

**USA HOCKEY, INC.
2024 WINTER MEETING
LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM**

PROPOSAL NUMBER: YOUTH/GIRLS 2

NAME OF PUBLICATION:

MAIN HEADING: USA Hockey Annual Guide

REGULATION (Heading):

BY-LAW (Heading): Rules and Regulations

Section: **VIII. GAMES, EXHIBITION GAMES, INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS, SANCTIONED LEAGUES AND SANCTIONED EVENTS**

Reference (sub-section): **A. Definition of a Game**

Paragraph / Page no(s): **165**

CURRENT WORDING: (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11)

VIII. GAMES, EXHIBITION GAMES, INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS, SANCTIONED LEAGUES AND SANCTIONED EVENTS

A. Definition of a Game: An ice hockey game is a contest played against another team which is registered with USA Hockey or a member organization of the IIHF. USA Hockey playing rules or approved modification thereof shall apply.

(1) The age appropriate standard playing surface at 8 & Under is cross-ice or half-ice.

(2) Subject to limited exceptions as are approved by the USA Hockey Player Development Committee, all games and scrimmages at the 8U age level shall be played either cross-ice or half-ice, or on a surface that is equal to or less than the dimensions of cross-ice or half-ice. Each Affiliate shall enact applicable rules and regulations to address the governance, implementation and transition for this rule to become effective within the Affiliate. To the extent an Affiliate desires to seek exceptions for a limited number of full ice games or scrimmages for its teams at the 8U level, the Affiliate shall submit a plan by January 31 each year detailing such request to the USA Hockey Player Development Committee. The Affiliate's plan is subject to the annual approval of the Player Development Committee which will give final determination by March 31 of the same year.

SPECIFIC WORDING OF PROPOSAL: (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11)

(as it should appear with new wording-**bold**, Deletions-strikethrough)

VIII. GAMES, EXHIBITION GAMES, INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS, SANCTIONED LEAGUES AND SANCTIONED EVENTS

A. Definition of a Game: An ice hockey game is a contest played against another team which is registered with USA Hockey or a member organization of the IIHF. USA Hockey playing rules or approved modification thereof shall apply.

(1) The age-appropriate standard playing surface at 8 & Under is cross-ice or half-ice, **subject to the limited exception noted in Section (2) below.**

(2) ~~Subject to limited exceptions as are approved by the USA Hockey Player Development Committee, all games and scrimmages at the 8U age level shall be played either cross-ice or half-ice, or on a surface that is equal to or less than the dimensions of cross-ice or half-ice. Each Affiliate shall enact applicable rules and regulations to address the governance, implementation and transition for this rule to become effective within the Affiliate. To the extent an Affiliate desires to seek exceptions for a limited number of full ice games or scrimmages for its~~

~~teams at the 8U level, the Affiliate shall submit a plan by January 31 each year detailing such request to the USA Hockey Player Development Committee. The Affiliate's plan is subject to the annual approval of the Player Development Committee which will give final determination by March 31 of the same year.~~

An Affiliate may grant its member programs or leagues exceptions for a limited number of full ice games or scrimmages for its teams at the 8U level not to exceed ten (10) total games in a season provided that the Affiliate shall enact applicable rules and regulations to address the governance, implementation of such full ice games which shall include the following minimum requirements:

(a) Eligibility for playing full ice games shall be limited to teams comprised of 8-year-old birth year only or a combination of 7-year-old birth year & 8-year-old birth year players (which combined teams shall include a minimum of five 8-year-old birth year players).

(b) Teams comprised solely of 7-year-old birth year only players and/or a combination of 7-year-old and younger i.e. 4-, 5- and 6-year-olds ("Mini-Mites") are not eligible to play full ice games. Any games which include Mini-Mites shall be played in the cross-ice or half-ice format.

(c) Full ice games can only be played from and after January 1 of the applicable hockey season through March 31 and teams and/or players shall have been rostered and participated in half-ice programs between September 1 and December 31.

(d) Players and teams shall continue to play with half ice teams and games in addition to any full ice games and must play at least the same number of cross or half ice games as full ice games between January 1 and March 31 ("1 to 1 ratio").

(e) Teams may play one full ice tournament or jamboree not to exceed 4 games in total which will count toward the ten (10) full ice game allotment, but such jamboree or tournament shall be sanctioned and be played within the Affiliate and teams or programs are not eligible to participate in full ice tournaments outside the Affiliate.

(f) Any programs which exceed the ten (10) full ice game allotment or dual roster or attempt to circumvent the birth year or game count restrictions will be ineligible to participate in full ice games for any 8U team for a minimum of 2 seasons following.

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL:

To allow flexibilities to affiliates to provide programming that accommodates the affiliates individual circumstances and the accommodate members to demands to participate in programming they seek.

Submitter: **Affiliate Presidents Committee**

Proposal directed also to (Board, Council, Committee, Section): Board of Directors and all Councils, Committees and Sections

AUTHOR: Steve Oleheiser/Bob Joyce

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Date submitted/sent to USA Hockey:

Date Submitted/sent to Affiliate (Dist Org):

Date submitted/sent to respective Council/Committee chairperson:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Please type or print all information. (Please use another sheet if the current or proposed language does not fit in the space provided on the form)
- When typing the "Specific Wording of Proposal", bold new wording and strike through deletions.
- Receipt of submission to the USA Hockey Executive Office has to be on or before November 1, 2022.
- Options for submission are:
 - * Mail to: 1775 Bob Johnson Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80906 – Attn: Nancy Chase
 - * Fax to: 719-538-1168 – Attn: Penny Castiglia
 - * E-mail to: Penny.Castiglia@usahockey.org
- Submit one copy to the respective Affiliate or District Organization/District Director(s) and a copy to the Chairperson of the appropriate Council, Committee or Section. The Affiliate may submit any comments to the USA Hockey National Office within one week of receipt.
- Use one form per proposal. Please reproduce this form as needed.
- You will receive confirmation from Nancy Chase in the Executive Director's office of receipt of the submitted agenda item/proposal(s). The deadline for receipt of submission will be strictly enforced in accordance with USA Hockey Bylaws.

NAME OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEE/SECTION SUBMITTED TO:

Name of Chair: Date:

Review by Council/Committee/Section (comment/recommendation)

SUBMITTED TO DISTRICT DIRECTOR(S):

Name of Director(s):

Date:

Review by District Director(s) (comment/recommendation):

SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Date:

Review by Executive Committee (comment/recommendation):

FOR USA HOCKEY USE ONLY

Date Received (in National Office):

Date Submitted to Staff-Council/Committee Liaison:

Late Submission: _____yes _____no/