



BREWER YOUTH HOCKEY
2022–2023 FAMILY MANUAL



The Brewer Youth Hockey Organization (BYH) welcomes your family and athlete to this season of youth hockey. We are excited that you have chosen BYH for your child's hockey experience. Brewer Youth Hockey is dedicated to teaching individual and team skills while developing character and sportsmanship in the game of ice hockey.

This manual has been provided to serve as a guide to the board members, parents, team managers, players, and coaches of the Brewer Youth Hockey (BYH) Organization. Changes in policy and guidelines may take place from time to time. The BYH Board will make every effort to keep this manual up to date.

If you have questions about anything, please be sure to ask. All board members can be reached via email, posted on our website, www.brewerhockey.org. All organization updates can also be followed by liking our Facebook page, **Brewer Youth Hockey**.

Each athlete and parents or guardians participating in the Brewer Youth Hockey Organization shall be required to review this manual and sign the attached Parent/Guardian Contract (page 21–22) in which they agree to follow the policies and procedures set forth in this manual.

We look forward to a great hockey season!

Brewer Youth Hockey Board Members

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MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Brewer Youth Hockey (BYH) shall be to organize, support, and maintain a youth hockey program, following the Maine Amateur Hockey Association guidelines, for the greater Penobscot and Hancock county areas as well as players from other areas who decide to associate themselves with BYH, ultimately, preparing the players for high school hockey.

The association shall make a commitment to implant firmly in our participants, the ideals of good sportsmanship, fair play, and loyalty towards one's teammates so that they may be stronger, happier youths and fully enjoy his/her experience in the association.

AFFILIATIONS

Brewer Youth Hockey is member of the Maine Amateur Hockey Association (MeAHA) and USA Hockey. As such, we adhere to the MeAHA and USA Hockey rules on conduct, teams, equipment, penalties, officials, and playing rules.

2022-2023 REGISTRATION

All athletes planning to participate in Brewer Youth Hockey must complete registration either online at www.brewerhockey.org or by submitting a paper copy of the 2022-2023 Registration Form.

Prior to submitting either the online or paper copy of the registration, all athletes must first be registered for the new season with USA Hockey. Registration fees associated with USA Hockey vary by age with a portion allocated to USA Hockey and a portion to Maine Amateur Hockey Association (MeAHA). This registration can be completed online at www.usahockeyregistration.com. You will need a credit or debit card for this registration. Be sure to PRINT and SAVE your athletes confirmation code as you will need it for the BYH registration process.

Brewer Youth Hockey offers several options to pay your regular season fees. Payments may made online via Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or your checking account or they may be mailed to us at P.O. Box 594, Brewer, ME 04412.

INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

If a family is unable to pay the full amount due for registration up front, BYH offers different installment plan options to help meet the financial needs of our families. These can be viewed during the registration process or by emailing registrar@brewerhockey.org

PAY EARLY DISCOUNTS

In an effort to have players register early to allow BYH to better prepare for the season, BYH offers various early payment discounts.

FAMILY DISCOUNT

Families with 2 or more athletes shall receive a \$50 discount for each skater. This does not apply to our Learn To Skate/Learn to Play program or Tier 2/3 travel teams.

INSUFFICIENT FUNDS

For any payment that is returned to BYH for insufficient funds, the family will be charged a \$20.00 banking fee.

NON-PAYMENT POLICY

If registration bills have not been paid in full by October 1, 2022 (Tier II/III) or December 1, 2022 (Tier IV), your athlete will not be able to participate in ANY Brewer Youth Hockey activities (practices, skills clinics, games, playoffs, etc.) until balance has been received. If you are on a payment plan with Brewer Youth Hockey that is CURRENT, your athlete will be able to continue participation.

FEES FOR THE 2022–2023 SEASON

LEVEL	PAID IN FULL DISCOUNT*	SEASON REGISTRATION
LEARN TO SKATE/LEARN TO PLAY* Includes: (8) 1-hour lessons * BYH provides (2) 8-week sessions for LTP/LTS. First session starts near the end of October and the second session starts toward the middle of January.	N/A	\$79.00/8-week session
ATOMS* Includes: (3–4) 1-hour cross-ice game during 2 nd half of season * Atoms starts mid-season (March/April) and is an extension of the LTS/LTP program for those skaters ready to explore the next level of play	N/A	TBD
6U/8U Includes: (30) 1-hour practices; 2 per week (10) cross-ice games (1) Tournament	\$436.50	\$485
TIER IV 10U, 12U & 14U Includes: (40) 1-hour practices; 2 per week (20) games (1) Tournament States if qualified	\$639	\$710
TIER III 10U, 12U & 14U* Includes: (40) 1-hour practices; 2 per week (20) games (2) Tournament States if qualified	N/A	\$1,350
TIER III 18U *	N/A	N/A
Tier IV 16U/18U	N/A	\$375
CROSS ROSTER GIRLS	N/A	\$510

* Tier III tuition must be paid in full prior to the beginning of the season in October or the athlete will not be allowed to participate in BYH activities.

Any athlete with an outstanding balance from the previous season will not be allowed to register until the outstanding debt is paid. There will be no exceptions to this policy. If you have any questions regarding your account standing, please contact our treasurer at treasurer@brewerhockey.org

CONCUSSION POLICY

Brewer Youth Hockey is committed the health and safety of our athletes and, as such, has adopted the concussion policy recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We ask that ALL coaches, players, and parents support our effort to protect the players by teaching the importance of following USA Hockey's "Heads Up" hockey principals and by being aware of the signs and symptoms of concussion.

SIGNS OBSERVED BY COACH	SYMPTOMS REPORTED BY PLAYER
Appears dazed or stunned	Headache or "pressure" in head
Is confused about assignment/position	Nausea or vomiting
Forgets sports plays	Balance problems or dizziness
In unsure of game, score, or opponent	Double or blurry vision
Moves clumsily	Sensitivity to light
Answers questions slowly	Sensitivity to noise
Loses consciousness (even briefly)	Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
Shows behavior or personality changes	Concentration or memory problems
Cannot recall events prior to hit or fall	Confusion
Cannot recall events after hit or fall	Does not "feel right"

If, following a blow to the head or blow to the body that jolts the head, any player exhibits any of the signs or symptoms above, that player must be removed from play immediately. Player shall be allowed to return to ice at head coach's discretion pending follow-up evaluation. If follow-up evaluation identifies concussion, player WILL NOT be allowed to return to play until cleared by a qualified healthcare professional with experience in evaluating concussions and a written "return-to-play" notice is delivered to head coach and/or President of Brewer Youth Hockey. Coaches should never allow any athlete to return to play if they are still exhibiting symptoms regardless of any medical clearance.

LOCKER ROOM POLICY

In addition to the development of our hockey players and enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our athletes is central to Brewer Hockey's goals. BYH adheres to USA Hockey's Safe Sport Program as a means to help protection its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse, and other types of misconduct, including emotional abuse, bullying, threats,

harassment, and hazing. To help prevent abuse or misconduct from occurring in our locker rooms, BYH has adopted the following locker room policy. This policy is designed to maintain personal privacy and reduce the risk of misconduct in the locker rooms while also provide the coaches with the time they need with the team before and after team events (games, practices, etc).

At arenas/rinks BYH teams will travel to throughout the season, the locker room facilities (ie. Restrooms, showers, etc.) will vary from location to location. BYH team managers will attempt to provide information on the locker room facilities in advance of the games away from Penobscot Ice Arena. At arenas which you are unfamiliar, parents should plan to have extra time and some flexibility in making arrangements for their child to dress, undress, and shower if desired.

LOCKER ROOM MONITORING

BYH has predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (e.g. generally 30–45 minutes before and after practices and games). This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. While consistent monitoring inside of locker rooms and changing area might be the most effective way to prevent problems, we understand that this would likely make some players uncomfortable and may even place our staff at risk for unwarranted suspicion. We conduct a sweep of the locker rooms and changing areas before players arrive, and if the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, either a coach or responsible parent volunteer (who has undergone background screening required by MeAHA) will be posted directly outside of the locker rooms and changing areas during periods of use, to ensure that only approved athletes, coaches, and family members are permitted in the locker rooms. Each team rostered for Brewer Youth Hockey shall have a minimum of (3) Safe Sport trained volunteers who have completed background screening on BYH roster.

When not in use, locker rooms located at Brewer Youth Hockey's home rink (Penobscot Ice Arena), shall remain locked as indicated in PIA's Locker Room Policy. Coaches may obtain a key to the locker room upon entering the rink and the key shall remain in the possession on that individual or another Safe Sport trained adult associated with the team. Upon leaving the locker room, whether for the duration of practice or after the locker room has been cleared, the locker room shall be locked and the key shall be returned to the front desk of the rink.

LOCKER ROOM MEETINGS

Any individual meetings between a minor athlete and a coach or other adult in a locker room shall require a second responsible adult is present. The second adult shall have been screened in compliance with Section III of the Safe Sport Handbook.

PARENTS IN LOCKER ROOMS

Except for players at the younger age groups (6U/8U), we discourage parents from entering locker rooms unless it is truly necessary. If a player needs assistance with his or her uniform or gears, if the player is or may be injured, or a player's disability warrants assistance, then we ask the parents or guardians let the coach know beforehand that he or she will be helping the player.

Naturally, with our youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed. BYH does encourage parents to teach their players as young as possible how to get dressed so that this can become an independent process for the athletes.

At all levels, parents are asked to refrain from entering the locker rooms 15 minutes prior to and 15 minute upon completion of all games so that coaches may address the players. If parents do not leave of their own volition during this window of time, coaches are permitted to ask the parents to leave the locker rooms.

MIXED GENDER TEAMS

Some of our teams consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all our athletes are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Where possible, BYH will have the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room before the game for the team meeting. Once the game or practice has finished, the players may be asked to again convene in one locker room for a team meeting and then the male and female players proceed to their separate lockers to undress and shower, if available. We understand that these arrangements may require that players arrive earlier or leave later to dress, but believe that this is the most reasonable way to accommodate and respect all of our athletes.

CELLPHONE AND OTHER MOBILE RECORDING DEVICES

Per USA Hockey, there shall be **ABSOLUTELY NO** cellphones or other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, allowed in the locker rooms. BYH realizes that there are unique circumstances (victory celebration, team party, etc.) during which photographs or recording are acceptable at the discretion of the coach but all cellphone use associated with these events shall be done outside of the locker room. Before recording or taking pictures, ensure all persons in the locker room are appropriately dressed and have been advised that photographs or recorded are being taken.

FUNDRAISING POLICY

Brewer Youth Hockey will have fundraising opportunities throughout the season that families are asked to participate in to ensure BYH is able keep registration costs low. Fundraising efforts include the following events:

- Hannaford Reusable Grocery Bags
- Holiday Wreath Sales
- Tim Horton's Coffee Punch Cards
- Brewer Days Concessions
- Lucky 7 Raffle
- Annual Golf Tournament

Due to IRS regulations related to BYH's 501-3c non-profit station, BYH does not allow individual team fundraising nor does it allow individual fundraising efforts to be applied only to your family's bill.

If you have an idea for a fundraising event, please contact our Fundraising Coordinator at fundraising@brewerhockey.org

TRAVEL POLICY

BYH recognizes that a significant portion of hockey participation involves extended or overnight travel for youth teams to games and tournaments. Brewer Youth Hockey has established policies to guide travel associated with games and tournaments in order to minimize one-on-one interactions between players and adults to reduce the risk of abuse or potential misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase player safety and improve the player's experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

There are two distinct types of travel involved with youth hockey: local travel (travel to/from practices, dryland training, games at home rink, etc) and team travel (travel to/from away games, tournaments). Each type of travel has its own set of guidelines in compliance with USA Hockey and SafeSport travel policies.

LOCAL TRAVEL

- Players and/or their parents/guardian are responsible for making all arrangements for local travel.

- Coaches, managers, or volunteers of Brewer Youth Hockey or one of its teams, who are not also acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor player and should only drive with at least two players or another adult in the vehicle at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the player's parents/guardians.
- When a coach, manager, or volunteer is involved in an unrelated minor player's local travel, efforts should be made to ensure that the adult personnel are not alone with the related player. In any case where a coach, manager, or volunteer is involved in the player's local travel, a parental release should be obtained in advance.
- Coaches, managers, and volunteers who are also a player's parent or guardian may provide shared transportation for any player(s) if they pick up their player first and drop off their player last in any shared travel arrangements.
- It is recognized that in some limited instances it will be unavoidable for a coach, manager, or volunteer of Brewer Youth Hockey or one of its teams to drive along with an unrelated minor player. However, efforts should be made to minimize these occurrences and to mitigate any circumstances that could lead to allegations of abuse or misconduct.

TEAM TRAVEL

- Whenever possible, Brewer Youth Hockey will provide reasonable advance notice before team travel. Travel notice will also include designated team hotel for overnight stays as well as a contact person within BYH or the team. This individual will be the point of contact to help with travel details. It is never mandatory for you and your family to stay at the team hotel but please notify your coach if you plan to make other travel arrangements.
- All players must have a parent or designated guardian (with written consent of parents) to attend the tournament, game and all associated activities.
- Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a minor player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player).
- The coach may establish a curfew by when all players must be in their hotel rooms or in a supervised location.
- The team personnel may ask hotels to block adult pay per view channels.
- Individual meetings between a player and coach may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms and must be held in public setting or with additional adults present.
- If disciplinary action against a player is required while the player is traveling without his/her parents, then except where immediate action is necessary, parents will be notified before any action is taken or immediately after the action.
- No coach or adult chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.

- In all cases involving team travel, parents must arrange for transportation, either with them or another family, to the venue.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, the President and Vice President of Brewer Youth Hockey will make the official decision on whether all BYH's teams are travelling to away games that day. Decisions will not be made at the team level. Decisions regarding travel will be made no later than 4 hours prior to the start time of the game. If the rink where the game is to be held, including Penobscot Ice Arena is closed due to weather, the game will not be held. If you are a coach and do not feel comfortable travelling in the weather, you must notify the President and Vice President as soon as possible so that an alternate coach can be found. In all cases, it is important to remember that you must do what you feel is best for your family.

TIER III TRYOUT/SELECTION PROCEDURE

TRYOUTS

Tier III tryouts will consist of (2) two hours of on ice sessions. will allow for the chance for all players to showcase their abilities. Within 24 hours of the first tryout session, players will be notified via email either with an offer to play for the Tier III team or an invitation to attend the second tryout session. Following the second tryout session, players will be notified within 24 hours with an offer to join the team.

GOALIES

Goalies trying out at the 10U level will be required to skate out as a player in addition to being evaluated in the net during the tryout. Goalies trying out at the 12U, 14U, and 16U levels will only be evaluated on goalie skills.

If a 10U goalie is absent during one of the tryout sessions (see **Absentee Policy** below), that goalie will be required to skate out for 50% of the tryout session that they are able to attend.

EVALUATORS

During the tryout sessions, players will be evaluated by Board of Directors selected individuals. Evaluators may be made up of members of the local hockey community as well as coaches from within the Brewer Youth Hockey organization. At no time will an evaluator be a current BYH coach or BYH parent of any of the athlete in the given age group being evaluated. During tryouts, evaluators will be assigned to assess a particular topic/skill.

ABSENTEE POLICY

If a player is unable to make the tryout due to illness or family emergency, they **MAY** be granted a “make up” tryout. Make up tryouts are not guaranteed and will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Unacceptable excuses for missing the first night of tryouts include, but are not limited to, attendance of other organization’s tryouts and taking an “off” night after weekend tournaments.

TEAM SELECTION

In general, Tier III players will be selected based on the numerical assessment(s) given by evaluators during the tryout process for the majority of the roster. There will be roster spots left open at the end of tryout for “coaches’ choice” selections. If a potential coach has a conflict of interest (i.e. their child has not already been selected for the team), they will forfeit their recommendations.

Off-ice behavior, both during tryouts and during previous season, will be taken into consideration and may result in a skater not being offered a final roster spot.

Please be aware that not all families will receive notification of whether their athlete made the Tier III team. IF your player is not offered a callback opportunity for an additional tryout or a final roster spot, you will not necessarily receive any communication from Brewer Youth Hockey regarding the results of the tryout.

The tryout process for Tier III will be approved by the Board of Directors at each age level upon the conclusion of the final session at each age, minus any members with potential conflicts (parents of players who tried out, coaches of that particular level, etc). Following approval, rosters will be posted in a timely manner.

TIER IV TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURE

The team selection process will take place during the first two weeks of on-ice practices for **ALL** Tier IV teams (6U–18U). During this time, your athlete will be evaluated by coaches at that level on their skating ability, hockey skills, and commitment to teamwork in order to place him or her on a team that will provided the best environment for improving self-confidence and enjoyment of the sport of ice hockey. The coaches will use a standardized scoring system will assess skating ability and hockey skills at each level during these first few ice sessions. Additional input to a

player's respective hockey abilities and understanding of team concepts will be provided by the previous year's coach. That input will be solicited during the selection process.

After several practices , head coaches will convene for a "Draft Night" during which they shall evenly divide players using a draft selection process. All rosters must be approved by select Board committee, of which Tier IV Director is in charge. Draft Night shall be coordinated with Tier IV Director and schedule prior to season. –

For 6U/8U placement, roster spots will be given to first to returning 8U players. All open roster spots after that will be awarded based on ability rather than age. All new skaters at the 8U and under level returning 6U shall attend the first night of 6U practice. Athletes and families will be informed after the first or second night of practice if they have been selected to move up to 8U for the season.

Select Teams

Select teams at any given level (8U through 16U) may be formed.. Select teams shall be organized and rostered similar to all-star teams in other sports. Rosters for Select teams will be selected by the coach(es) that will be coordinating the team and shall be approved by the Board prior to the scheduling of any games or tournaments. Flex teams will also carry an additional registration fee on top of the current season's registration fee. Skaters may not participate in Flex team offerings if there is an outstanding balance on their account or they are not current with payment plan set up at the beginning of the season.

EXTENDED PLAY OPPORTUNITIES

Toward the end of the season, additional playing opportunities may arise for athletes. These opportunities may be in the form of additional games or an optional tournament and will likely require additional fees in order to participate. Skaters may not participate in extended play offerings if there is an outstanding balance on their account or they are not current with payment plan set up at the beginning of the season.

COACH SELECTION PROCEDURE

Coaching applications or a link to the coaching application for the upcoming season will be sent directly to previous coaches and will be posted on Brewer Youth Hockey's website. All coaches wishing to be considered for a coaching position shall submit their application to the ACE Director as requested. Head coaches shall then be voted on prior to team formation

Applications for Tier III coaching positions will be available prior to tryouts. Head coach selections will be made by the Board of Directors.

Those wishing to be considered for head coaching position shall have their Safe Sport training, background screening, and necessary coaching certifications completed prior to the start of the season.

Assistant coaches will not be chosen by the Board. Head coaches will be responsible for selecting their assistant coaches from the list of those individuals that submitted coaching applications and have been vetted by the Ace Director.

Each team must have a minimum of (2) coaches indicated on the official roster submitted to MeAHA.

PRACTICE AND GAME POLICY

Players are expected to make a sincere effort to meet the bulk of their practice and game commitments. As such attendance will be considered in a player's overall evaluation when a player is considered for placement the following year. The Board supports the notion that players who consistently miss practices and/or games without a legitimate reason can be disruptive to the team as a whole. If the situation becomes too difficult for the coach to manage, the coach may refer the matter to the Board for further action. The Board recognizes that no two sets of player and family circumstances are exactly alike and is committed to arriving at a solution that is mutually beneficial to the player and their respective team. Regardless, the BYH expects players and their families to make their best effort towards meeting practice and game commitments.

Players should be fully dressed and ready to skate 15 minutes before scheduled game and practice commitments. Players should plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to game commitments to ensure enough time to dress and be ready before 15 minutes pre-game window. This will ensure players are not in the process of dressing while coaches are reviewing plays and strategies prior to the game.

Parents/Guardians, siblings, and other family members are never allowed on the ice or in the bench area during games or practices unless an official member of the team or as otherwise permitted by the coach.

JERSEY RETURN POLICY

With the exception of 6U/8U, Atoms & LTS/LTP, all jerseys (regular season, extended play, etc.) are the property of Brewer Youth Hockey. They will be distributed by coaches at the beginning of the season and are expected to be returned at the last game. Team Managers shall be responsible for washing the jerseys after last game and returning to BYH. If your player's jersey(s) are not returned to BYH by June 1, 2022, your family will be billed for the \$100 replacement cost per jersey.

CONDUCT POLICY

In an effort to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning, it is critical that all athletes conduct themselves in an appropriate manner; showing respect for their teammates, coaches, parents, opponents, and referees. Initial infractions will be handled with warnings from the coaches. If continued misconduct occurs, parents will be contacted and it may be necessary to suspend or remove the athlete from the program, pending review by the Brewer Youth Hockey Board. BYH reserves the right to assign an alternative punishment or waive the additional game if warranted given the circumstances.

It is the unwavering expectation of the BYH Board that everyone associated with the Brewer Youth Hockey Program will conduct themselves in a dignified and respectful manner at all times. BYH follows the USA Hockey Zero Tolerance Policy (found on BYH website). Additionally, BYH Board policy dictates that all players or coaches receiving a misconduct penalty during a game will be assessed a matching penalty from Brewer Youth Hockey, i.e. if a player or coach receives a game misconduct penalty, they will be suspended from play for (2) games rather than just the (1) game required by USA Hockey.

PLAYER/COACH CODE OF CONDUCT

It is expected that all athletes and team officials of Brewer Youth Hockey players will adhere to the following rules of conduct whenever representing Brewer Youth Hockey (games, practices, special events like Brewer Days, 4th of July Parade, etc):

- 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 USA Hockey Discipline Committee.
- There will be no drinking, smoking, vaping, chewing tobacco, or use of illegal substance at any team function.
- Any player or team official will conduct themselves in a befitting manner at all facilities (ice rink, dryland facilities, hotel, restaurant, etc.) during all team functions. This includes following any and all facility rules and restrictions and cleaning up themselves and their teammates.
- Any player or team official who cannot abide by these rules or violates them will be subject to further disciplinary actions.

PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

It is expected that all parents or guardians of Brewer Youth Hockey players will adhere to the following rules of conduct whenever representing Brewer Youth Hockey (games, practices, special events like Brewer Days, 4th of July Parade, etc):

- I will never ridicule or yell at my child, or anyone else, for making a mistake or losing a game.
- I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteers who give their time to hockey for my athlete.
- I will never yell, taunt, threaten, or inflict physical violence upon any player, coach, official, or spectator at any youth hockey activity. I will refrain from the use of abusive or vulgar language, racial, ethnic, or gender related slurs at all times at any youth hockey function.
- I will leave the coaching to the coaching staff. I will encourage my child to play in a manner consistent with the team's and organization's strategy or plans. I will respect the coach's experience, decisions, and abilities. Any concerns regarding my athlete will be discussed privately with the coach, at a scheduled time, not before or after games or practices. If no resolution is agreed upon, I have the right to file an official grievance with the Brewer Youth Hockey Board.
- I understand that if I am in violation of this Code of Conduct, I may be asked to leave the BYH activity (such as game or practice), prevented from attending future BYH activities or I may be asked to withdraw my athlete from Brewer Youth Hockey.

BREWER YOUTH HOCKEY AND SAFE SPORT

BYH is committed to not only improving the skill development of its Members but also ensuring the continuous safety and welfare of all athletes. As such, BYH participates in USA Hockey's Safe

Sport Program (<https://www.usahockey.com/safesportprogram>). BYH, in conjunction with USA Hockey and MeAHA, is committed to consistently work to implement and uphold the framework of the Safe Sport program, volunteers, coaches, parents, and players have a critical role in recognizing incidents and reporting them.

There are seven primary types of abuse and misconduct address by the SafeSport policies. For official definitions of these violations, refer to the USA Hockey Safe Sport Handbook.

- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Bullying
- Threats
- Harassment
- Hazing

As required by Safe Sport, USA Hockey, and MeAHA policies, ANY reports of suspected physical or sexual abuse MUST be reported to local law enforcement by Brewer Youth Hockey immediately. It is not BYH's place to make judgement on the credibility or the validity of the facts on which the allegations are based and doing so, or attempting to conduct an independent investigation, may interfere with the legal investigative process. Once a report has been made to the authorities, any volunteer or coach associated with BYH attempting to perform their own investigation will face consequences from the Disciplinary Committee.

When a bullying, harassment, hazing, emotional, or other abuse allegation is not reportable under relevant local, state, or federal law, Brewer Youth Hockey shall internally address and investigate those alleged policy violations and misconduct, and impose discipline where appropriate. Depending on the severity of the allegation, allegations may be forwarded to MeAHA for assistance with disciplinary decisions.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT EACH CASE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BREWER YOUTH HOCKEY BOARD WILL BE REVIEWED AND HANDLED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, DICATATED BY THE DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT.

All communication regarding reported incidents and any disciplinary actions shall occur from the BYH Board to the coach of the affected team. It is the coach's responsibility to inform other families on the respective team so that they are aware of the situation. At no time shall the coach or BYH Board share confidential information included in the report of the allegation.

In an effort to ensure all those associated with BYH are familiar with Safe Sport policies, all Brewer Youth Hockey volunteers (coaches, team managers, locker room monitors, etc.) MUST be Safe Sport Trained before the season begins. All volunteers shall email a copy of their "Safe Sport Trained" certificate to both the Registrar (registrar@brewerhockey.org) and the Safe Sport Coordinator (vp@brewerhockey.org).



Brewer Youth Hockey Parent/Guardian Contract

This document shall serve as an acknowledgement of Brewer Youth Hockey's policies, procedures, and financial commitments. Each parent or legal guardian of the athlete must initial each section and sign at the bottom of this form. By initialing/signing, all parents/guardians of players in the Brewer Youth Hockey Organization agree to abide by the guidelines set forth in BYH's Family Manual and ensure that friends/relatives accompanying them will also follow these guidelines. They also accept the responsibility for any consequences of their actions as outlined in the Family Manual. This form must be completed in order for your child to step onto the ice after the first week of practice.

- **Financial:** I have read the 2021–2022 Registration information included in the BYH Family Manual and fully understand my financial commitment to Brewer Youth Hockey, including the following:
 - I understand and agree to fill commit to the 2021–2022 Brewer Youth Hockey season. _____
 - I understand that if I do not pay my hockey bill in full by **December 1, 2022** or am not on a current payment plan with BYH, my child will not be able to participate in any Brewer Youth Hockey events, including practices, games, etc. _____
 - I understand and agree that I will remain financially responsible for all registration fees even if my athlete quits. _____
 - I understand that if there is an unforeseen reason we are unable to complete the season, any refunds will be decided based on the individual circumstance by the Brewer Youth Hockey Board (as described in BYH By-Laws). _____
- **Concussion/Injury:** I have read BYH's concussion policy. I agree to respect our coach's decision if he/she feels that my athlete needs to be removed from the ice. _____
- **Locker Room:** I have read BYH's locker room policy. I agree to comply with all guidelines set forth in this policy, including the 15 minute before game and 15 minutes after game window in which parents/guardians will not be allowed into the locker room. _____
- **Fundraising:** I have read and understand BYH's fundraising. I will not participate in individual or team fundraising outside of what is offered by the organization. _____
- **Travel:** I have read and understand BYH's travel policy. I agree to comply with all guidelines set forth in this policy. _____
- **Team Selection:** I have read BYH's team selection procedures and understand that if I have any questions or concerns regarding the division of teams, I must schedule a time to speak directly with the coaches. _____

- I understand that BYH cannot estimate the progress of individual players or the growth of teams throughout the season. I understand it is therefore possible for teams within the same level to finish the season unequally distributed. _____
- Practices and Games: I have read BYH's practice and game policy and understand the expectations the coaches/organization have. _____
- Jersey Return Policy: I have read BYH's jersey return policy and understand that expectation that my player's jerseys are to be returned at the last game of the season. I further understand that if my player's jerseys are not returned prior to **June 1, 2023**, I will be charged a \$100/jersey replacement fee. _____
- Parent's Code of Conduct: I have read a copy of BYH's Parent Code of Conduct. I agree to comply with and inform any friends/relatives accompanying me of all rules & regulations. _____
 - I understand that if I am in violation of BYH's Code of Conduct I may be asked to leave game/practice, prevented from attending future games/practices, or asked to withdraw my athlete from the organization. _____
 - I agree to respect my athlete's coaches and the Brewer Youth Hockey organization as a whole. I will trust their decisions when it comes to team placement, positioning, and the way practices/games are conducted. I understand that the coach does not mind speaking with me, but it must be at an appropriate time. _____
 - I understand not to speak poorly of the organization, coaches, or other athletes to other or through social media. If I have an issue, I will set up a meeting with the appropriate party. _____
- Media Release: (Please initial only one of the following) I give my consent for images of my child, captured during regular and special Brewer Youth Hockey activities through video, photo and digital camera, to be used solely for the purpose of Brewer Youth Hockey's promotional materials, website, social media accounts, and publications, and waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto. _____
 - I decline – my child's image will not be posted by Brewer Youth Hockey. _____

SIGNATURES:

In addition to acknowledging my understanding and compliance of Brewer Youth Hockey's Family Manual and the policies and procedures including in it, I agree to discussion BYH's expectations with my athlete(s) and ensure all family members/friends accompanying myself or my athlete to any Brewer Youth Hockey event (practice, game, special event, etc) will also follow guidelines set forth by manual.

PARENT/GUARDIAN:_____ DATE:_____

PARENT/GUARDIAN:_____ DATE:_____

PARENT/GUARDIAN:_____ DATE:_____

PARENT/GUARDIAN:_____ DATE:_____