

Thank you for your interest in officiating USA Hockey. The Minnesota Hockey Officials Association (MHOA) is dedicated to improving the quality and consistency of youth hockey officiating throughout the state of Minnesota. To become certified in officiating, there are a number of steps you will need to take:

1. Go to www.usahockey.com and click on "Become a Member" on main page and then "Register Now". Follow the directions. You will have to pay the appropriate fee for the level you are applying for. (All first-year officials must register at Level 1 and only one additional level may be attained each year). **Registration is now open.**
2. Once you have registered with USA Hockey, you will need to register for a USA Hockey virtual instructional seminar. This can be done by clicking on the seminar link at the end of USA Hockey registration or from the home page, "officials" then "classroom seminars". Once you have determined which seminar you want to attend, you need to create a profile (follow the link). This is a one-time thing, and you will use this profile for all future registration. **Remember the username and password.** If you cannot find the seminar you are looking for the seminar is full and cannot accept any more registrations and you must choose a different one. You may attend any USA Hockey local seminar that fits your schedule. It does not have to be a Duluth area District 11 seminar.

NOTE: Only 1 seminar required, choice is Zoom or In-Person. Highly suggest the In-Person seminar for Level 1s. NO In-Person seminars will be held for Levels 2-4 in District 11.

Duluth Area 2025-2026 Local Seminars:

Zoom:

- Level 1: November 10th @ 6pm
- Level 1: November 26th @ 6pm
- Level 2: October 22nd @ 6pm
- Level 3-4: October 15th @ 6pm
- Level 3-4: October 29th @ 6pm

In-Person:

- Level 1: October 19th, Noon, at St Luke's Sports & Event Center in Proctor
- Level 1: November 9th, Noon, at Lake County Arena in Two Harbors
- Level 1: November 16th, Noon, at Northwoods Credit Union Arena in Cloquet

3. Testing through USA Hockey Modules
4. Online Modules through USA Hockey
5. Officials 18 years of age and older must complete the online SafeSport training. This is a requirement, and it must be completed before your officiating registration is complete. This training is available from the USA Hockey home page, "officials", then "SafeSport Training". This should take about 90 minutes. There is no cost to this program. In subsequent years there is a shorter refresher course. This must be done every year and is a federally mandated requirement.
6. Once you have attended your seminar, and those who need SafeSport and a background check, you will receive your card and crest in the mail.
7. Contact your local supervisor of officials (there are 12 supervisors around the state). Your local supervisor can help you find the local assignor in your area. Please note that it is your responsibility to contact the supervisor in your area to find local assignors to receive game assignments. If you have problems receiving game assignments, contact your local supervisor of officials to assist you.

- The local Duluth area association is the North East Hockey Officials Association (NEHOA). They are responsible for scheduling all officials for youth hockey in the area. The assignor is a gentleman by the name of Don Walters. He can be reached at:

lakeheadofficiatingservicesllc@gmail.com

Once you are completely registered, please send him an email and he will explain the scheduling process. You will also learn more about this at the local seminar.

8. NEHOA 2025-2026 Meeting Schedule:

October 19th in St Luke's Sports & Event Center in Proctor
November 9th Lake County Arena in Two Harbors
November 16th TBD
November 23rd St Luke's Sports & Event Center in Proctor
January 4th St Luke's Sports & Event Center in Proctor
February 8th St Luke's Sports & Event Center in Proctor
Annual Meeting/ End of Year Party (March 22nd or March 29th TBD at a later date)

Please try to attend one of these pre-season meetings. You will be able to sign the Independent Contractor agreement and the W9 Form and meet the board of directors.

Here is a brief recap of each step that must be completed. (It looks a lot worse than it is!)

The following items must be completed before you received your card and crest:

1. You must have registered online with USA hockey.
2. You must have attended a virtual seminar.
3. If you are born in 2007 or earlier, you must successfully complete the SafeSport training and background check.

Again, thank you for your interest in becoming a youth hockey official and please contact me with any questions.

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