing the Member Teams' score sheets from all season games and shall provide the league standings and seeding order for the League Tournament hosted by the Association. The Statistician shall also be responsible for updating, and overseeing of the league standings, stats, and other information posted on the website and any program flyers. The statistician should be a non-team individual and have strong analytical and organizational skills.
  4. **Discipline Chairperson of FWAHA:** The Discipline Chairperson shall oversee and supervise all disciplinary actions involving players, coaches, parents, spectators, or members and ensure such actions are in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of USA Hockey and these High School Hockey League Regulations and Procedures. The Discipline Chairperson shall reside over conducting hearings and discussions for these actions and prepare findings and dispositions to be presented to the affected person(s) and report to the Commissioner and Committee as necessary. In addition, the Discipline Chairperson shall assist the Commissioner with the enforcement of these High School Hockey Regulations and Procedures and USA Hockey Rules.
  5. **Referee in Chief:** The Referee-in-Chief may or may not be an active referee/on-



ice official. The Referee-in-Chief shall keep the High School Committee and Member Teams informed with respect to rules of USA Hockey Inc., and of the Association. The Referee-in-Chief shall coordinate with the League to provide on-ice officials during League Games and the League Tournament, and the Member Teams for any additional games scheduled by the Member Teams. The Referee-in-Chief will agree annually with the League and Member Teams regarding the fees to be paid to the on-ice officials for all games. All game misconducts, major and match penalties shall be reported to the Referee-in-Chief by the on-ice officials working any game hosted by the League and Member Teams and the Referee-in-Chief will, in turn, notify the Discipline Chairperson of FWAHA and the Commissioner of such penalties. The Referee-in-Chief may appoint another on-ice official to fulfill his duties and obligations; such appoint is subject to the approval of the FWAHA Board of Directors.

6. **Special Events Coordinator:** The Special Events Coordinator shall coordinate special League events such as Opening Night, Veterans' Night, Cancer Night, Senior Night, Youth Hockey Nights, etc., and obtain volunteers to help with these events. This person shall also be a part of the FWAHA Marketing Committee and attend those meetings, to help communicate the special events of our High School Hockey League.
  7. **Marketing Coordinator:** The Marketing Coordinator shall be a part of the FWAHA Marketing Committee, attend those meetings, and help promote the marketing and fundraising activities of the League such as the FWAHA Yearbook, and other fundraising opportunities.
  8. Any other individual as determined by the High School Hockey Commissioner
- D. **Non-Bias:** Each committee member shall be non-biased towards any individual team, individual players or coaches, and help promote the benefit and objectives of the entire League and FWAHA. Non-parents are ideal but not required.
- E. **ISHSHA Fort Wayne Representatives:** The Commissioner shall appoint one (1) individual to serve, in addition to the Commissioner, as the League Representatives on the Board of Directors of the Indiana State High School Hockey Association (ISHSHA).
- F. Meetings will be held monthly or as deemed necessary by the Commissioner
- G. Any individual who would like to serve on the committee shall make their request in writing to the Commissioner.



- H. Any committee member may resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the Commissioner. A resignation is effective upon delivery unless the notice specifies a later effective date. The acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
- I. Any High School Hockey League Committee member may be removed, with or without cause, by a majority vote of the remaining committee members.
- J. The Commissioner may also recruit replacement or new members as needed.
- K. Voting: For matters to be decided by a vote, at the discretion of the Commissioner, each Member Team Director and other Committee Members are entitled to one vote. In some cases, the Commissioner may elect to have only the Member Team Directors vote.
- L. In cases where an action item or vote needs to take place prior to a scheduled meeting; such information will be communicated via e-mail.

### **ARTICLE III MEMBER TEAMS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. Membership in the League is open to any and all Indiana state high school hockey teams that are:
  - 1. Organized and operated to compete in interscholastic hockey competition
  - 2. Meet the membership team eligibility requirements as defined in the FWAHA by-laws and Indiana State High School Hockey Association (ISHSHA) by-laws.
  - 3. Compete in and are members of the Varsity division or the Junior Varsity division ("League Team"). Collectively, "League Team" is referred to herein as "Member Team" or "Member Teams".
- B. Current Member Teams (and school affiliation) consist of the following:
  - 1. Carroll Chargers (Northwest Allen County School District)
  - 2. Homestead Spartans (Southwest Allen County School District)
  - 3. Leo Lions (East Allen County School District, Bishop Luers High School, Blackhawk Christian High School, Canterbury High School, Concordia Lutheran High School and feeder schools)
  - 4. Fort Wayne Vipers (Fort Wayne Community Schools District, Bishop Dwenger High School and feeder schools).



- C. Categories of Membership: Membership in the FWAHA High School Hockey League shall be limited to Member Teams that shall pay such annual membership fees and have such privileges, as may be promulgated by the FWAHA Board of Directors from time to time. Each League Team (varsity and JV) is entitled to one (1) vote at the FWAHA Annual Meeting.
- D. Responsibility of Member Teams:
- Scheduling:** In addition to all other obligations of Member Teams provided in these Regulations and Procedures, each Member Team shall be responsible for the scheduling (and financial responsibility) of team practices and games, and securing ice sessions, on-ice officials, and off-ice officials for such games (other than League games and League tournament games hosted by the League). League regular season games, League tournament games, ice sessions, on-ice officials, and off-ice officials for these League games, will be scheduled by the Commissioner of the League. The financial responsibility for the ice sessions and on-ice officials for League games and League tournament games will be accessed by the League as part of the annual dues for Member Teams.  
**Practice Scheduling:** Each Member Team shall commit to their share of practice times as provided by the ice arena to the League Member Teams and work together to balance the earlier and later practice times throughout the season.
  - FWAHA Compliance and Participation:** All Member Teams must comply with these Regulations and Procedures and By-Laws of the League (FWAHA), and must participate and support the FWAHA's missions and functions (including but not limited to fund raising activities) as directed by the FWAHA Board of Directors
  - USA Hockey:** Each Member Team shall be a member in good standing with USA Hockey Inc., as a high school hockey team. A Member Team may not roster as a 16U/18U team without the FWAHA Board of Directors voting its approval. Rules regarding this type of play will be provided by the Executive Board at the time of approval. Each member team shall follow the Constitution, Codes of Conduct, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations in regard to equipment, playing rules of USA Hockey Inc.
  - ISHSHA:** Each Member Team shall be a member in good standing with the Indiana State High School Hockey Association (ISHSHA), and must follow all rules, regulations, by-laws, policies and procedures as published in the ISHSHA



Annual Guide or on the ISHSHA website.

5. **SafeSport:** Each Member Team shall follow the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook and all policies including:
- Sexual abuse
  - Physical abuse
  - Emotional abuse
  - Bullying
  - Threats
  - Harassment
  - Hazing
  - Locker Room
  - Social Media & Electronic Communications
  - Local Travel
  - Team Travel including overnight stays
  - Billeting
  - One-on-One Interactions
  - Athletic Training Modalities

These policies can be found on the USA Hockey website and may be updated from time to time. The current versions shall be included as part of each member team association's by-laws or policies.

In addition to the policies, the SafeSport Handbook includes information about the available and required training of USA Hockey and its member programs' employees, volunteers, administrators, coaches, parents and players on recognizing and reducing circumstances for potential abuse to occur; information on USA Hockey's Screening and Background Check Program; the availability and procedures for any person to report suspected abuse or misconduct (including protections from any retaliation or repercussions for such reporting); the procedures and means by which USA Hockey and its member programs should respond to allegations of abuse and misconduct; and how USA Hockey and its member programs will monitor and supervise the SafeSport Program to help ensure its effectiveness.

By combining all of these elements into a comprehensive SafeSport program, USA Hockey intends to create the safest possible environment for participation in hockey.

Refer to USA Hockey website for current information on SafeSport.



6. **Documentation:** Each Member Team shall procure proper player registration information and other documents and certifications as required by USA Hockey for all players, coaches and registered volunteers on the official team roster, and other team personnel as required by FWAHA and USA Hockey. Code of Conduct forms are to be per the USA Hockey Annual Guide (as a minimum standard) and should be completed and agreed to in writing by Players, Coaches, Parents/Spectators, and Administrators. The Fort Wayne Amateur Hockey Association High School Hockey League Participant Code of Conduct form must be completed by all players, coaches, and other registered volunteers. All code of conducts are included at the end of this document. Member Teams may also adopt their own team Codes of Conduct that are in addition to the standard USA Hockey Codes of Conduct.
7. **Conduct:** Member Teams are responsible for the conduct of its hockey program, including responsibility for the action of its players, coaches, and parents/spectators. The team responsibility includes maintaining full and complete team and crowd control measures, assuring that the players, coaches, parents/spectators, and boosters of the team conduct themselves at all times in a proper and sportsmanlike manner, assuring full compliance by all of the League rules, including those involving eligibility and undue influence. The League rules apply to all hockey teams and all players participating in any hockey game with another Member Team, or any non-member team. The FWAHA expects its members to observe not only the letter, but the spirit of the rules and regulations.
8. **Dressing Room/Crowd Monitor:** For all league **and non-league** games each team shall designate a volunteer at each game to supervise the area between the team dressing room and the ice, and to assist with clearing away spectators to allow players and on-ice officials free access to the ice or dressing room. This volunteer shall be near the dressing room at all times to lock/unlock dressing room and be immediately available to escort ejected players from the ice to the dressing room. Additional volunteers may be needed. Current SafeSport and background certifications are required.
9. **Team By-Laws:** Each Member Team must submit and have approved by the FWAHA Board of Directors their individual team by-laws and submit any updates for approval. Teams must follow their by-laws as written.
10. **Website:** Each Member Team shall use the FWAHA website as their primary website and keep their team page up to date.



11. **Contact Information:** Each Member Team shall require the parents of each player to provide contact information for each parent, including contact name, mailing address, phone numbers and e-mail address to the manager of each Member Team. Each Team manager shall provide the contact information of each player and parent to the Secretary of the League.
  
12. **Financial Obligation of Member Teams:** Annually the League Commissioner and Treasurer shall prepare a budget which shall be approved by the FWAHA Board of Directors. Each Member Team shall be assessed a fee set forth by the FWAHA Board of Directors to cover expenses of operating the League. Member Teams shall be responsible for paying any installments of the annual League assessment when due. The FWAHA Board of Directors shall have the authority to assess fines against any Member Team which fails to pay assessments when due. In addition, each Member Team desiring to compete in any tournaments directed by the League will be assessed by and shall be responsible to pay the League a tournament fee prior to obtaining eligibility to compete in such tournament.

E. Admission Requirements for Varsity Teams:

1. **New Teams:** New teams being formed either as a Varsity or JV must apply to the FWAHA by May 1<sup>st</sup> and submit to the FWAHA Board of Directors sufficient evidence that the proposed new team will not have a detrimental effect on an existing program (i.e., cause another team to have the potential to fold). The new team must provide documentation to the FWAHA Board of Directors on the long-term prospects for the team and its ability to compete at the varsity level.
  
2. **Existing JV Teams:** They need to apply to the FWAHA Board of Directors to move from JV status to Varsity status, as either a new team or as a “B” team of an existing varsity member. They must apply by May 1<sup>st</sup>. The FWAHA Board of Directors will decide upon the request by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Note: In the year prior to applying, the JV team should play a reasonable number of games against varsity level teams so that the competitive level of the team can be adequately judged.
  
3. **Change of Team School Affiliation:** If an existing Varsity or JV team desires to change the school affiliation, it must apply to the FWAHA Board of Directors by May 1<sup>st</sup>, and submit to the Board sufficient evidence that the proposed new school affiliation is needed, that there shall be sufficient players attending the new school to support the program, that the new school supports the program, and that the existing school will not have sufficient players and support to



continue.

## ARTICLE IV DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AND PROCEDURES

### A. Disciplinary Actions:

1. **Game Misconduct-League Game:** Any Member Team player or coach who receives a “game misconduct” during a League game shall be ineligible to compete in the next regularly scheduled League game.
2. **Game Misconduct-League Tournament:** Any Member Team player or coach who receives a “game misconduct” during the League Tournament shall be ineligible to compete in any additional games during the League Tournament, unless the FWAHA Disciplinary Committee is convened during the League Tournament at the request of the penalized player or coach or a member of the FWAHA Board of Directors, and the FWAHA Disciplinary Committee determines that a lesser penalty is appropriate under the circumstances.
3. **Match Penalty:** Any Member Team player or coach who receives a “match penalty” during any League game, non-league game or the League Tournament shall be required to appear before the Disciplinary Committee (FWAHA or USA Hockey) prior to regaining competitive eligibility and participation with the team (including team practices and other events).
4. **Detrimental Conduct:** Any player, coach, parent, guardian, or spectator whose conduct on or off the ice at or during a League game, non-league game, or tournament sponsored by the League is deemed by the FWAHA Board of Directors to be critically detrimental to the League or to be deliberately intended to inflict physical harm, non-physical harm, or injury to another player, opponent, spectator, game, or team official:
  - (a) USA Hockey Members (players, coaches, officials, volunteers) while performing in the role as a member are subject to By-Law 10 of USA Hockey.  
[https://portal.usahockey.com/cx/vice-president/governance/usah\\_bylaw\\_10-procedure\\_for\\_suspension\\_and\\_disipline\\_of\\_members.pdf](https://portal.usahockey.com/cx/vice-president/governance/usah_bylaw_10-procedure_for_suspension_and_disipline_of_members.pdf)
  - (b) Non-USA Hockey Members (parents, guardians, spectators or others) or USA Hockey Members who are not performing in their normal roles as registered are not subject to USA Hockey By-Law 10. They are subject to



the FWAHA Spectator Policy and/or shall be required to appear before the FWAHA Disciplinary Committee.

5. **Prohibited Conduct and Reporting:** FWAHA prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. Participants, employees or volunteers in FWAHA may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these regulations and procedures or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. Reports of any actual or suspected violations, you may email USA Hockey at [SafeSport@usahockey.org](mailto:SafeSport@usahockey.org) or may call 1-800-888-4656.
  6. **Spectator Policy:** The FWAHA Spectator Policy applies to all League games and League sponsored events. Each member team is also to adopt and enforce a spectator policy consistent with the FWAHA spectator policy. This is required by USA Hockey. The FWAHA Spectator Policy is near the end of this document.
  7. **Detrimental Electronic Messaging:** Any player, coach, parent, guardian, or spectator of any Member Team whose postings or messaging to the FWAHA website, social media accounts or other electronic means that is deemed by the Board of Directors to be critically detrimental to the League, FWAHA, or be deliberately intended to inflict physical harm, non-physical harm, or injury to another player, opponent, spectator, game or team official shall be required to appear before the FWAHA Discipline Committee.
  8. **Harassment:** Any player, coach, parent, guardian, or spectator that participates in any conduct such as, but not limited to, sexual harassment, gender harassment, ethnic harassment or racial harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action.
  9. Any such player, coach, parent, guardian, or spectator that appears before the FWAHA or USA Hockey Discipline Committee shall be subject to the action taken at the FWAHA or USA Hockey Discipline Committee hearing. Actions of the FWAHA Disciplinary Committee must be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of USA Hockey.
- B. **Composition of Discipline Committee:** The Discipline Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of the Discipline Chairperson of FWAHA, Referee-in-Chief, and other individuals appointed by the Discipline Chairperson. In the absence of a Discipline Chairperson of FWAHA, the FWAHA President or Commissioner may form an ad hoc committee as needed to handle specific situations.



- C. **Hearings:** The Discipline Committee (FWAHA or USA Hockey) will conduct hearings, as promptly as is reasonably possible after each game in which a match penalty was imposed, in which an appealed game misconduct was imposed or any other action in which a hearing is deemed necessary. All FWAHA discipline hearings conducted shall be documented in writing by a member of the FWAHA Discipline Committee. In addition to the members serving on the FWAHA Discipline Committee, the following individuals shall, if possible, be present:
1. In the case of a hearing involving a coach: the coach, Member Team Representative, the referee who imposed the penalty and such other witnesses as the coach desires may be present.
  2. In the case of a hearing involving a player: the coach, Member Team Representative, the referee who imposed the penalty, the player's parents or guardians and such other witnesses as the player desires may be present.
  3. In the case of a hearing involving the actions of a parent, guardian or spectator: the coach, Member Team Representative for both teams, the referee for the game in question, and such other witnesses as both Member Teams desire may be present.
  4. The charged coach, player, parent, guardian or spectator may be assisted, but not represented, by the Member Team representative, coach, or parents, guardians, as appropriate. In no case shall charged coaches, players, parents, guardians or spectators proceed through an attorney. The FWAHA Discipline Committee shall deal directly with the coach, player, parent, guardian, or spectator charged and not through any third party.
- D. Any charged coach, player, parent, guardian, or spectator can expect the following during a Discipline Committee hearing:
1. The charged coach, player, parent, guardian or spectator will be present throughout the Disciplinary Committee hearing and will have the opportunity to hear and respond to all information presented during the Disciplinary Committee hearing. A charged coach's, player's, parent's, guardian's, or spectator's questions and responses may only be directed toward the Discipline Committee.
  2. The charged coach, player, parent, guardian, or spectator will have the opportunity to present his or her own account of the incident, to present



witnesses, to submit written statements and to provide video evidence relating to the incident.

3. After all evidence and statements have been presented to the Discipline Committee, it is anticipated that the Discipline Committee will excuse all individuals attending the hearing who are not members of the Discipline Committee and will deliberate on the appropriate disciplinary action, if any, to be taken. The Discipline Committee will attempt to come to a decision immediately following the Discipline Committee hearing and to report its decision to the charged coach, player, parent, guardian, or spectator orally or in writing following the determination of its decision. The Discipline Chairperson will also provide a written report to the Member Team President, High School Commissioner, and the FWAHA Board of Directors.
- E. **Sanctions:** Cases considered by the Disciplinary Committee may result in any one or more of the following sanctions, depending on the gravity of the penalty. The following list should not be taken to be inclusive of all possible sanctions as this list may be enlarged or modified to meet the particular circumstances of a specific case:
1. No violation/no action
  2. Oral or written warning or reprimand
  3. Mandatory counseling
  4. Additional game suspensions
  5. Community Service
  6. Permanent suspension from attending or participating in any future games or any tournaments sponsored by the League
- F. **Appeals:** Any appeals from the action of the Discipline Committee shall be made in accordance with any applicable rules and regulations of USA Hockey.
- G. **Supplementation:** The specific provisions of this Article shall be deemed to be supplemented by the rules and regulations of USA Hockey (to the extent such rules and regulations are consistent with this Article).

## ARTICLE V COACHES AND REQUIREMENTS

- A. Coaches shall be evaluated and selected for positions based upon several factors:
1. Their ability to teach team and individual skills.
  2. Their ability to teach and demonstrate appropriate sportsmanship and



citizenship.

3. Their ability to relate to and work effectively with youth, with parents, and with other coaches.
  4. Their ability to represent and uphold the purposes of FWAHA and the High School Hockey League.
  5. Their ability to abide by the USA Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct.
- B. Head Coaches for each Member Team are chosen by the Member Team per each Member Team's by-laws. Assistant Coaches for each Member Team are chosen by that Member Team's Head Coach and approved per each Member Team's by-laws.
  - C. The Head Coach and all Assistant Coaches of each Member Team shall be submitted to the Commissioner and subject to the approval by the FWAHA Board of Directors. This should be completed in advance of tryouts for the Head Coach.
  - D. Each Head Coach and all Assistant Coaches shall have the completed the USA Hockey 16U/18U age-specific coaching education module prior to the beginning of any team activities (includes any practice or game).
  - E. Each Head Coach and all Assistant Coaches shall have completed any required USA Hockey SafeSport online module prior to the beginning of any team activities (includes any practice or game).
  - F. Each Head Coach and all Assistant Coaches shall have a certified Mid-Am background screening certificate on file (or verified through USA Hockey online team roster) with the League Registrar prior to the beginning of any team activities (includes any practice or game).
  - G. All High School Hockey Head Coaches shall be current on the USA Hockey Coaching Education requirements prior to the end of the calendar year, enrolling in annual coaching education class until they have received the Level 4 USA Hockey Certificate.
  - H. All High School Hockey Assistant Coaches shall be current on the USA Hockey Coaching Education requirements prior to the end of the calendar year, enrolling in annual coaching education class until they have received the Level 3 USA Hockey Certificate.
  - I. All Coaches shall adhere to the USA Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct, League Participant Code of Conduct, and require players to adhere to the USA Hockey Players



Code of Conduct, League Participant Code of Conduct, plus any additional Code of Conduct as determined by the Association or Member Team.

- J. The signed USA Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct and League Participant Code of Conduct shall be returned to the Member Team manager and an additional copy forwarded to the League Registrar. This is completed by each coach stating that he/she has read, understands, and will abide by the USA Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct and League Participant Code of Conduct.
- K. All High School Hockey League coaches must comply with all program requirements as determined by the FWAHA Coaching/Player Development Chairperson and the FWAHA Board of Directors.
- L. The FWAHA Coaching/Player Development Chairperson may have periodic meetings with the Head Coaches or all coaches during the season. The Head Coaches will be required to attend these meetings unless alternative arrangements have been made for an assistant coach to attend.
- M. Coaches shall be expected to remain in control of both their staff and team members in the playing (or practice) area, including dressing rooms and team warmup areas. USA Hockey Locker Room policies and procedures must be followed at all times. If necessary, appropriate disciplinary action of players is at the discretion of the coach.
- N. Serious rules or behavior infractions requiring further disciplinary actions are to be handled by the FWAHA Discipline Committee or by USA Hockey, Inc. officials as appropriate. Disciplinary actions involving coaches are to be reviewed and acted upon by the FWAHA Coaching/Player Development Committee, to then be referred to the FWAHA Discipline Committee, the FWAHA Board of Directors, or USA Hockey, Inc. officials, as may be appropriate under the specific circumstances for necessary actions.

## ARTICLE VI PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A. Player eligibility requirements to participate (includes games and practices) in the FWAHA High School Hockey League are as follows:
  - 1. Must be a regular, bona fide student in good standing attending a fully accredited school in grades 9 through 12, or be home-schooled, as approved by the Indiana State Department of Education, in grades 9 through 12.
  - 2. Must not have been enrolled in more than eight (8) consecutive semesters (or the equivalent thereof if the school of the player is not on a semester schedule)



beginning with grade 9, nor have participated at the High School level (varsity or jv) in the sport of ice hockey for more than four (4) years. Any player must provide to the Commissioner proper documents pertaining to scholastic and other information requested for ruling on eligibility status.

3. Must be an amateur and must be registered with USA Hockey as a player with a valid registration number at the time of any tryouts, practices, games or any other on-ice activity.
4. Must not have reached his/her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday before September 1 preceding the school year.
5. Must be academically eligible to play in the Indiana State High School Hockey Association (ISHSHA) Tournament in accordance with the ISHSHA Bylaws and/or Annual Guide. This includes:
  - (a) All academic eligibility requirements in accordance with the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) Rules 12 and 18 (as amended from time to time).
  - (b) All academic eligibility requirements imposed by the High School in which the player is enrolled.
  - (c) All academic eligibility requirements imposed by the team for which the player is rostered on.
  - (d) Student must be currently enrolled not later than the 15<sup>th</sup> school day of the current semester/trimester.
  - (e) Student must be currently enrolled in at least 70% of the maximum number of full credit high school subjects (or the equivalent) that the student can take. Minimum 4 full-credit courses. If Block 4 Schedule is used, the student must be enrolled in a minimum of 3 classes. [Ref ISHAA Rule 18-1].
  - (f) Must have received passing grades and earned credit, at the end of the last grading period, of at least 70% of the maximum number of full credit subjects (or equivalent) that the student can take. Note: Semester or trimester grades take precedence at the end of a semester or trimester.



- (g) Students who are ineligible scholastically at the end of a grading period, are ineligible to participate in games for the entire next grading period. Participation in practices and other team activities are permitted.
- (h) Home Schooled students, Transfer students, or students enrolled in Vocational, Virtual, or On-line courses will be eligible based on the requirements of the Indiana State High School Hockey Association (ISHSHA) and ISHAA rules 12 and 18 (as amended from time to time).
- (i) It is the responsibility of the player to provide all required documentation to support academic eligibility, prior to the established due dates, otherwise the player is deemed “ineligible” until documentation is submitted and approved.
- (j) For any discrepancy or inconsistency between these Regulations and Procedures and the ISHSHA By-Laws or Eligibility rules, the ISHSHA By-Laws and Eligibility rules shall take precedence.

6. Academic Eligibility Verification process:

- (a) Prior to the start of the season, and during January (after the end of first semester), each player will be required to submit to their Team President or Manager a completed Academic Eligibility Verification form that is completed and signed by a school official (principal, guidance counselor, athletic director, etc.). If the school official chooses to not complete this form, then the player must provide to their Team President or Manager an official copy of their grade report for the most recent completed grading period (that clearly specifies final grades and the grading period) plus a current class schedule that clearly specifies the number of courses currently enrolled in and the grading period. The Team President or Manager will supply these documents in a sealed envelope to the Commissioner prior to the due date that is established by the Commissioner. The Commissioner may also request a copy of the player’s official grade report after the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter grading period to verify eligibility for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter grading period.
- (b) The Commissioner shall review each document and determine eligibility status of each player. The Commissioner will notify the Team President or Manager of players who are eligible, not eligible, or requiring additional information.



- (c) IHSAA Rule 18-8 Special Education: If it is determined that a player is a learning-disabled student, academic eligibility will be determined in compliance to IHSAA Rule 18-8. This learning disability must have been detected prior to the start of the grading period for which eligibility is being determined. A certified copy of the player's Individual Education Plan (IEP) as completed and approved by the player's school must be forwarded to the Commissioner for consideration.
      - (d) When eligibility is in question by the player's Team President, Manager or the Commissioner, the player must show evidence from the principal, guidance counselor or athletic director of the player's school that the player is eligible to participate in interscholastic contests for the player's school in accordance with the rules adopted by the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA).
- B. All FWAHA High School Hockey League players must be listed on the official USA Hockey Roster of the Member Team to be eligible to participate in games and practices with that Member Team. **Exception for Goalies: Goalies who are rostered on a FWAHA High School Varsity or JV team may substitute for a missing goalie at another team's practice.**
- C. In order for a player to be eligible to play or tryout for a Member Team, the player must be current on all financial obligations to all Member Teams that a player has played for; and the player remains ineligible until all financial obligations have been resolved. FWAHA also adopts the policy adopted by USA Hockey pertaining to past financial obligations to non-Member teams.
- D. **PLAYERS ROSTERED ON ADDITIONAL TEAMS:** If a High School Hockey varsity player is an active player participant during the season (September 1<sup>st</sup> until the end of the State Tournament) on any hockey team other than a FWAHA member team, the player is still eligible for FWAHA High School varsity or JV hockey for the season.
  - 1. The player and parents are required to notify the FWAHA member team and the Commissioner prior to the player participating in any games with the non-member team. This notification must include the name of the team and their game schedule.
  - 2. The FWAHA High School Hockey League member team must approve and notify the Commissioner.
  - 3. The FWAHA High School Hockey League member team is responsible to obtain



a copy of all scoresheets for the games of the non-member team and forward these scoresheets to the FWAHA High School Hockey League Statistician. The FWAHA High School Hockey League member team may put this responsibility on the player's parents.

4. Team roster size limits and all other eligibility requirements for the league playoffs and ISHSHA tournament will still apply.
  5. Non-compliance to this section will disqualify the player from participating in the league playoffs and ISHSHA tournament.
- E. All FWAHA High School Hockey League players must be listed on an official USA Hockey Roster of a Member Team by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current season to be eligible to participate with that Member Team for the remainder of the current season including League playoffs and ISHSHA tournament. Players who are called up to a Member Team from the JV teams who are officially rostered after December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current season will be eligible to participate with that Member Team for the remainder of the current season including League playoffs and ISHSHA tournament if approved in writing by both the Commissioner and the ISHSHA Commissioner.
- F. All FWAHA High School Hockey League players must participate in a minimum of 60% of scheduled League games of their team to be eligible to participate in the end of season League playoffs. Players must be eligible to participate in the League playoffs to be eligible to participate in the ISHSHA tournament.
1. To receive credit for participation of a game, the player must be:
    - (a) Dressed in complete team uniform and protective equipment as required by USA Hockey for games.
    - (b) Listed and not crossed out on the official game score sheet.
    - (c) Participate on the ice during the pre-game skate, or at least 1 shift during the game.
  2. Players who do not meet the requirements may file a written petition for a waiver with the Commissioner who will review and submit to the FWAHA Board of Directors for consideration and approval. Factors to consider for petition approval include games missed due to injuries, family emergencies, and JV designation. Documentation may be required for consideration. Games missed due to suspensions, academic ineligibility, conflicting commitments to teams



outside the FWAHA, or other known or unknown reasons will not be considered. The reasons for the absence must be documented on the official game score sheet next to the player's name.

- G. Players who accumulate a combination of 4 game misconducts or match penalties during the season for all FWAHA affiliated teams and non-FWAHA affiliated teams, shall become ineligible to continue participation on all FWAHA affiliated teams for the remainder of the season.

Players who become ineligible due to accumulation of game misconducts or match penalties, may continue to participate with a FWAHA affiliated team on a probationary basis. This will require the player to appear before the FWAHA Disciplinary Committee to explain their conduct and provide volunteer service to FWAHA as determined by the FWAHA Board of Directors or Disciplinary Committee (such as helping on the ice with youth level skills practices or other activities around the rink). This provision does not apply to eligibility status for the ISHSHA tournament.

- H. If a player quits a FWAHA High School Hockey League varsity team they remain property of the team. The team has the option to reinstate the player if they have a roster spot available. Players must be released by the team, or cut at the following season tryouts, to participate on a different member team through the open draft. A "release" must be in writing from the team's Head Coach and President and approved by the League Commissioner.
- I. Players who refuse an open draft assignment to a varsity team, or assignment to the JV team, or quit the JV team are ineligible for high school hockey (varsity and JV) for the remainder of the season. Players who refuse an open draft assignment to a varsity team remain property of that team until released by the team, or cut at the following season tryouts.
- J. No monetary refund will be made if a player or team is suspended or quits League play.

## ARTICLE VII TEAM TRYOUTS AND PLAYER ASSIGNMENTS

- A. All teams are required to have team tryouts completed prior to September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Commissioner is to be notified in writing by the Member Team representative (Head Coach, President or Manager) of players selected and players released or cut, within 48 hours of the final tryout session. The Member Team representative must also contact every player who attended the tryout within 48 hours after the final tryout session informing them of being selected or cut. The Commissioner shall also notify all released/cut players of the open draft or other team assignment possibilities.



- B. Players who are not able to attend scheduled team or open draft tryouts, for any reason, must notify the Commissioner prior to the scheduled tryout. This notification can also be provided by the player’s parents or Head Coach. The Commissioner will provide such notice to the Head Coach of the affected team(s). If the Commissioner is not notified that the player will be absent prior to the scheduled team or open draft tryout, the player’s status may remain undetermined (not selected, cut, or released). Players who do not attend team tryouts or the open draft are not required to be selected, cut, released, or drafted.
  
- C. Beginning with the 2021-2022 season, Member Teams will be based on school districts as defined below:

<b>Member Team</b>	<b>School District</b>
Carroll Chargers	Northwest Allen County School district
Homestead Spartans	Southwest Allen County School district
Leo Lions	East Allen County Schools district, Bishop Luers High School, Blackhawk Christian High School, Canterbury High School, Concordia Lutheran High School.
Fort Wayne Vipers	Fort Wayne Community School district, Bishop Dwenger High School

- D. New players coming into the League, are initially property of, and must register and attend tryouts for their school district team defined in C above. This is determined by the school district attending at the time of tryouts, or most recently completed. A player attending a recognized Member Team school district is property of that Member Team until released from the Member Team.
  
- E. New players coming into the League who do not attend a school district defined in C above (including home schooled players) must register and tryout via the open draft procedure. This is determined by the school district attending at the time of tryouts, or most recently completed. Players drafted by a Member Team through the open draft procedure, become the property of the Member Team that drafted the player for their FWAHA High School Hockey career, or until they are cut or released from the Member Team. See also Player Transfers below.
  
- F. Returning Players must register and attend tryouts for the team they most recently played for and are the property of.
  
- G. **A player who attends a Member Team school district and is cut or released by such**



Member Team who has rights to the player, and is drafted by another Member Team, shall become the property of the Member Team who drafted the player for the next season. After a minimum of 1 season with the drafting Member Team, if the player desires to attend tryouts for their school district team that player must declare their intent by March 31<sup>st</sup> by written notice to both the head coaches of their most recent team and desired tryout team and the League Commissioner. The player can attend tryouts for only one team. If the player is cut by their desired team, he/she must go to the open draft pool. Note: The head coach who drafts a cut player needs to evaluate the commitment level of the player to return for future seasons and develop the desire for the player to remain with the team. The player must evaluate the risk of losing his/her spot on the team who drafted him/her against the risk of getting cut by their desired team and not making either team.

- H. Player Transfers (ISHSHA by-law): Any eligible player who has played for a Member Team who transfers to or desires to play for another high school which also sponsors a Member Team shall continue to play for his or her original Member Team for his or her high school hockey career unless that player requests and obtains a release from the President of the original Member Team's Board and team manager of his or her original Member Team and from the Commissioner of the applicable Recognized League. In the alternative, the player may choose to continue to play for his or her original Member Team and not seek a release. This School Transfer provision shall also apply in those circumstances where a high school which did not sponsor a Member Team is admitted as a Member Team. In those situations, if a player who attends the new Member Team high school is already playing for another Member Team, that player must request and obtain a release from his or her original Member Team in the same manner provided for students who transfer to a new high school. In any event, no player may be double rostered on two Member Teams during any point of the season, unless both Member Teams are part of the same hockey program. If a player requests a release under this Section 8.01 but is not granted such a release from his prior Member Team, he or she may appeal such decision to the Board of Directors which will review the decision and the facts related thereto (as promptly as possible after receipt of such appeal) and will make a final decision whether to affirm or reverse the failure to grant the requested release. Any such decision by the Board of Directors shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

All transfers between Leagues first must be adjudicated by the Leagues involved in accordance with their by-laws and rules and regulations of play. If a party contests the final decision of the League or Leagues an appeal as stipulated above may be made to the Commissioner of the ISHSHA Board of Directors. A player may not participate in any League or ISHSHA sanctioned practice or game with the team he or she is transferring to until all appeals have been completed and all financial obligations of the



player to their prior team have been satisfied. Any such decision by the ISHSHA Board of Directors shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

- I. All players will be required to provide a copy of their most recent completed semester grade report prior to the 2<sup>nd</sup> team tryout or open draft tryout whichever is applicable. This grade report is submitted at the tryout check in table and shall be forwarded to the Commissioner for review. The Commissioner will notify the head coach of any player who may be at or close to academically ineligible status prior to team selections or the open draft. Coaches may still choose to select or draft such players.
- J. All players shall be subject to the following procedure:
  1. If a Member Team does not have rights, or if a Member Team with rights has released or cut the player, the player shall enter the Open Draft if the player wants to be eligible to play on a Varsity team for the upcoming season.
  2. Players who are Home Schooled shall enter the Open Draft and once selected for a team shall become the property of that team until that player is either cut or released from that team. Home Schooled players are considered non-member players even though they may reside in a Member Team's school district.
  3. If a Varsity team drafts a player, the player becomes property of the drafting team subject to provisions G and H above. If another Varsity team does not draft a player, the player is eligible for the JV team and remains property of the initial Varsity team who cut the player.
  4. Players who are cut at a Varsity team tryout, who choose not to attend the Open Draft, are eligible for the JV team. The player remains property of the Varsity team who cut the player.
  5. Players who are cut at a Varsity team tryout, who do not want to be drafted by another Varsity team, are eligible for the JV team. This must be declared in writing prior to the final open draft tryout session (e-mail or signature/initials at check-in table). This provision also applies to those players who did not attend a Varsity team tryout. The Commissioner (or delegate) will notify the varsity team head coaches of these players prior to the open draft.
  6. If a team has more than two (2) goalies, they must send goalies to the open draft until they have just two goalies or all other teams have two goalies. (see also Article VIII-F-1)



- J. Players who are the child of the Head Coach may play for the team that the parent, stepparent, or legal guardian coaches, subject to the approval of the Commissioner. If approved, Team Assignment Procedures and Team Rights will be waived; all other Player Eligibility Regulations and League Rules will apply. This provision does not apply for Assistant Coaches.
- K. In the event that a player is assigned to a team through the Open Draft process, and has a brother and/or sister, the brother and/or sister also has the option to become the property of that team, so as to not cause hardship on the parents. The team is not required to select and can cut the brother and/or sister. In the case of legal guardianship of another student living in the same household as a FWAHA High School Hockey League team player, a petition may be filed with the Commissioner to be reviewed by the FWAHA Board of Directors and that decision will be final.
- L. If a player's older sibling had previously played for an existing Member Team, such player may petition the Commissioner and FWAHA Board of Directors to play for their older sibling's former team.
- M. USA Hockey Roster requirements:
  - 1. Beginning with the 2019-2020 season, Varsity Team initial rosters will be limited to 18 skaters plus 2 goalies. Maximum of 20 players (including a maximum of 18 skaters) are eligible to participate (dress) for games. See exception under Supplemental Tryouts and Open Draft section below. **For the 2024-2025 season, varsity team initial roster is limited to 19 skaters plus 2 goalies, plus 1 additional skater to be double rostered on both the varsity team and the JV team.**
  - 2. For varsity teams, no roster additions will be permitted after December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current season. Players added from the JV teams who are officially rostered after December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current season will be eligible to participate with that Member Team for the remainder of the current season including League playoffs and ISHSHA tournament if approved in writing by both the Commissioner and the ISHSHA Commissioner.
  - 3. The JV team rosters will be limited to 25 total players. Maximum of 20 players (including a maximum of 18 skaters) are eligible to participate (dress) for games.
  - 4. **Permanent Call-Up from Prep/JV to Varsity:** A Varsity Team may call-up any



player from the JV Team to fill in for a permanent vacancy caused by season ending injury, quit or release of a player from the varsity team

- (a) All transactions must be submitted in writing (e-mail) and approved by the Commissioner prior to any discussions with players or parents.
- (b) Request must be submitted to allow two business days for approvals in advance of the first practice or game. Example: For Wednesday night game, must submit by the end of day Monday to allow Tuesday and Wednesday for roster approval process.
- (c) The JV player may decline the call-up.
- (d) If a JV player is called up, the varsity team player being replaced must be removed from the varsity team's USA Hockey roster and replaced with the JV player to remain at or below the roster limits as defined in provision (M-1) above.
- (e) If multiple teams request a call-up of the same player from the JV team, priority will be determined by the date and time of the e-mail request as received by the Commissioner.
- (f) The player who is called up will have the option to transfer to the team who called up the player or remain with the team who previously had property rights to the player. This must be declared by March 31<sup>st</sup> to the Commissioner.
- (g) Consideration must be made to the JV team if they are lower on number of players.
- (h) This Permanent Call-Up provision does not apply if it will cause the JV team to go below 15 skaters or 2 goalies.
- (i) Any financial obligations including jerseys, equipment, apparel, and proration of ice/game fees must be paid to the JV team in full, prior to acceptance of call-up.
- (j) After approval by the Commissioner and confirmation from the FWAHA Registrar that the JV player has been submitted for addition to the team roster, the player may begin participating in team



practices.

- (k) The player must be listed on the official USA Hockey team roster to be eligible to participate in games. The roster is updated after approval by the State or Mid-Am registrar.
5. Players may be removed from the Varsity Team roster and subsequently added to the JV Team roster. Must be approved by the Commissioner. Both the player and the JV Head Coach must agree to this transaction and the player remains property of the varsity team. Otherwise, the team has the option to unconditionally release the player including any future team financial obligations.
6. **Temporary Call-Up from Prep/JV to Varsity:** This allows a JV player to fill in on a temporary basis to cover a varsity team that is excessively short on players due to short-term injury. Also allows an opportunity for a JV player to get a “taste” of varsity practice or game. However, we need to put limits on this to not cause hardship on the JV team. Remaining players on the varsity team should be allowed an opportunity for extra game ice time.
- (a) JV team must not go below 15 skaters and 1 goalie for a scheduled game.
  - (b) All transactions must be submitted in writing (e-mail) and approved by the Commissioner prior to any discussions with players or parents.
  - (c) Request must be submitted to allow two business days for approvals in advance of the first practice or game. Example: For Wednesday night game, must submit by end of day Monday to allow Tuesday and Wednesday for roster approval process.
  - (d) Temporary call-up requests are valid for 2 weeks after the player is added to the team roster. After 2 weeks, the request must be resubmitted to the Commissioner. Each JV player is limited to 2 temporary call-up requests for the season (regardless of varsity team).
  - (e) The JV player may decline the call-up.
  - (f) If multiple teams request a call-up of the same player from the JV team, priority will be determined by the date and time of the e-mail



request as received by the Commissioner.

- (g) The player who is called up remains the property of the team who previously had property rights to the player. The call-up is for the duration of the approved request only.
  - (h) After approval by the Commissioner and confirmation from the FWAHA Registrar that the JV player has been submitted for addition to the team roster, the player may begin participating in team practices.
  - (i) The player must be listed on the official USA Hockey team roster to be eligible to participate in games. The roster is updated after approval by the State or Mid-Am registrar.
  - (j) The varsity team shall carry spare jerseys, or the temporary player will need to use another player's jersey.
  - (k) No additional fees shall be charged to the JV player who is temporarily called up.
- N. If a player desires to play for a different Member Team, the player must first obtain a release from the Member Team President and Head Coach who holds the rights to that player. Then the player must receive approval from the Commissioner and the FWAHA Board of Directors. After approvals, the player will go into the Open Draft or Supplemental Draft to be possibly selected by another team.
- O. Any player who has a special hardship may petition the Commissioner and FWAHA Board of Directors to be assigned to a specific team. This permission will not be given without strong reason, hardship, etc.
- P. Any Member Team Coach or team representative found tampering with any other Member Team's players, Open Draft or Supplemental Draft players are subject to suspension by the Discipline Committee. Tampering includes, but not limited to, encouraging players to not attend their member team tryouts, encouraging players to display a poor showing ("sandbagging") to be passed over by another Member Team, or encouraging players to not show up for any tryouts and then petitioning the Commissioner or FWAHA Board of Directors to play for their team. Note: It is not the intent of the rule to create a "tattle tale" environment. Petty complaints will not be considered. It is the intent to deal with serious offenses that can be supported with facts and witnesses.



## **ARTICLE VIII OPEN DRAFT PROCEDURE**

- A. Players must be pre-registered to attend the Open Draft tryout, or previously attended a Member Team tryout and released or cut by that team. Players must check in at table and be assigned a numbered and/or colored practice jersey to wear during the tryout.
- B. All Head Coaches shall be present to evaluate the open draft prospects. Head Coaches may at their option utilize other evaluators.
- C. Each varsity team head coach shall appoint at least one assistant coach to work on-ice.
- D. The High School Hockey Commissioner will run the Open Draft, and keep minutes of the Open Draft procedure with particular attention to:
  - 1. Order of each team
  - 2. Names of each player taken
  - 3. Name of team drafting
  - 4. Record of each team passing
  - 5. Any agreements made by any teams
  - 6. Sign in sheet of all attendees
- E. Immediately following the open draft tryout ice session, the drafting of players will occur in a closed meeting room. Those allowed to attend the open draft meeting are the team coaches (varsity and jv), team President, Commissioner, and others as invited by the Commissioner.
- F. A player who is property of a team and misses their scheduled team tryouts may, upon approval of the Commissioner and the team's head coach, participate in the open draft tryout to be evaluated by their school district team. The team who has the right to this player must make their decision to select or release the player to the open draft, prior to the open draft selections.
- G. The Head Coach of each team (or delegate) will announce their draft selections. Teams will alternate selections until one team declares they have filled their roster. All



remaining players are available to the teams with open roster spots.

H. There will be separate drafts for goalies and non-goalies (skaters).

I. Draft for Goalies:

1. The open draft for goalies will consist of three stages:

- a. Stage 1 will consist of teams who did not make cuts of goalies at their team tryout and have less than 2 goalies.
  - b. Stage 2 will consist of all teams who made cuts of goalies at their team tryouts.
2. For each stage, the order of the Open Draft for goalies shall take place in reverse order of finish from the previous season's final FWAHA High School Hockey League regular season standings.
  3. Stage 1: Teams will be allowed to draft goalies until each team in Stage 1 reaches 2 goalies or passes. Teams with zero goalies will be allowed to draft one goalie prior to teams who already have one goalie.
  4. Stage 2: Once stage 1 is complete, stage 2 begins with the original draft order. Each team will draft until they reach 2 goalies or pass prior to 2 goalies.
  5. If a team passes when their turn is called, they will no longer be eligible to draft any additional goalies until the last team eligible passes.
  6. Goalies who attended a member team tryout and were not selected by any varsity team will remain property of the member team they attended tryouts for and become eligible to tryout for the JV team.
  7. Stage 3: Any remaining goalies in the open draft who did not previously attend a member team tryout (includes out of district goalies and goalies released from previous team) may be drafted by a team to establish team rights, and then become eligible to tryout for the JV team.

J. Draft for Skaters (non-goalies):

1. The open draft for skaters (non-goalies) will consist of three stages:



- a. Stage 1 will consist of teams who finished the previous FWAHA regular season league standings with 7 points or less out of 15 league games played (or points percentage of 23.3% or less if any league games are not completed due to cancellation by the Commissioner or League.
  - b. Stage 2 will consist of teams who finished the previous FWAHA regular season league standings with 8 points or more out of 15 league games played (or points percentage of greater than 23.3% if any league games are not completed due to cancellation by the Commissioner or League.
2. For each stage, the order of the Open Draft for skaters shall take place in reverse order of finish (final playoff seeding) from the previous season's final FWAHA High School Hockey League regular season standings.
  3. Stage 1: Teams will be allowed to draft one (1) skater until each team in Stage 1 has drafted one (1) skater or passes.
  4. Stage 2: Once stage 1 is complete, stage 2 begins with the original draft order. Each team will draft until they reach 18 skaters or pass prior to 18 skaters (or the approved maximum number of skaters allowed for the season).

Example 1 (1 team qualifies for stage 1): Teams are seeded A, B, C and D from the previous season. Team D finished the previous regular season league standings with 7 points out of 15 games played. Team D qualifies for stage 1. The draft selection order for skaters will be (until teams reach 18 skaters or pass prior to 18 skaters):

Stage 1: Team D

Stage 2: Team D, Team C, Team B, Team A, and continues until teams reach 18 skaters or pass prior to 18 skaters.

Example 2 (2 teams qualify for stage 1): Teams are seeded A, B, C and D from the previous season. Team D finished the previous regular season league standings with 3 points out of 15 games played, Team C finished with 6 points out of 15 games played. Both Team D and Team C qualify for stage 1. The draft selection order for skaters will be (until teams reach 18 skaters or pass prior to 18 skaters):

Stage 1: Team D, Team C

Stage 2: Team D, Team C, Team B, Team A, and continues until teams reach 18 skaters or pass prior to 18 skaters.

5. If a team passes when their turn is called, they will no longer be eligible to draft



any additional skaters until the last team eligible passes.

6. Skaters who attended a member team tryout and were not selected by any varsity team will remain property of the member team they attended tryouts for and become eligible to tryout for the JV team.
  7. Stage 3: Any remaining skaters in the open draft who did not previously attend a member team tryout (includes out of district players and players released from previous team) may be drafted by a team to establish team rights, and then become eligible to tryout for the JV team.
- K. **Players who opt out of the open draft are not allowed to be called up from the JV team (permanent) during the season, except by the varsity team who cut the player.** A previously released or cut player from a Member Team, who does not participate in the Open Draft, is not eligible to play for any other varsity team unless specifically approved by the Commissioner and FWAHA Board of Directors. If approved the player must follow the Supplemental Draft procedure.
- L. **At the conclusion of the Open Draft, the draft is considered complete. Any open roster spots can be filled through a second draft around mid-late August using the original open draft pool of players. The original draft order will be followed. Any new players who were not registered at the time of tryouts will follow the Supplemental Tryout and Draft procedure.**

## ARTICLE IX SUPPLEMENTAL TEAM TRYOUTS AND DRAFT

- A. Players who were not registered at the time of the scheduled Member Team tryout, or the open draft, will be considered “supplemental players” and are required to attend a team or league scheduled supplemental tryout. This also includes players who moved into the area after the initial tryouts and open draft.
- B. After the open draft, players desiring to join a FWAHA High School Hockey League team or JV team must contact the Commissioner. The Commissioner will advise the player of the options based on where the player attends school.
- C. After the open draft, to be considered, the player must be interviewed by the Commissioner and **a panel of other FWAHA Board Members or High School Committee members who are not affiliated with teams, as selected by the Commissioner (Supplemental Panel)**. The purpose of this interview is to determine whether or not there was any misconduct by any coach or team representative to manipulate the tryouts and open draft resulting in an unfair advantage over other teams. Interview



questions may include:

1. Why did the player miss their team tryout or the open draft? In many cases the player recently moved into the area or had a desire to play for a higher level team outside of Fort Wayne, and either it did not work out, or the player just changed their mind.
  2. Was the player influenced by any coach, team representative, or other player or parent to miss the team tryout or the open draft?
  3. Are you participating on another team outside of the FWAHA? If so, are you aware of the participation requirements for the League Playoffs and the ISHSHA tournament?
  4. Why do you want to play high school hockey in Fort Wayne?
- D. **After the interviews with the player by the Supplemental Panel, the Supplemental Panel will vote to determine if the player is approved to attend a Member Team Supplemental Tryout or Supplemental Draft. The Commissioner will communicate back to the player the decision by the Supplemental Panel.**
- E. The player must be properly registered onto the FWAHA website and have obtained a USA Hockey Registration number for the current season.
- F. The player must meet all the Player Eligibility requirements per these Regulations and Procedures.
- G. Paragraphs under Article VII Team Tryouts and Player Assignments also apply for players selected via the Supplemental Draft.
- H. Teams may exceed the League roster size limit (skater or goalie) through the Member Team Supplemental Tryout or Supplemental Draft. After all teams have added 1 additional supplemental player (or passed), then this process repeats for additional players up to the USA Hockey roster size limit. (Note: the purpose of this rule is to not force teams to cut or release players if a supplemental player becomes available. Also to discourage a team from leaving a spot open for purposes of being the only team able to add supplemental players).
- I. For supplemental players who are the **property of a Member Team**, the Commissioner will contact the Member Team (Head Coach and President) to determine if this Member Team wants to evaluate this new player.



1. The Member Team may choose to evaluate this new player at their next team practice or at another agreed upon date and time. The Member Team may choose to add this player without any evaluation (tryout). The Member Team must inform the Commissioner of the evaluation (tryout) date and time. This evaluation (tryout) and/or decision to add the player should occur within the next seven (7) days following notice from the Commissioner.
2. If the Member Team chooses to not add this player to their team, the Member Team has the option of releasing this player to the Supplemental Draft to be available to other Member Teams, or not releasing the player which limits the player's eligibility to tryout for the JV team. The Member Team must notify the Commissioner and contact the player to explain their decision. This action should occur within the next seven (7) days following notice from the Commissioner. The player must confirm with the Commissioner their intent of trying out for the JV team and the Commissioner will inform the JV Head Coach. (Note: Players who miss team tryouts (or do not register) will not be guaranteed to go to the supplemental draft to get on a different team. The team holds this option. If the team chooses to not release the player to the draft, the player may still get to participate on the JV team and the varsity team holds rights for the following season or current season if a spot opens up).

Example: Prospective player named Hunter registers for FWAHA High School Hockey after the open draft. This player is property of Carroll based on school district registration. The Carroll HS team has the following options:

1. Evaluate and add the player to the team (see note below).
2. Release the player to the supplemental draft for the other varsity teams. The player may be drafted and become property of the drafting team.
3. Neither 1 nor 2. Carroll retains rights for the following season. The player may tryout for the Renegades.

Note: If Carroll has already added a supplemental player (or passed) they may not add the player (option 1) until all other teams have added a supplemental player or passed. They must choose option 2 or option 3.

- J. **Supplemental Draft:** For supplemental players who are **not the property of a Member Team**, or who were released to the Supplemental Draft by the Member Team who initially had the rights to the player, the player may be evaluated (tryout) for a team



through a supplemental draft.

1. The dates for the supplemental draft lottery will be:
  - Shortly after August 31<sup>st</sup> for players who are registered August 31<sup>st</sup> or prior
  - Shortly after September 30<sup>th</sup> for players who are registered after August 31<sup>st</sup> and prior to September 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Shortly after October 31<sup>st</sup> for players who register after September 30<sup>th</sup> and prior to October 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Shortly after November 30<sup>th</sup> for players who register after October 31<sup>st</sup> and prior to November 30<sup>th</sup>
  - No additional supplemental players will be allowed after November 30<sup>th</sup>
2. Each supplemental draft order will be determined by a lottery (pick from the hat). The probability is based on the number of eligible first round draft picks. If a team qualifies for the first two picks in the open draft, based on the previous season's final regular season league standings points, that team will receive an extra pick in the hat.
3. The supplemental draft pool will include both players and goalies in a single draft.
4. The Member Team who has the first (or next) lottery pick shall inform the Commissioner of their desire to evaluate the player(s) and the evaluation (tryout) date and time. If there are multiple players in the supplemental draft pool, all of them will be eligible to attend the evaluation (tryout). The evaluation (tryout) time must occur at the next team's scheduled practice but no later than the next seven (7) days.
5. All other Member Teams may observe this evaluation (tryout) to allow this player to be added via the supplemental draft lottery order, to avoid requiring the player to attend additional evaluations (tryouts).
6. Following the supplemental draft evaluation (tryout), each team will, in lottery draft order, announce to the other teams and the Commissioner the players in the draft pool that are selected or if they pass. If a team passes, they are not allowed to select again until all other teams have passed.
7. Supplemental players who are drafted by a Member Team will be notified by both the Member Team and the Commissioner.



8. Supplemental players who are not drafted will be notified by the Commissioner and eligible to tryout for the JV team. The player must confirm with the Commissioner their intent of trying out for the JV team and the Commissioner will inform the JV Head Coach.

Example: These prospective new players register for FWAHA High School Hockey after the open draft and are considered supplemental players: Aiden (goalie) registers on August 10<sup>th</sup>, Dylan (skater) registers on August 20<sup>th</sup>, and Anthony registers on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Aiden attends DeKalb High School, Dylan attends virtual schooling through Indiana Connections Academy, and Anthony attends Churubusco High School. All 3 of these players are considered out of district and would have been required to attend the Open Draft. Since these players are not the property of a member team, the Supplemental Draft applies. The next supplemental draft lottery will be for all newly registered players (skaters and goalies) as of August 31<sup>st</sup>.

The supplemental draft lottery order is Vipers, Leo, Homestead and Carroll. Since the Vipers have the first selection and they are interested in possibly selecting one of these players, all three supplemental players will attend the Vipers next practice (within 7 days) to be evaluated by the Head Coaches of all teams.

- The Vipers chose to draft Aiden (goalie). If they already have 2 goalies, they could maintain 3 goalies, or they will most likely offer 1 to the Prep/JV team.
- Leo chose to draft Dylan (skater). If they already have 18 skaters, they could maintain 19 skaters, or offer 1 skater to the Renegades who may get an opportunity for more playing time with the Renegades.
- Homestead and Carroll both passed on Anthony. Anthony now has the option to tryout for the Renegades. Anthony could get called up to any of the varsity teams during the season. The following season Anthony would be considered an out of district player and tryout via the open draft.
- Since the Vipers and Leo both added a supplemental player, and both Homestead and Carroll passed on Anthony, all teams are eligible to add a 2<sup>nd</sup> supplemental player at the next supplemental draft. However, if Homestead would have drafted Anthony, then Carroll would automatically get the next option of a pick or pass before the other teams could add a 2<sup>nd</sup> supplemental player.
- The next round of supplemental draft will occur for players registered September 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be a new lottery draft order. If there are 3 new players registered between September 1<sup>st</sup> and



September 30<sup>th</sup>, and Carroll was the only team who did not either pick or pass at the first supplemental draft, Carroll gets the first option to pick or pass at the second supplemental draft. Then the new lottery draft order will determine the drafting order for the remaining 2 new players.

## ARTICLE X PLAYING RULES AND LEAGUE GAME PROCEDURES

The following rules shall apply to all recognized FWAHA High School Hockey League Member Teams, both varsity and junior varsity, for all games during the season. The FWAHA High School Hockey League playing rules shall be in accordance with USA Hockey Inc. rules with the following exceptions and/or additions:

- A. **Season:** The season will begin for each team at the completion of the team's tryouts, or September 1<sup>st</sup>, whichever comes first, and will continue through the completion of the final tournament.
- B. **League Games and League Tournament:** All teams shall play all assigned league games in order to be eligible for post-season play in the League tournament. The format of the League schedule and League tournament each season shall be determined by the Commissioner and/or the FWAHA Board of Directors.
- C. **Scheduling of Ice Time and Officials:** The Commissioner has the responsibility for scheduling ice time and on-ice officials for League games (regular season, playoffs and association sponsored tournaments). Any change to the published final League schedule must be approved by both teams, with notification to the Commissioner and Statistician. The Statistician has the responsibility to schedule the off-ice officials of scorekeeper and timekeeper. For non-league games, the "Home" team is responsible for the scheduling of ice time, on-ice officials, and off-ice officials.
- D. **Admission Charge:** If approved by the FWAHA Board of Directors, each Member Team is responsible for collecting admission charge for each league game, and the scheduling of individuals to work at the admission tables at assigned shifts based on the league schedule. The proceeds shall benefit all Member Teams of the League.
- E. **Team Sweater and Socks:** Each team player will have two sets of jerseys and socks. The "home" team as designated on the League schedule (or higher seed for the League tournament) has preference to wearing the lighter or darker jersey, with the "visiting" team (lower seed for the League tournament) wearing a contrasting color. Goaltenders must wear the same color jersey as their team.
- F. **Timing/Scoring Bench Area:** The timing/scoring bench area is restricted to the



Commissioner (or delegate), Statistician, FWAHA board members, ISHSHA board members, on-ice officials, scorekeeper, timekeeper, and PA announcer. Accredited media personnel must obtain permission from the Commissioner or FWAHA President in advance of the game.

- G. **Team Bench and Penalty Boxes:** The team bench is limited to uniformed players and four (4) members of the team staff which can include the Head Coach and the Assistant Coaches. Any player not in uniform (i.e. injured) must wear a protective helmet if they are in the bench area. Suspended or ineligible players are not permitted on or in the vicinity of the players' bench. Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's), or similar medical trainers, shall not be considered members of the team staff. The penalty box areas are restricted to players and Penalty Box Attendants.
- H. **Pre-game Warm-up:** Players are not to enter the ice surface until after the Zamboni doors are closed, and the on-ice officials have entered the ice surface. After such, a five (5) minute pre-game warm-up skate will occur.
- I. **National Anthem:** Time is to be allowed for the playing of the National Anthem immediately following the pre-game warmup at the option of the Commissioner.
- J. **Special Pre-Game Ceremonies:** These may occur prior to the pre-game warm-up at the option of the Commissioner. This will be communicated to the Head Coaches and on-ice officials in advance.
- K. **Period Length:** Games will consist of three (3) fifteen (15) minute stop-time periods. A two (2) minute intermission will occur between periods. Ice resurfacing shall be determined by the Commissioner before the start of the game and should be done between the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and third (3<sup>rd</sup>) period.
- L. **Overtime-Regular Season League games:** During the regular season, tied games after the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) period will result in a **ten (10)** minute stop-time, 3 vs 3 "sudden victory" overtime period.
  - 1. **Teams shall change attacking direction with same attacking direction as second (2<sup>nd</sup>) period.**
  - 2. Penalties that create a skating advantage that extend into overtime, or during overtime, will allow the teams to skate 4 vs 3 (or 5 vs 3). After conclusion of the penalties, players enter the ice from the penalty box. At the next stoppage of play, the number of players on the ice will be readjusted to 3 vs 3 (or 4 vs 3).



3. If the game is still tied after the 10-minute overtime period, the tie stands (no shootout), and both teams receive 1 point in the league standings. The team who wins in overtime receives 2 points in the league standings and the team who loses in overtime receives 1 point in the league standings.
- M. **Overtime-League Playoffs:** For all League playoff games, tied games after the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) period will result in **ten (10)** minute stop-time 3 vs 3 “sudden victory” overtime period until a winner has been determined. Playoff games will not end with a shootout.
1. Teams shall change attacking direction for the first overtime period and any successive overtime periods.
  2. Penalties that create a skating advantage that extend into or begin during the 3 vs 3 overtime, will be handled per normal overtime procedures. After conclusion of the penalties, players enter the ice from the penalty box. At the next stoppage of play, the number of players on the ice will be readjusted to 3 vs 3, or 4 vs 3.
  3. Teams are allowed 1 timeout during overtime (1 for all of OT, not each OT period). Unused OT during regulation time does not carry forward to OT.
  4. If time or the availability of ice necessitates rescheduling to complete the needed overtime period(s), the overtime period(s) can be rescheduled at the discretion of the Commissioner.
- N. **Non-League Games:** Overtime and/or Shootout may be played if both teams agree and adequate ice time remains. Otherwise the score and result of the game shall stand when the ice time ends.
- O. **Running Clock:** For all League and Tournament games, the Timekeeper shall initiate a running clock anytime a ten (10) goal differential exists, and anytime a five (5) goal differential exists during the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) period. This running clock is stopped only for the following conditions: injured player, goal, penalty, team time-out, between periods, and referee’s instruction with the clock being stopped immediately upon the referee’s whistle signaling said condition and with the clock being restarted at the drop of the puck. For penalties that expire during a running clock while the play is dead, the player must wait until play resumes to exit the penalty box.
- P. **Time Constraints:** When required by rink management due to time constraints, the Timekeeper shall initiate a running clock. This running clock is stopped for the following



conditions: injured player, goal, penalty, and referee's instruction with the clock being stopped immediately upon the referee's whistle signaling said condition and with the clock being restarted at the drop of the puck. For penalties that expire during a running clock while the play is dead, the player must wait until play resumes to exit the penalty box.

- Q. **Time-Outs:** Each team is allowed one (1) time-out during the game with a duration of 30 seconds.
- R. **Game Misconducts:** Any player or coach who is assessed a "game misconduct" during a league game, is suspended for the next scheduled league game (regular season or playoffs). This rule is in addition to the USA Hockey rule requiring suspension for the team's next scheduled game. Note: Players may be suspended for their next two (2) games if the game misconduct occurred in a league game, and the player's next game is a non-league game. The player is still suspended for their next league game.
1. A player who is serving a game misconduct (or other suspension) is not permitted to play other games during the suspension with the team on which the suspension occurred. If double rostered on both a varsity and JV team, he/she may play games with the non-offending team (JV games can be played during a varsity suspension or varsity games can be played during a JV suspension). Same rule applies if players are double rostered on both a High School Hockey League team (varsity or JV) and another team such as a Travel team.
  2. Players who are ejected from a game (league game or non-league game) must remain inside the dressing room for the duration of the game until released after the game by the team's head coach.
- S. **Suspensions/Forfeits:** Any team that (knowingly or unknowingly) plays a player who is ineligible or suspended because of USA Hockey or FWAHA High School Hockey League rules, or otherwise uses the services of an ineligible or suspended coach or team official during a game, shall forfeit that game. Any suspended player, coach or team official is not allowed on, or in the vicinity of, the player's bench, the timing/scoring bench, or the penalty box during the game. For purposes of the league standings and statistics, the team result and all individual player statistics shall stand, except those of the ineligible or suspended player (recorded to "bench"). The offending team is credited with a "loss", while the non-offending team is credited with a "win". The head coach and player may be subject to further disciplinary action for intentionally violating these rules.



- T. **Protests and Supplemental Discipline Requests:** All protests related to playing rules must be submitted by team's head coach to the Commissioner and Referee in Chief within 24 hours following completion of a game. Protests on judgment calls will not be considered. Requests for supplemental disciplinary review for missed major, match, or game misconduct penalties must be submitted by team's head coach to the Commissioner and Referee in Chief within 24 hours following completion of a game and supported with video evidence.
  
- U. **Goalie Injury:** If for any reason a back-up goalie cannot be used, a skater dressed from the team, whose goalie was injured, will be given reasonable time to don goalie equipment, but with a delay of game penalty being assessed to the team. Any team may dress any number of goalies so long as the total number of players in uniform on the bench complies with the USA Hockey and FWAHA High School Hockey League rules regarding total number of players.
  
- V. **Post-Game Sportsmanship:** All team players and coaches are to line up at center ice for a post-game sportsmanship handshake. Coaches shall assist the on-ice officials in making sure that all players show proper sportsmanship.
  
- W. **Common Exit:** When a game is played at a facility where both teams must use a common exit to their dressing rooms, the team whose bench is located closest to the exit will leave the ice first, followed shortly thereafter by the other team.
  
- X. **Scoresheets:** Each team is to e-mail or mail a copy of the game scoresheet for all games to the League Statistician within 24 hours following the game (Monday for all weekend games). Scoresheets must be legible, complete, and the information clearly stated (i.e. goals, assists, penalties, referee notes, etc.). Players must be listed by name and uniform number in numerical order. Absent players, coaches, or team official names should be crossed through with a single line or listed at the bottom of the scoresheet and the reason for the absence noted (i.e. suspension, sickness, etc.). Each team is responsible for entering their team/game information on the FWAHA website as prescribed by the FWAHA, and the ISHSHA website as prescribed by the ISHSHA within 24 hours following the game, or Monday for all weekend games. Teams failing to confirm to these requirements may be fined and/or sanctioned as defined by the FWAHA and/or ISHSHA Board of Directors.
  
- Y. **League Standings and Tiebreakers:** The FWAHA High School Hockey League standings are based on the number of points accumulated through League games: 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie or overtime loss, and 0 points for a regulation time loss. Final seeding for the League Playoff Tournament will be determined by the FWAHA High School Hockey League Statistician. In the event multiple teams have the same number



of points at the end of the regular league schedule, the following shall be used to break the tie(s):

1. Head-to-head record (points earned) of teams involved in tie, higher point total prevails.
  2. Goal differential in all games played between the tied teams, excluding shootout goals, or the extra goal awarded for winning the shootout. Tied teams will be seeded from highest to lowest goal differential.
  3. Goal quotient (goals scored divided by goals allowed) in all games played between the tied teams, excluding shootout goals, or the extra goal awarded for winning the shootout. Tied teams will be seeded from highest to lowest goal quotient. A quotient dividing by zero has a higher standing than a quotient resulting from dividing by any other number.
  4. If after applying 1, 2 and 3 above, a tie still exists, then #2 and #3 above are applied using all league games.
  5. Penalty minutes in all league games. Teams will be seeded from lowest to highest total penalty minutes.
  6. Coin toss in the presence of two FWAHA officers and one representative of each of the tied teams. In the event of a tie still exists with 3 or more teams, a blind card or coin draw shall occur in the presence of two FWAHA officers and one representative of each of the tied teams.
- Z. **Champions:** The FWAHA High School Hockey League shall declare two champions each season; the Roy Chin Cup Champions (best regular season record), and the Memorial Cup Champions (playoff champions).

## ARTICLE XI OFF-ICE OFFICIALS

Off-ice officials are considered an extension of the on-ice officiating team. In order for the game to run smoothly, a good group of off-ice officials are necessary to assist the on-ice crew. Even though their powers are limited, their responsibilities are a necessary part of successfully playing a game. In essence, both on-ice officials and the off-ice officials together form the officiating team.



The off-ice officials are to serve as a liaison between the on-ice officials and the teams before, during, and after the game. The off-ice officials will be responsible for securing the game rosters from each team prior to the start of the game. After the game they will ensure the scoresheet is properly completed and signed by the on-ice officials and will distribute a copy to each team, the appropriate copy going to the League Commissioner and/or Statistician.

**Impartiality:** As part of the game officiating team, it is important for the off-ice officials to remain impartial at all times. This is difficult to do, especially since a family member or close friend may be participating in the game. However, impartiality must be maintained at all times in order to dispel any notions of favoritism and to create the positive playing environment. If you have difficulty in accomplishing this, you may wish to review your involvement as an off-ice official. We certainly expect the on-ice officials to remain impartial and teams should expect the same standard from off-ice officials.

**Undivided Attention:** The role of the off-ice official includes undivided attention to the game in progress. The game clock must be stopped and started at the appropriate times and special attention should be paid as to whether the clock is functioning properly. Goals, assists, and penalties, as reported by the referee, must be recorded accurately and quickly in order to minimize unnecessary delays. Penalty expiration situations must also be handled smoothly and efficiently in order to create a fair playing environment. If there are any questions or uncertainty regarding a situation, the issue must be addressed with the on-ice officials as soon as possible. All of these special tasks require the complete attention of the off-ice officials for the duration of the game. Failure to do so may result in a less than totally positive game environment for all of the game participants.

**Behavior Monitoring:** Another important role of the off-ice official is to monitor behavior in and around the area known as the penalty benches and the scorer's bench. Players, who have been penalized, may behave in an unsportsmanlike manner by trying to incite an opponent, use obscene or vulgar language or be disrespectful to the off-ice officials. In addition, these penalized players may be harassed by spectators leaning over the glass. In many instances, these actions may be unobserved by the on-ice officials. It is the responsibility of the off-ice officials to report these incidents to the on-ice officials during the next stoppage of play.

**Off-Ice Officials include the following:** Official Scorekeeper, Timekeeper, Public Address Announcer, Penalty Box Attendants, Team Official, FWAHA Board Members, Rink Personnel, and Security Officer.

- A. **Official Scorekeeper:** The official scorekeeper is the individual who is responsible for the completion of the game scoresheet. The game scoresheet is the official record of the game.



1. **Prior to each game:** The official scorekeeper will be responsible for securing the game roster from each team. Coaches shall cross out players and/or coaches who are absent from the game, along with the reason for the absence (illness, injury, suspension, etc.). The acting Head Coach shall sign the score sheet in the space provided.
  2. **During the game:** The official scorekeeper records goals, assists, and penalties as reported by the on-ice officials. Shots on goal and/or goalie saves (as judged by the scorekeeper) are also recorded. They may ask the penalty bench attendants for assistance with this duty as each one can be responsible for one team's shots or saves. If a shootout occurs to break a tie, a goal is credited to the "bench" of the winning team. No other statistics are recorded to any individual players.
  3. **After the game:** The official scorekeeper reviews the scoresheet for accuracy and neatness. Any last-minute information such as goals, assists, or penalties, must be recorded on the scoresheet prior to it being signed by the on-ice officials. The official scorekeeper signs the scoresheet in the appropriate place prior to inspection by the on-ice officials. The on-ice officials should cross out all portions of the scoresheet that were not used. This is done to prevent any information from being added to the scoresheet after the officials have properly signed the document. Once satisfied that the scoresheet is accurate and complete, the on-ice officials will sign the scoresheet and retain their copies. Note: Any game misconduct or match penalties incurred will require the on-ice officials to retain the complete scoresheet set (all copies intact) to write up any required report for USA Hockey, referencing the appropriate rule numbers. The scoresheet set may be obtained by the official scorekeeper after the on-ice officials have completed their report.
  4. **Scoresheet Corrections:** Alterations, amendments, corrections, or changes may only be authorized through the agreement of the on-ice officials. No coach, parent, penalty box attendant or other team representative may authorize any changes made to the scoresheet. A Coach may ask an on-ice official to make a change, and only through the on-ice official will a change be allowed. Once the scoresheet is signed at the end of the game, no changes will be allowed.
- B. **Timekeeper:** The timekeeper is responsible operating the electronic scoreboard, including starting and stopping the official game clock as instructed by the on-ice officials and according to the game rules, setting and clearing penalties as required, and updating the score displayed for each team. The timekeeper may also assist the official scorekeeper in recording shots on goal or goaltender saves. The timekeeper



must have adequate training and experience in advance and have understand of how penalties are displayed or not displayed. Undivided attention to the game is critical. In the event that the electronic scoreboard is malfunctioning, the on-ice officials must be notified as soon as possible, at the next stoppage of play. An alternative method of keeping track of the game time may be used as authorized by the on-ice officials.

- C. **Public Address (PA) Announcer:** The public address announcer informs the spectators via the arena sound system the goals, assists, penalties, and any other information related to the game. This should be done in an unbiased tone. Pre-game introductory announcements, request to stand for the National Anthem, and other announcements pertaining to the League, Association or the Arena may be spoken as needed. Music played during pre-game, stoppages, or post-game is optional and should be in “good-taste” for young children and family atmosphere.
- D. **Penalty Box Attendants:** Each team designates a penalty box attendant, whose only purpose is to open and close the penalty box door and communicates only to their team coaches and official scorekeeper. The penalty box attendants must be properly registered through USA Hockey as a “Volunteer” or “Coach” and must be current on their background screening and SafeSport certifications.
- E. **Team Official:** The team president and/or team manager also serve as an off-ice official. They are responsible for the conduct of their spectators and players/coaches off the ice.
- F. **FWAHA Board Members:** Any FWAHA board member present also serves as an off-ice official to assist in the off-ice officials’ duties as described above. This can also include behavior monitoring of parents, spectators, and players/coaches off of the ice. Refer also to the Parent/Spectator Suspension Rule (Article IV Disciplinary Matters and Procedures).
- G. **Rink Personnel:** Any rink employee on duty also serves as an off-ice official and can assist with or advise any FWAHA Board Member and/or Security Officer present with the behavior monitoring of parents, spectators, and players/coaches off of the ice. Refer also to the Parent/Spectator Suspension Rule (Article IV Disciplinary Matters and Procedures).
- H. **Security Officer:** The security officer on duty also services as an off-ice official and shall ensure proper behavior by all spectators in and around the playing area. Refer also to the Parent/Spectator Suspension Rule (Article IV Disciplinary Matters and Procedures).



## ARTICLE XII JV TEAM

- A. **Purpose of Team:** The purpose of the High School Hockey JV team is to provide high school student athletes who are short of varsity level hockey skills and unable to participate on a varsity level team an opportunity to further develop hockey skills and gain experience.
- B. **Team Formation:** After varsity level teams are formed through team tryouts and the open draft, any remaining high school hockey players are eligible to attend tryouts for the JV team. Multiple teams may be formed if there are an adequate number of players and coaches.
- C. **Team Oversight:** The FWAHA High School Hockey JV team will be overseen by the FWAHA High School Hockey League. The FWAHA High School Hockey Commissioner shall be the top director of the team.
- D. **Practices and Games:** The High School Hockey JV team will follow a very similar practice schedule as the other varsity level teams. Typically, this will include two ice practices each week along with weekly off-ice performance training sessions and other skills development. The team will participate in approximately 30 total games primarily against similar high school level teams. The JV team shall strive to participate in the ISHSHA State Invitational Tournament (varsity or JV division).
- E. **Eligibility:** All player eligibility rules as defined in these Regulations and Procedures apply.
- F. **Selection of Head Coach, Manager and Volunteers:** The Head Coach shall be appointed by the FWAHA Coaching/Player Development Chairperson. The team manager shall be appointed by the Head Coach. Both the Head Coach and team manager must be approved by the FWAHA Board of Directors. Other volunteers shall be appointed by the team manager and/or FWAHA High School Hockey Commissioner.
- G. **Uniforms:** The team name of Renegades and logo as approved by the FWAHA Board of Directors. Jerseys, socks, jackets, and other clothing costs are in addition to the team fees. The team shall have a “uniform” look. Game day dress code is determined by the head coach and shall be a good presentation of the team and FWAHA.
- H. **Financial Agreement and Obligations:** The FWAHA Board of Directors will determine the per player fee for participation on the team. Fees will be due to FWAHA on a payment schedule as determined by the FWAHA Board of Directors. Delinquent fees



may result in player suspension from team activities.

- I. **Parental Grievance Procedure:** Parental grievances should be first brought to the attention of the appointed team official such as Head Coach, Team Manager, Safe Sport Coordinator for appropriate resolution. Those situations which are not satisfactorily resolved through meeting with the head coach and manager should be addressed to the FWAHA High School Hockey Commissioner and to the Coaching/Player Development Chairperson for further review and decision. If the grievance is still unresolved, the parental issue should then be put in writing and directed to the FWAHA President. A full review by the FWAHA Board of Directors will then be conducted, including hearings with the involved parties as may be appropriate, consistent with the FWAHA grievance guidelines. The FWAHA High School Hockey Commissioner will be responsible for the communication and delivery of the results of the review to the parents involved in a timely fashion.

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## **ADHERENCE**

FWAHA High School Hockey League Member Teams and the JV teams are to adhere to the spirit of these High School Hockey Regulations and Procedures, as well as their literal interpretation. In areas that are not specifically covered by these Regulations and Procedures, the FWAHA will defer to the bylaws or the Rules and Regulations of the ISHSHA, USA Hockey, or the IHSAA. The FWAHA Board of Directors reserves the right to rule in any situation not covered by these bodies. Rulings of the FWAHA Board of Directors in these situations will be final and not subject to review.

## **APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES**

Appeals and Grievances to any part of these High School Hockey Regulations and Procedures as written or by its interpretation or application shall be documented in writing, citing the specific rule, regulation, or procedure, and forwarded to both the League Commissioner and the FWAHA President, to be reviewed by the FWAHA Board of Directors with a decision to grant or deny the appeal or grievance. The decision of the FWAHA Board of Directors shall be final and not subject to further appeal.

## **AMENDMENTS TO THESE REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES**

The power to make, alter, amend, or repeal any of these FWAHA High School Hockey League Regulations and Procedures is vested in the FWAHA Board of Directors, which power shall be exercised by affirmative vote of a majority of the FWAHA Board of Directors. The FWAHA High School Hockey Commissioner shall have the duty to draft any proposed amendment to the Fort Wayne High School Hockey League Regulations and Procedures and shall perform such other duties as determined by the FWAHA President, the FWAHA Board of Directors or the FWAHA Bylaws (FWAHA Bylaws Section 20).

## **ADOPTION**

April 2017: Adopted former FWHSHA (Fort Wayne High School Hockey Association) By-Laws (final amendment October 13, 2014), and FWHSHA Regulations and Procedures into the High School Hockey division of the new FWAHA (Fort Wayne Amateur Hockey Association), which formed April 2017. The combination of these former FWHSHA By-Laws and Regulations and Procedures are now known as the FWAHA High School Hockey Regulations and Procedures.

## **REVISION RECORD**

July 2018: Revised document combining both former FWHSHA By-Laws and FWHSHA



Regulations and Procedures into one document. Added sections to Coaching Requirements, updated Playing Rules to past season practices (such as overtime and shootout procedures), added additional Off-Ice Officials, and other clarifications. Voted and approved by HS team presidents.

August 2018: Updated to add League Tournament and ISHSHA Tournament eligibility requiring participation of 50% of League games, following date added to official team roster. Updated academic eligibility language to be consistent with the ISHSHA rules. Removed the provision allowing the first 2 draft picks for skaters. Voted and approved by HS team presidents.

May 2019: Updated to reflect change to 4 varsity teams plus 1 JV team. Updated team territories based on school districts. Changed league tournament eligibility to 75% of all team's scheduled games to be consistent with the ISHSHA rules. Added roster cap for varsity teams (18 skaters + 2 goalies). Updated Open Draft rules to the 2-stage process and allowing teams who cut players to participate in the open draft. Minor changes to other rules for clarification.

July 2019: Updated rule on players quitting or refusing team assignments and stage 3 of the open draft.

Sept 2019: Added provisions for temporary call-up from JV to varsity. League Code of Conduct.

Oct 2019: Added provisions for balancing team practice times and committing to practice times provided by ice arena. Added rule requiring protests and supplemental disciplinary review be submitted by team's head coach within 24 hours following completion of game. Updated rules on temporary call-ups from the JV team to a varsity team.

June 2020: Added provisions for USA Hockey SafeSport, dressing room monitor/crowd control. Added rule requiring grade reports to be submitted at tryouts. Added provisions to allow players who do not want to be drafted by a varsity team to be eligible for the JV team. Added a section (article) for provisions specific to the JV team. Updated rules on permanent call-ups from the JV team to the varsity team. Updated playing rules for overtime during league playoffs, tie breakers for playoff seeding, players and coaches ejected from games, and players and coaches subject to additional discipline for intentionally violating the suspensions/forfeits rules.

Oct 2020: Updated rule on player eligibility if a player is disqualified from the ISHSHA



tournament without opportunity for waiver provision.

- July 2021: Updated the following rules: Team assignments related to high school attending (moved some schools from Vipers to Leo). Players who are cut from their school affiliated team and drafted by another team remain the property of the drafting team for 2 seasons (can obtain a release after 1<sup>st</sup> season) before attending tryouts for their school affiliated team. For 2021-2022 season, changed maximum roster size of skaters from 18 to 19.
- Nov 2021: Updated player eligibility rules: Players who are disqualified from the ISHSHA tournament due to receiving a combination of 4 game misconducts or match penalties (which include carry-over starting with the previous season ISHSHA tournament) will remain eligible to continue with their FWAHA affiliated teams until they receive a combination of 4 game misconducts or match penalties in the same season. This now includes all FWAHA affiliated teams (not just the HS team). Players who become ineligible due to the accumulation of game misconducts or match penalties may continue to participate with a FWAHA affiliated team on a probationary basis, which will require the player to appear before the FWAHA Discipline Committee to explain their conduct and must commit to FWAHA volunteer service as determined by the FWAHA Discipline Committee or Board of Directors.
- April 2022: Updated the following: Removed independent evaluators to determine if players are HS eligible based on skills, modified open draft stage 1 for goalies and skaters, added a lottery draw for supplemental open draft players who register after the open draft, modified the call-up provisions from prep/jv to varsity to allow any prep/jv player to be called up to any varsity team. Players who are rostered on a team outside of FWAHA must be reported to the Commissioner and the team must collect scoresheets from the outside team and submit to the FWAHA HS Statistician. Overtime for league playoff games will only be 3 vs 3 until a winner is determined. Added appeals and grievance provision. Other minor administrative changes.
- Sept 2023: Added “games and practices” for the meaning of participate. Added players must be on team’s USA Hockey roster to participate with that team. Temporary call-up week is defined as a week that has a league game.
- Oct 2023: Added Spectator policy. Added goalie exception to allow goalies to fill in on any other team at practice. For permanent call-ups, the player has the option to remain with the call-up team or remain with the team who previously had rights to the player. For supplemental players who want to join a team after tryouts



added a Supplemental Panel to interview the new player and decide on eligibility. Added clarification to the 60% eligibility rule.

March 2024: Removed 2 year rule on drafted players to allow players who were cut by their school affiliated team and drafted by another team to attend tryouts for their school affiliated team – must declare intent by March 31<sup>st</sup> to both teams, and if they are cut return to the open draft. Modified quit rule – a player who quits remains property of the team but player remains eligible at team discretion. Players who refuse draft assignment to varsity or jv team, or quit the jv team are not eligible for the remainder of the season. Players who opt out of the open draft are not allowed to be called up permanently during the season, except by the team who cut the player. At conclusion of the open draft, the draft is considered complete. Any open roster spots are filled with a second draft around mid-late August from players in the original draft pool. Playoff overtime modified to 10 minute periods and switch ends after third period and each overtime. Regular season overtime expanded to 10 minutes, switch ends for overtime. Tie games stand – no shootout. Removed references of “Prep” as related to JV team as the ISHSHA has renamed “Prep” to “JV”. Added reference and link to USA Hockey By-Law 10. Added FWAHA Spectator Policy.



### Spectator Suspension Policy

Section 1: Parents, guardians, and spectators

Section 2: **Players, coaches, managers, or anyone officially rostered on a FWAHA team.**

#### Section 1: USA Hockey Zero Tolerance policy

Parents, guardians, and spectators are expected to be a positive role model by treating all players, coaches, officials, volunteers and fellow spectators with respect and support.

Violators will be identified by the game officials, team volunteers, association volunteers, rink personnel or onsite security officers for the purpose of removing the violator(s) from the viewing area. Violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the Member Team and Association. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior may **include but is not limited to:**

1. Use of obscene, profane, or abusive language to anyone at any time.
2. Taunting of players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
3. Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, players bench, penalty box or on the ice surface, directed in any matter as to create a safety hazard.

#### Conduct Subject to Discipline

Example of words or actions which shall constitute a violation of the Spectator Suspension Policy include, **but are not limited to the following:**

- Making physical contact with any player, coach, official, league representative, arena personnel or spectator.
- Taunting or threatening any player, coach, official, league representative, arena personnel or spectator.
- Going in the locker room / dressing room of an opposing team or obstructing their access to or exit from said room or arena.
- Going into the official's locker room / dressing room or obstructing their access to or exit from said room or arena.
- Using profane and/or vulgar language or mannerisms.
- Unauthorized entry onto the ice surface.
- Throwing any object onto the ice surface, into the player area(s), or at another individual.
- Defacing or damaging any property belonging to any individual, association, or arena.
- Being involved in any activity that would warrant the summoning of law enforcement officials.
- Inciting any person(s) to become involved in any of the above-listed behaviors.
- Any other conduct that is not conducive to creating and maintaining a safe and fun environment for youth hockey or high school hockey.

**First Offense:** A suspension from all events involving the Member Team and Association for fifteen (15) days. **The suspension will be effective upon communication from the FWAHA board/discipline committee.**

**Second Offense:** A suspension from all events involving the Member Team and Association for



thirty (30) days. **The suspension will be effective upon communication from the FWAHA board/discipline committee.**

**Third Offense and beyond:** A suspension from all events involving the Member Team and Association until a decision has been rendered from a USA Hockey Affiliate hearing.

For violations that are deemed by the FWAHA Board of Directors or Disciplinary Committee to be critically detrimental to the reputation of the Member Team, League, FWAHA, ISHSHA or USA Hockey, or to be deliberately intended to inflict physical harm, non-physical harm, or injury to another player, opponent, spectator, game official or team official, the offender will be suspended from all team and association events until a decision has been rendered from a USA Hockey Affiliate hearing.

During the suspension entry into the facilities that are hosting the Member Team and Association event is prohibited. Violators are subject to trespassing and further suspension.

Suspensions near the end of the season may be carried forward into the following season.

**Appeals:** No appeals will be accepted, and all decisions are final.

**Reporting:** Violations must be reported as soon as possible by the Member Team, Association or League official, rink personnel, or security officer to the High School Commissioner for High School Member Team or High School League events, or the Blue/Green Commissioner for Blue or Green team events. Be sure to obtain all facts of the violation, including all individual names, team affiliated with, complete description of the violation and any witnesses. The High School Commissioner and Blue/Green Commissioner will issue the report to the designated person by the Association for recording. If the local association (Member Team) fails to address the incident, the incident will be addressed by the Association (FWAHA) and/or Mid-Am Affiliate which may include local association (Member Team) sanctions.

Violators who are affiliated with a visiting team will be reported to their team and association. This is in addition to the suspension under this policy.

Each Member Team is responsible for the conduct of their spectators and shall apply this Spectator Suspension Policy as appropriate. Association officials, security officers and rink personnel will be available for secondary support.

**Section 2:** **Players, coaches, managers, or anyone officially rostered on a FWAHA team** are expected to be a positive role model by treating all players, coaches, officials, volunteers and fellow spectators with respect and support. Violators will be identified by the game officials, team volunteers, association volunteers, rink personnel or onsite security officers for the purpose of removing the violator(s) from the viewing area. Violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the Member Team and Association. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior may include, **but is not limited to:**



1. Use of obscene, profane, or abusive language to anyone at any time.
2. Taunting of players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
3. Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, players bench, penalty box or on the ice surface, directed in any matter as to create a safety hazard.

#### Conduct Subject to Discipline

Example of words or actions which shall constitute a violation of the Spectator Suspension Policy include, **but are not limited to the following:**

- Making physical contact with any player, coach, official, league representative, arena personnel or spectator.
- Taunting or threatening any player, coach, official, league representative, arena personnel or spectator.
- Going in the locker room / dressing room of an opposing team or obstructing their access to or exit from said room or arena.
- Going into the official's locker room / dressing room or obstructing their access to or exit from said room or arena.
- Using profane and/or vulgar language or mannerisms.
- Unauthorized entry onto the ice surface.
- Throwing any object onto the ice surface, into the player area(s), or at another individual.
- Defacing or damaging any property belonging to any individual, association, or arena.
- Being involved in any activity that would warrant the summoning of law enforcement officials.
- Inciting any person(s) to become involved in any of the above-listed behaviors.
- Any other conduct that is not conducive to creating and maintaining a safe and fun environment for youth hockey or high school hockey.

**First Offense:** (2) game suspension. The suspension will be for the offender's next (2) scheduled games, for their primary team. The suspension will be effective upon communication from the FWAHA board/discipline committee. The offender will still be eligible to participate in team practices.

**Second Offense:** (4) game suspension. The suspension will be for the offender's next (4) scheduled games, for their primary team. The suspension will be effective upon communication from the FWAHA board/discipline committee. The offender will still be eligible to participate in team practices.

**Third Offense and beyond:** A suspension from all scheduled games of the offender's primary team until a decision has been rendered from a USA Hockey Affiliate hearing. The offender will still be eligible to participate in practices.

For violations that are deemed by the FWAHA Board of Directors or Disciplinary Committee to be critically detrimental to the reputation of the Member Team, League, FWAHA, ISHSHA or USA Hockey, or to be deliberately intended to inflict physical harm, non-physical harm, or



injury to another player, opponent, spectator, game official or team official, the offender will be suspended from all team and association events until a decision has been rendered from a USA Hockey Affiliate hearing.

During the suspension entry into the facilities that are hosting the Member Team and Association event is prohibited. Violators are subject to trespassing and further suspension.

Suspensions near the end of the season may be carried forward into the following season.

**Appeals:** No appeals will be accepted, and all decisions are final.

**Reporting:** Violations must be reported as soon as possible by the Member Team, Association or League official, rink personnel, or security officer to the High School Commissioner for High School Member Team or High School League events, or the Blue/Green Commissioner for Blue or Green team events. Be sure to obtain all facts of the violation, including all individual names, team affiliated with, complete description of the violation and any witnesses. The High School Commissioner and Blue/Green Commissioner will issue the report to the designated person by the Association for recording. If the local association (Member Team) fails to address the incident, the incident will be addressed by the Association (FWAHA) and/or Mid-Am Affiliate which may include local association (Member Team) sanctions.

Violators who are affiliated with a visiting team will be reported to their team and association. This is in addition to the suspension under this policy.

Each Member Team is responsible for the conduct of their spectators and shall apply this Spectator Suspension Policy as appropriate. Association officials, security officers and rink personnel will be available for secondary support.

USA Hockey strongly recommends that each registered team designate a volunteer to serve as a spectator monitor during all team events. This monitor will, ideally, address inappropriate spectator behavior prior to the situation escalating out of control. This designated monitor shall have the full support of the Member Team, Association, and arena management to remove any spectators in violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy.



FORT WAYNE AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE  
PARTICIPANT CODE OF CONDUCT

PARTICIPANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

To be read and signed by you as a member of Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Participating in USA Hockey for the \_\_\_\_\_ season.

Participants include players, coaches and other registered volunteers.

- No swearing or abusive language on the bench, in the rink, or at any team function.
- No lashing out at any official no matter what the call is. The coaching staff will handle all matters pertaining to officiating.
- Anyone who receives a penalty will skate directly to the penalty box.
- Fighting will not be tolerated. Fighting will result in an appearance before a Discipline Committee.
- I will not use or be under the influence of any alcohol, nicotine, tobacco, or other illegal substances, prior to or while participating at a team function. This includes drinking, vaping, hookah, e-cigarettes, chew, etc.
- I will conduct myself in a befitting manner at all facilities (ice rink, hotel, restaurant, etc) during all team functions.
- I will not post detrimental or derogatory messages, including handwritten, verbal or electronic messages through e-mail, websites or social media about another player, team, official, coach, parents, spectators, etc.
- All participants shall adhere to the policies and procedures as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. This includes, but not limited to, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment, hazing, locker room policies, local travel, team travel, and mandatory reporting.
- Any player, coach or participant who cannot abide by these rules or violates them will be subject to further disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the Discipline Committee.

Note: Individual teams may have more stringent code of conduct, disciplinary procedure and penalties.

Signature of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## USA HOCKEY CODES OF CONDUCT

The following Codes of Conduct were prepared by USA Hockey's Youth Council.

### Coaches Code of Conduct

- Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. Care more about the child than winning the game. Remember, players are involved in hockey for fun and enjoyment.
- Be a positive role model to your players, display emotional maturity and be alert to the physical safety of players.
- Be generous with your praise when it is deserved; be consistent and honest; be fair and just; do not criticize players publicly; learn to be a more effective communicator and coach; don't yell at players.
- Adjust to personal needs and problems of players; be a good listener; never verbally or physically abuse a player or official; give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem; teach them the basics.
- Organize practices that are fun and challenging for your players. Familiarize yourself with the rules, techniques and strategies of hockey; encourage all your players to be team players.
- Maintain an open line of communication with your players' parents. Explain the goals and objectives of your association.
- Be concerned with the overall development of your players. Stress good health habits and clean living.

**To play the game is great; to love the game is greater.**

### Players Code of Conduct

- Play for FUN!
- Work hard to improve your skills.
- Be a team player – get along with your teammates.
- Learn team work, sportsmanship and discipline.
- Be on time for practices and games.
- Learn the rules, and play by them. Always be a good sport.
- Respect your coach, your teammates, your parents, opponents and officials.
- Never argue with the official's decision.



### **Parents Code of Conduct**

- Do not force your children to participate in sports, but support their desires to play their chosen sport. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.
- Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches, or officials. By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants, your child will benefit.
- Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit your young athlete. De-emphasize games and competition at the lower age groups.
- Know and study the rules of the game, and support the officials on and off the ice. This approach will help in the development and support of the game. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.
- Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat, and enforce the positive points of the game. Never yell or physically abuse your child after a game or practice – it is destructive. Work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.
- Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child and the sport. Communicate with them and support them.
- If you enjoy the game, learn all you can about hockey – and volunteer.

### **Spectators Code of Conduct**

- Display good sportsmanship. Always respect players, coaches and officials.
- Act appropriately; do not taunt or disturb the fans; enjoy the game together.
- Cheer good plays of all participants; avoid booing opponents.
- Cheer in a positive manner and encourage fair play; profanity and objectionable cheers or gestures are offensive.
- Help provide a safe and fun environment; throwing any items on the ice surface can cause injury to players and officials.
- Do not lean over or pound on the glass; the glass surrounding the ice surface is part of the playing area.
- Support the referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.
- Be responsible for your own safety – be alert to prevent accidents from flying pucks and other avoidable situations.
- Respect locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches and officials.
- Be supportive after the game – win or lose. Recognize good effort, teamwork and sportsmanship.



### **Sportsmanship tips for student-athletes**

- Accept your responsibility as a role model. Understand that representing your school and your community is a privilege that's not to be taken lightly.
- Learn the rules of the games you play. Help your parents and fellow students understand them better.
- Treat your opponents the way you want to be treated - with respect. Nobody understands how hard they have worked better than you do.
- Refrain from taunting, trash talking, or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents - especially comments of an ethnic, racial, or sexual nature. No trash talking!
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials, no matter how much you may disagree with them.

### **Sportsmanship tips for parents**

- Remember that high school athletes are teenagers. They're still learning, which means they make mistakes. It's important to praise them and not criticize.
- Always respect opposing players, coaches, and spectators. Show appreciation for the outstanding plays they make. And never cheer if one of them is injured.
- Respect game officials. Understand that they are people like you and me who are doing their best to support our youth. Hey, where would our community be without them?
- Censor those fans around you whose behavior is inappropriate.
- Remember that a ticket to a high school athletic event is not a license to verbally assault others - including officials, coaches, and players from the opposing team.

### **Sportsmanship tips for coaches**

- As a coach, you need to exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership possible. You are a teacher. There is no profession that is more important. Practicing good sportsmanship is teaching good citizenship.
- You need to do more than teach the rules of the game. You must also respect them and abide by them – both in letter and in spirit.
- You must stress to your student athletes that disrespectful behavior – especially taunting, trash talking, and intimidating – will not be tolerated.
- You have to set a good example for players and fans alike to follow. This means treating game officials with respect – even when you disagree. No arguing, gesturing or throwing stuff – including your hat, clipboard, jacket or equipment.
- There are so many examples of unsportsmanlike conduct at the professional level; you have to make sportsmanship your number one priority. Aspire to be role models that professional coaches follow.

