



Minnesota Hockey: Minnesota Diversified Hockey

District Process for participation:

In 2006, Minnesota Hockey established the guidelines for creating and managing Diversified Hockey (formerly Disabled Hockey) in our Minnesota District. This was based on creating cohesive programs within our state and managing established sponsorship, player rules, and adherence for volunteers and coaches to Minnesota and USA Hockey requirements. The following guidelines were established with great success since that time.

1. Each discipline will have a single association/affiliate that will manage all teams that fall under that discipline. The association will create a board that includes representation from across the programs and create by-laws that are consistent with Minnesota and USA Hockey requirements.
2. Each association board will determine how to manage the financials, ice time, branding, etc. of all their programs. These programs will follow the rules that are created by their association boards. They will each have a signed affiliate agreement with Mn Hockey.
3. Teams wishing to be recognized as a diversified program in Minnesota (and a disabled program within USA Hockey) must be affiliated with their designated program association. Participation in USA Disabled Hockey sanctioned events is reliant on this relationship.
4. Each association/affiliate is represented by the Minnesota Diversified Hockey Director. This singular voice allows for consistently, follow through and fairness within program representation to major sponsors, including the Minnesota Wild and Minnesota Frost. This perspective has greatly increased the support, both programmatically and financially from these major sponsors. We are seen as one cohesive group and are no longer vying for support at the cost to another program.
5. The Minnesota Diversified Hockey Director will be the main point of contact with the Minnesota Wild per their request and agreement in 2008 and Minnesota Frost in 2025. All communication regarding fundraising, promotion of programs, team representation and game opportunities will be managed between the entities of the MDH Director and those professional organizations.

Discipline Associations:

Minnesota Sled Hockey Association

Minnesota Warriors Ice Hockey Association

Minnesota Special Hockey Association

Minnesota Blind Hockey Association

Minnesota Deaf/HOH Hockey Association

By following our existing guidelines, we have created the largest and most successful diversified hockey program in the country. Our numbers grow every year and collaboratively we are able to manage the requirements of Minnesota and USA Hockey. We have noted that when other districts allow their programs to create their own guidelines you often have situations where programs compete with each other for players and sponsors, they do not have a clear understanding of rules and requirements, and ultimately players suffer. Our program standards remain consistent and program reputation remains intact.

Programs wishing more information regarding Minnesota Diversified Hockey programs are to contact the Diversified Director, Nick Hadfield at email: hadfin@gmail.com.