



1. Registration is done on our website at [www.saginawbayicearena.com](http://www.saginawbayicearena.com). All players must also be registered with USA Hockey, which is done at [www.usahockey.com](http://www.usahockey.com).
2. Parent or guardian must inform their coach of any prevailing medical information/condition regarding their child.
3. All players must furnish a photocopy of their birth certificate their first time in the GSAHA program
4. REGISTRATION FEE: Four (4) payments are available with the first payment due upon registration. Second payment due October 15, third payment due December 1, and fourth payment due January 15. Payments MUST be made on time in order for players to participate in games or practices. Coaches and coordinators will be notified of a player's ineligibility, by written notification from the arena office. Special arrangements concerning PAST DUE PAYMENTS must be made by contacting the Arena Manager.
5. LATE REGISTRATION: Players registering after the completion of the final team drafts will have their placement onto a GSAHA team subject to availability depending on the respective division and roster #'s in that division. Players being added after the draft will be placed onto a team (in no particular order) after the Arena Manager, Program Committee and MAHA District Representative have determined the impact the added player will have to a team and division. Payments and registration fee may be pro-rated.
6. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR DIVISIONS:  
House - 50 hours
7. LONG TERM ILLNESS/INJURY POLICY: If a player is sick or injured and unable to participate in practices and games for a period of not less than three (3) weeks, the following requirements must be met:
  - a. Parent or guardian must submit a request, in writing, to the Arena Manager.
  - b. Written notification must be enclosed from the player's doctor indicating the time of disability or illness.
  - c. During the period in question, (for the refund) the player may not take part in any on-ice activities.
  - d. If approved, the refund will be pro-rated, according to the team's ice usage. Players may not participate in either practices or games until all of the above requirements are fulfilled.

All players that sign up for the Greater Saginaw Amateur Hockey Association, and meet all of the registration requirements, will be drafted onto a team.

- I.
  - A. Players are NOT allowed at any time to play down in league classification.
  - B. No player will be allowed to play up in league classification unless approved by the Board of Directors. Players moving up must meet the following requirements:
    1. Parent or guardian must submit a letter requesting move-up to the Board of Directors.
    2. A committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, will evaluate the request based upon criteria set up by the Board.
    3. House "B" players must submit their request, in writing, at time of registration.
    4. Final approval will be made by the Board of Directors.
  - C. The Michigan Amateur Hockey Assn allows a player to be on only one USAH sanctioned team during the regular season (Sep-Mar), however there is a pilot program for house B players that may play on a "Tournament Team", where a special roster is good for three days. MAHA allows players to be on two USAH sanctioned teams during the post season (Apr - Aug). All teams of the GSAHA shall be governed by the rules of GSAHA, USA Hockey, MAHA, or any league of which they are a member.  
Players MAY NOT take the ice for practices or games, with any other team, regardless of division, other than with the team they are registered with. Due to USA Hockey regulations, only personnel properly registered to the respective team may take the ice or be on the team bench for practice or games.
    1. Older players may assist coaches for lower age groups in practice as Student Coaches, with prior training and approval of the Coaching Director.

2. Teams participating in scheduled or unscheduled games, tournament, scrimmage, or any other type of game may only take players registered to that team per USA Hockey Regulations. District or State playoff games allowing for a back-up goaltender to be added, must go through the Board of Directors for approval.
3. Any player, coach, or team official, who violates Rule #2 above, will be immediately suspended pending a MAHA disciplinary hearing. Minimum MAHA penalty for this infraction calls for a one (1) year suspension. The GSAHA reserves the option to impose further disciplinary action and/or suspension.
4. In order to protect our Associations 501(c)3 status and to avoid jeopardizing any players amateur athletic eligibility, any team or person(s) wishing to hold a fundraising activity must have the approval of the Board of Directors. The request must be in writing and submitted in advance to provide for proper review and discussion.
- 5.

II. **EQUIPMENT:** Each player will be furnished with a game jersey from the GSAHA to use for the season. The jersey will be issued to the coach at the beginning of the season. The players will be responsible to purchase their own socks. At the conclusion of the season, the COACHES are responsible for returning the jerseys to the association within 10 days.

Players must wear their full equipment, when on the ice, for both practices and games. Equipment needed is listed at USAHockey.com, including HECC approved helmets only.

- A. If a goalie does not have his own equipment, he may borrow some (as available) from the GSAHA. Coaches must check out equipment bag at office and return after. Each team may borrow only one bag at a time.
- B. Damage or loss of equipment will require replacement by the borrower.
- C. **EQUIPMENT DROP-OFF AREA:** ALL **players** must put their equipment in the designated drop-off area, directly across from locker room #3, both before and after games and practices. Equipment left in the lobby area may cause injury to spectators trying to leave or enter the building. Help make your arena a safe place by putting equipment in its proper place.
- D. **THEFT:** Clothing and equipment must be left in the locker rooms. The majority of players are honest, but there may be a few who might not be. **NO SECOND CHANCE** will be given to anyone found guilty of taking any item that is not their own. This includes "borrowing" equipment without the owner's permission. Immediate suspension and referral to the Board of Directors will be the penalty. Teams are suggested to keep locker rooms locked while on the ice for both practices and games. Keys **MUST** be obtained from the office prior to scheduled ice time, in exchange for a set of car keys.

III. **COACHING:** All coaches will be selected from applications made to the Board of Directors.

- A. **TRAVEL TEAM COACHES:** Applications for travel team coaches for the following season must be submitted to the arena office by March 7th. Coaches for the travel teams will then be selected at the next scheduled monthly board meeting. Travel teams must select, at minimum, 14 players, and at maximum, 17 players. (As outlined by the Board of Directors on July 8, 1992) Travel team rosters will be finalized as of the final tryouts per respective division. Additions and/or deletions to travel teams **MUST** be brought to the Board of Directors in writing.
- B. **HOUSE TEAM COACHES** are asked to submit their application before the GSAHA youth drafts commence. All head coaches will then be selected by a committee of the Board of Directors.
- C. Each team will have a head coach, assistant coach, team manager and two gender specific Locker Room Monitors (need two additional if using both a boys locker room and a girls locker room) .
- D. All coaches must keep an updated, current "Game Log", which may be monitored during the season by the Board of Directors and which must be submitted to the Board of Directors at the conclusion of the season.

All Team Staff (Coaches, Managers, Locker Room Monitors and other Volunteers) are to have the proper certification as outlined by USA Hockey and MAHA. **Coaches:** USA Hockey Membership (Player/Coach), MAHA/USAH Background Check, USAH Safe Sport Training Module, USAH Age Specific Module, Proper CEP (Coaching Education Program) Level.

**Manager/LR Monitor/Other Volunteers:** USAH Membership (Volunteer), MAHA/USAH Background Check, USAH Safe Sport Training Module. These roles cannot go onto the ice or on the bench for games.

- E. All Parents/Legal Guardians will be required to sign a "Code of Conduct Agreement", as outlined by the GSAHA and USA Hockey which is part of the online registration process.
- F. Coaches Expectations:
  - 1. Equal/Fair Opportunity for Ice time
  - 2. Sportsmanship
  - 3. Supervision
  - 4. Direction
  - 5. Develop Skills
  - 6. Teach rules of the game
- G. Coaches must hold a parent meeting as soon as possible following the team drafts and prior to their first game. The upstairs conference room is available through the arena office. Coaches **MAY NOT USE THEIR LOCKER ROOMS** for team meetings unless during their practice time, as the next team scheduled to use it needs time to dress before their ice time.
  - 1. Coaches are to have a team manager. Team managers are necessary in coordinating and communicating team and association functions.
- H. Each division will have a coordinator as its representative.
- I. Any coach temporarily removing a player from his team for misconduct should report to the coordinator the player's infraction. Players are asked to contact their coach or assistant coach directly if they are unable to attend a practice or game which can easily be done through the mobile app.
- J. Any coach who wishes to drop a player from his team, after the teams have been chosen, must bring the matter before the Board of Directors in writing, with the board making the final decision.
- K. Any player or parent who has a grievance against his coach should first try discussing the problems with the coach in private. If this fails they should contact their divisional coordinator. If following the listed procedures fail, they should then bring the matter, in writing, to the Board of Directors for review.

#### IV. GSAHA PENALTY REGULATIONS:

- A. All penalties (minor, major, misconduct, game misconduct, and match penalty) are the same as in USA Hockey rules except as follows:
  - 1. Any player involved in a rule violation who receives a game misconduct penalty shall be suspended from playing his/her next regularly scheduled game, including tournaments and playoffs. A team may not add a game (exhibition or otherwise) in order to satisfy a game suspension.
  - 2. A player who receives a game misconduct penalty will be suspended for one game. Upon receipt of a game misconduct a player must immediately proceed to the locker room and either: (1) remain in the locker room for the balance of the game, or (2) dress and leave the arena premises.
- B. DISCIPLINE FOR FIGHTING: USA Hockey has adopted progressive suspension for fighting. First being a one (1) game suspension; second fight, three (3) games; third fight, match penalty and MAHA hearing.
- C. SUSPENSIONS:

1. Any suspension by the Governing Board of the GSAHA of five (5) games or less shall be without right of appeal.
  2. Any appeal must be registered with the Board of Directors prior to the expiration of fourteen (14) days from the date of decision. Any such appeal must be accompanied by the sum of \$25. If such appeal is upheld, the \$25 will be returned.
  3. Any player or person who receives a suspension, and appeals such suspension with the GSAHA Board, and is not satisfied with the Board's rulings, may appeal to MAHA District 5 for a ruling. The appeal must be brought to the GSAHA Board's attention in a letter before that appeal can be made. Nonconformance to this rule can be cause for expulsion from the GSAHA.
- D. To insure the safety and welfare of all players, coaches, officials, and spectators, **the following items are prohibited** at all times at the Saginaw-Bay Ice Arena:
1. Fireworks or explosives of any kind.
  2. Firearms, knives, or any other weapon.
  3. Alcohol, narcotics, or any illegal drugs/substances.
  4. Laser pointers and air horns.
- Any person found with any of the above items in his/her possession will:
- a. Be ejected from GSAHA property.
  - b. Be banned from the Saginaw-Bay Ice Arena pending a hearing by the disciplinary committee of the Board of Directors.
  - c. Have a police report filed with the Saginaw County Sheriff's Department.
- E. Smoking and Vaping are prohibited in the Saginaw-Bay Ice Arena at all times.
- F. The Arena Manager, Member of the Board of Directors or arena staff acting in the Manager's behalf, has the authority and responsibility to remove at any time, any person displaying dangerous conduct to others, or who disrupts the safety and proper conduct of any event in the arena or parking areas.
- G. Any person or player of the GSAHA, who at any time displays conduct detrimental to the GSAHA, may be called before the disciplinary committee of the Board of Directors; and all finding will be brought before the Board of Directors for final approval and suspension, if necessary.
- All players registered with the GSAHA will be subject to "CODE OF CONDUCT" rules set forth by the GSAHA and the respective coaches; which will also be in effect at any team game, practice, or function while representing the GSAHA away from the Saginaw-Bay Ice Arena. This may include, but not limited to Smoking/Vaping, Drinking, Language, etc. Coaches and/or GSAHA Board of Directors or Arena Manager may enforce disciplinary action.

#### V. PERIOD TIME AND PLAYING RULES FOR GSAHA GAMES

##### A. PERIOD TIME:

1. Atom & Mite Division: Will receive two (2) minute shifts until scheduled time is up. ADM cross-ice games
2. Squirt through Bantam: Game time will consist of three 10 minute stop time periods, or until scheduled time is up.
3. Midget: To be determined by the Board of Directors.
4. Travel Teams: League games will be played according to governing league rules. .

Note: A three (3) minute warm-up must be posted on the clock and started immediately upon players taking the ice and the door to the Zamboni is closed. It is the coach's duty to have his team ready to take the ice or forfeit the warm-up time. This will be enforced so the arena may keep as close to it's scheduling as possible.

##### B. MAHA RULES AND REGULATION/GSAHA AMENDMENT:

1. Only two (2) non-association scheduled games with outside teams are allowed for any house league team.

2. House league teams are allowed only two (2) sanctioned tournaments, excluding Silver Stick and District play. Coaches must resolve scheduling conflicts with the arena manager prior to applying for tournaments. No exceptions to this rule are allowed without the approval of the Board of Directors.
3. A) Due to the changing dates of the Midland Regional Silver Stick tournament, the criteria establishing the GSAHA representative will be determined yearly at the start of each season by the program committee.  
B) District 5 representatives will be determined by the first place team as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current playing season. If a discrepancy arises from an uneven number of games being played, then the decision will be made after an equal number of games have been played for those teams in question. If an unforeseen scheduling problem arises out of our control, than a final decision will be handed down by the Board.

4. DETERMINING GSAHA HOUSE LEAGUE STANDINGS:

First place in division and District representative, Silver Stick, etc.

Team standings will be determined (only games played against teams of the association shall count) by two (2) points for a win and one (1) point for a tie game. In the event that two (2) or more teams are tied in points at the cutoff date, then the following format shall be used to determine the standings.

1. Once a tiebreaker seeds a team or teams, any teams remaining tied start back at the top.

1. Total Points (2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, 0 points for a loss)
2. Head to Head (winner seeded higher)
3. Goals For – Goals Against (Only using games between the TIED opponents) (Max goal differential per game is 7)
4. Goals For – Goals Against (All Games) (Max goal differential per game is 7)
5. Highest Goal Differential Quotient (Goals For divided by Goals Against)
6. Lowest Goals Against total (Only using games between the TIED opponents)
7. Lowest Goals Against total (All Games)
8. Highest Goal total (Only using games between the TIED opponents)
9. Highest Goal total (All Games)
10. First goal scored in game between two tied teams.

5. Teams participating in the District tournaments representing the GSAHA will have the tournament deposit fee [\$400.00 max] paid for by the association. Teams participating in all other tournaments, or games including Silver Stick, MUST PAY THEIR OWN TEAM ENTRY FEE (including referees if needed).

- a. OVERTIME GAMES: During GSAHA 'B' classification Championship games (or game(s) where a winner must be determined) the following format will be used after regulation play and the game is tied. 5 minute overtime period - 4 on 4 plus goalie
- b. 5 minute overtime period - 3 on 3 plus goalie
- c. Shootout

\*\*\*All minor and major penalties will be in effect during this format and teams will play shorthanded as the penalty infraction allows.

C. PLAYING RULES:

USA Hockey and Michigan Amateur Hockey Association rules will govern except for the following:

1. Game time will run as listed previously. The score sheet of each game will become a permanent league record and shall be signed by coaches and referees immediately following the game and turned into the arena office. Once a coach has verified the score sheet by his signature, no protest may be filed with the Board of Directors concerning this particular game, in any respect. Coach should also make sure the proper players have been awarded goals or assists as they cannot be changed later and all patches awarded are taken from the stats listed on the score sheet.

NOTE: If a player has earned a patch in an outside game or tournament, the coach must turn a copy of the score sheet into the arena office in order for the award to be verified and recorded.

- a. Players may earn one (1) patch in each of the following categories:  
Shutout - earned by the goaltender for allowing no goals in a game.  
Hat Trick - when one player scores three goals in any one game.  
Playmaker - when one player assists on three goals in any one game.

2. The GSAHA home team listed on the score sheet is responsible for furnishing qualified timekeepers and scorekeepers. Parents are usually appointed by the coach to work the clock and keep the score sheet. The score sheet is important, as it becomes a permanent league record of the game played. Please learn to operate the clock and fill out the score sheet prior to helping in any game.
3. FORFEIT TIME: Any team not ready to start play with at least six (6) players, fully dressed, including goaltender within five (5) minutes of the regular scheduled game time, shall forfeit the game, providing the opposing team takes the ice.
4. RINK PLAYING RULES: Playing rules will be established at each rink where facilities require special rules. These rules will be displayed at the rink involved and must be adhered to by all players, coaches, and managers. Anyone disregarding these rules will be subject to ejection from the premises and disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.
5. No player, coach, or team manager may be on the ice when the Zamboni is on it. After the nets are moved by the referees or team members they **MUST LEAVE THE ICE AND CLOSE THE PLAYER ENTRANCE DOOR BEHIND THEM.** For Safety purposes, Players **MUST STAY** in the locker room until resurfacing has been completed.
6. Each coach or manager, before the commencement of any game, shall submit to the official scorer and accurate line-up showing names and numbers of players. Every effort must be made, by both coaches, to determine rotation system of players and to have **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ICE TIME ON ALL TEAMS.**
7. MAHA RULING: No more than four (4) registered team officials in good standing will be permitted in the vicinity of the player's bench or will be allowed to coach or manage a team. **PER MAHA RULES, ALL COACHES MUST WEAR HELMETS ON THE ICE DURING PRACTICES.**
8. ALL PLAYERS, INCLUDING GOALKEEPERS, in the Pee Wee age classification and up, are required to wear an internal mouthpiece, which covers the teeth of the upper jaw. This is also strongly recommended for those players in the Squirt and lower age classifications.
9. NO JEWELRY of any kind may be worn during the games or practices.

V. PROTESTS:

- A. No protest will be accepted or considered if it is based upon a matter of play involving only the accuracy of a referee's judgment. At the time of the decision in question, and before play resumes, the coach or manager must inform the official that the game is being played under protest. Written protests must be submitted to the Board of Directors for determination within 24 hours of the printed starting time of the game protested, plus a \$25 protest fee which will be refunded if the protest is upheld. The league rules may be amended, added to, or

repealed, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any meeting, provided there is advance notice of at least one week prior to submitting the vote to the Board of Directors.

VI. DRAFT SYSTEM:

- A. The draft system will be used for assigning players to the teams in the GSAHA. The rules governing the draft will be as follows:
1. The coaches, along with the Program Committee, will evaluate the players skating ability for the purpose of drafting the teams as equal as possible. Coaches will draft their son/daughter first in the rating category they're in.
  2. The order of choice during the draft will be Drawn from a hat.
  3. All rules governing the draft are set up by the Board of Directors and MAHA in order to qualify for Districts, Area, and State Final Playoffs.
  4. Letters requesting certain stipulations regarding coaches will be presented to that named coach, before the draft, for his perusal.
  5. Only the head coach is permitted at the draft table.

HOUSE DRAFT RULES

ORDER OF DRAFT

1. Players will be selected in the following order as per MAHA rules (3 team example) Rd 1 - Team 1, 2, 3 Rd 2 - Team 2, 3, 1 Rd 3 - Team 3, 1, 2 Rd 4 - starts over

SPRING LEAGUE DRAFT

Players will be evaluated after on-ice skating drills and assigned a rating determined by the coaches and Program Committee. After the order of draft is determined, players will be assigned alphabetically, through each rating field, until all players are placed onto a team.