

Summary of Legislative Proposals for 2024 Winter Meeting

Updated as of 12/12/2023

	TITLE	ANNUAL GUIDE	DESCRIPTION	SUBMITTED BY	Board of Directors Recommendation
1	Youth/Girls #2	Rules & Reg	Allows limited number of full ice games (up to 10) for 8 year olds (and some 7 year olds) after January 1st	Steve Oleheiser and Bob Joyce	Board of Directors, Player Development, Girls and Youth Councils; Affiliate Presidents
2	Youth/Girls #3	Rules & Reg	For purposes of determining Affiliate for team registration, defines player's residence as residence of both parents	George Atkinson	Board of Directors, Player Development, Girls and Youth Councils; Affiliate Presidents
3	Registrars #1	Rules & Reg	Confirms previous requirement that all volunteers and team managers must complete SafeSport and background checks	Mike MacMillan	Board of Directors, Registrars, Legal Council
4	Legal #1	Policies	To change the guidelines on Non-Sanctioned play to also apply to Junior Hockey	George Atkinson/ Affiliate Presidents	Board of Directors, Legal Council and Affiliate Presidents
5	Legal #2 (Amended)	Bylaws	Amends composition of Legal Council to allow space for Affiliate legal counsel who are not on the Congress	Tom Regan	Board of Directors, Legal Council
6	Legal #3	Bylaws	Modifies definitions of Athletes and Protected Competition per USOPC Changes	Tom Regan	Board of Directors, Legal Council, Athlete Directors
7	Legal #4	Affiliate Agreement	Would add into Affiliate Agreement that changes to Affiliate Bylaws must require 2/3 majority approval	George Atkinson	Board of Directors, Legal Council and Affiliate Presidents
8	Legal #5	Policies	To move Anti-Doping provisions from Bylaw 10, and create separate Policy in conformance with USOPC and USADA requirements.	Tom Regan	Board of Directors, Legal Council, Athlete Directors
9	Affiliate Presidents #1 (Amended)	Rules & Reg	Creates a player card system to address tampering issues and set rules for Tier I tryouts.	Affiliate Presidents Task Force	Board of Directors, Legal Council, Girls and Youth Councils; Affiliate Presidents
10	High School #1	Rules & Regs	Moves High School nationals rules from Classifications Section	Don Wright	High School Section, Youth Council and Girls Council
11	High School #2	Rules & Regs	Incorporates provisions removed from Classifications Section into National Championships Section; changes language from Pure, Combined, Prep and Girls to divisions (3A, 2A, and 1A).	Don Wright	High School Section, Youth Council and Girls Council

12	High School #3	Rules & Regs	Allows for increasing numbers of Girls teams to participate in Nationals.	Don Wright	High School Section, Youth Council and Girls Council
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13	SPEC #1	Playing Rules	Requires all players to wear neck laceration protectors in all games and practices.	Dr. Mike Stuart	SPEC, Playing Rules, Athletes, Risk Management, Adult, Girls, Youth, Junior, Legal, Coaches, Officials, Disabled Hockey, High School
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**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

AFFILIATION: Affiliate Presidents Committee Chair

ADDRESS: 1403 S.E. 5th Street

CITY: Grand Rapids

STATE: MN

ZIP: 55744

WORK PHONE:

PHONE: 218-360-6181 (mobile)

FAX:

EMAIL: Soleheiser@gmail.com

Date submitted/sent to USA Hockey:

Date Submitted/sent to Affiliate (Dist Org):

Date submitted/sent to respective Council/Committee chairperson:

- 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):

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Date Received (in National Office):

Date Submitted to Staff-Council/Committee Liaison:

Late Submission: _____yes _____no/

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 - WM – Youth/Girls #3

NAME OF PUBLICATION: Annual Guide

MAIN HEADING: III. Team Membership and Registration

REGULATION (Heading): C. Registration

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section:

Reference (sub-section): (6)

Paragraph / Page no(s):

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

For the purposes of determining where a player resides under paragraphs 1 and 2 above, absent specific Affiliate rules regarding residency, the residency status of a minor age player shall be the same as at least one of the minor's parents or legal guardians. Should a player not be residing with a parent or legal guardian but rather residing and attending school elsewhere, the location of the school shall be considered the player's residence. Any dispute under this section regarding where a minor age player resides shall be resolved by the appropriate USA Hockey Registrar(s), in consultation with the Assistant Executive Director of Member Services of USA Hockey. There shall be no appeal following such determination. The residency determination for the purposes of this rule does not affect the player's residency for the purposes of representation at player development camps.

SPECIFIC WORDING OF PROPOSAL: (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11) (as it should appear with new wording-**bold**, Deletions-~~strikethrough~~)

For the purposes of determining where a player resides **hockey residency** under paragraphs 1 and 2 above, ~~absent specific Affiliate rules regarding residency, the residency status of a minor age player shall be the same as at least one of the minor's parents or legal guardians.~~ **both the player's parents as the player's primary residence. No player may create a residence for the purpose of playing hockey. Temporary or limited guardianships are not permitted or recognized. There may be exceptions to this rule in the case of divorce or other extraordinary circumstances, but these players circumstances must be brought to the attention of the District Registrar, in writing prior to the Roster being submitted for approval.** In the event the player does not live with both parents, the District Registrar and the Affiliate can request additional information necessary to determine the player's primary residence. ~~Should a player not be residing with a parent or legal guardian but rather residing and attending school elsewhere, the location of the school shall be considered the player's residence. Any dispute under this~~

section regarding where a minor age player resides shall be resolved by the appropriate USA Hockey Registrar(s), in consultation with the Assistant Executive Director of Member Services of USA Hockey and the Affiliate(s). There shall be no appeal following such determination. The residency determination for the purposes of this rule does not affect the player's residency for the purposes of representation at player development camps.

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL: To create an even playing field between affiliates and different types of programs.

Submitter: Affiliate Presidents Committee

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

AUTHOR: George Atkinson

AFFILIATION: Michigan

EMAIL: President@maha.org_____

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 April 1, 2023.**
- E-mail to: **lauren.tesler@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 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)

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 - WM – Registrars #1

NAME OF PUBLICATION: Annual Guide

MAIN HEADING: Rules & Regulations

REGULATION (Heading): VI. TEAM MANAGER

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section: B. Registration

Reference (sub-section):

Paragraph / Page no(s):

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

VI. TEAM MANAGER

It is recommended that Youth and Girls registered ice hockey teams have a team manager. All Youth and Girls national championship bound teams are required to have a team manager. A coach who also serves as team manager would register only as a coach. Managers are covered under USA Hockey insurance policies. A team manager who is not registered as a coach may not participate in on-ice activities or be on the bench during games. The team manager shall be the custodian of all documents necessary for credential review prior to participation in invitational tournaments and district, regional and national championships. See Section IX: District Playoffs and National Championships, Subsection P. for complete listing.

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

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

VI. TEAM MANAGER/VOLUNTEERS

It is recommended that Youth and Girls registered ice hockey teams have a team manager. All Youth and Girls national championship bound teams are required to have a team manager. A coach who also serves as team manager would register only as a coach. Managers are covered under USA Hockey insurance policies. A team manager who is not registered as a coach may not participate in on-ice activities or be on the bench during games.

USA Hockey Managers/Volunteers, who have access to youth participants, will complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport online training and background check in accordance with USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. Failure to comply with the SafeSport and Screening Policies will result in the forfeiture of privileges in programs, at sites, or events under USA Hockey's governance.

The team manager shall be the custodian of all documents necessary for credential review prior to participation in invitational tournaments and district, regional and national championships. See Section IX: District Playoffs and National Championships, Subsection P. for complete listing

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL:

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Submitter: Mike Mccullough

Proposal directed also to (Board, Council, Committee, Section):

AUTHOR: Gene Palecco

AFFILIATION: Director Coaches Section

ADDRESS: 8 Longview Drive

FAX: 973-884-2647

EMAIL:

INSTRUCTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please type or print all information. <i>(Please use another sheet if the current or proposed language does not fit in the space provided on the form)</i>• 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 <u>on or before November 1, 2022</u>.• Options for submission are:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* 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
<p>Date Received (in National Office):</p> <p>Date Submitted to Staff-Council/Committee Liaison:</p> <p>Late Submission: _____ yes _____ no/</p>

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 - WM – Legal #1

NAME OF PUBLICATION: MAIN HEADING: Annual Guide

REGULATION (Heading): Guidelines Regarding Non-Sanctioned Play

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section: Policies

Reference (sub-section):

Paragraph / Page no(s): 44 - 47

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

L. GUIDELINES REGARDING NON-SANCTIONED PLAY

USA Hockey and its Affiliates are charged with establishing rules and policies for the organization, coordination and betterment of hockey, including developing players, coaches and officials, and managing and minimizing risks associated with the sport. Recent examples include implementation of the ADM, including cross ice hockey for players 8 and under, and processes and procedures for expansion of junior hockey programs. USA Hockey strongly believes in these programs as evidenced by the overwhelming support they have received across the country, the continuing growth in membership, and the advances that have resulted and are expected to result in the development of hockey players in our country.

USA Hockey has had inquiries regarding the rights and obligations of USA Hockey, its various Affiliates and local programs with respect to ice hockey that is not sanctioned by USA Hockey. To provide guidance to Affiliates and local programs, USA Hockey, as the National Governing Body for ice hockey in the United States, provides the guidelines below acting pursuant to USA Hockey's authority under the Amateur Sports Act (36 U.S.C. § 220501 et. seq.).

SPECIFIC WORDING OF PROPOSAL: (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11) (as it should appear with new wording-**bold**, Deletions-~~strikethrough~~)

L. GUIDELINES REGARDING NON-SANCTIONED PLAY

USA Hockey and its Affiliates are charged with establishing rules and policies for the organization, coordination and betterment of hockey, including developing players, coaches and officials, and managing and minimizing risks associated with the sport. ~~Recent examples include implementation of the ADM, including cross ice hockey for players 8 and under, and processes and procedures for expansion of junior hockey programs. USA Hockey strongly believes in these programs as evidenced by the overwhelming support they have received across the country, the continuing growth in membership, and the advances that have resulted and are expected to result in the development of hockey players in our country.~~

USA Hockey has had inquiries regarding the rights and obligations of USA Hockey, its various Affiliates and local programs with respect to ice hockey that is not sanctioned by 10

USA Hockey. To provide guidance to Affiliates and local programs, USA Hockey, as the National Governing Body for ice hockey in the United States, provides the guidelines below acting pursuant to USA Hockey's authority under the Amateur Sports Act (36 U.S.C. § 220501 et. seq.). **The guidelines below apply to all local programs and teams that field teams in the Youth, Girls, High School, and Junior categories.**

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL: Clarify that it was never the intention of this policy to ONLY apply to 8U hockey.

Submitter: Affiliate Presidents

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

AUTHOR: George Atkinson
AFFILIATION: Michigan
EMAIL: President@maha.org_____

Date Submitted/sent to Affiliate (Dist Org):_____

Date submitted/sent to respective Council/Committee chairperson:_____

INSTRUCTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please type or print all information. <i>(Please use another sheet if the current or proposed language does not fit in the space provided on the form)</i> • 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 <u>on or before April 1, 2023.</u> • E-mail to: lauren.tesler@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 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):

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024- WM – Legal #2

NAME OF PUBLICATION:

MAIN HEADING: Bylaws

REGULATION (Heading):

BY-LAW (Heading): Bylaw 6

Section: A.7.(a)

Reference (sub-section):

Paragraph / Page no(s): 84

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

(a) Composition

The Legal Council shall be composed of no less than twelve (12) persons appointed by the President. The Legal Vice President shall be a member of the Legal Council and shall serve as its Chair. The majority of Legal Council members shall be appointed from the Congress. All members should have experience and knowledge of the organization and administration of amateur ice hockey in the United States and the sport of ice hockey itself. As a Designated Council, the Athlete Representation Requirement on the Legal Council shall be met by having 33.3% of the voting membership of the Legal Council appointed by the President from the Eligible Athletes, fifty percent (50%) of which must be 10 Year Athletes and the remaining fifty percent (50%) of which may be either 10 Year Athletes or 10+ Year Athletes, which appointment shall be subject to the approval of the Athlete Advisory Committee.

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

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

(a) Composition

The Legal Council shall be composed of no less than twelve (12) persons appointed by the President. The Legal Vice President shall be a member of the Legal Council and shall serve as its Chair. **At least three members of the** ~~The majority of~~ Legal Council ~~members~~ shall be appointed from the Congress. All members should have experience and knowledge of the organization and administration of amateur ice hockey in the United States and the sport of ice hockey itself. As a Designated Council, the Athlete Representation Requirement on the Legal Council shall be met by having 33.3% of the voting membership of the Legal Council appointed by the President from the Eligible Athletes, fifty percent (50%) of which must be 10 Year Athletes and the remaining fifty percent (50%) of which may be either 10 Year Athletes or 10+ Year Athletes, which appointment shall be subject to the approval of the Athlete Advisory Committee.

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL: To include provisions for a process in the event of a grievance against USA Hockey alleging noncompliance with USOPC Bylaws or Amateur Sports Act, as required by USOPC.

Submitter: Tom Regan, Governance Task Force

Proposal directed also to (Board, Council, Committee, Section): Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Legal Council and Governance Task Force

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 - WM – Legal #3
NAME OF PUBLICATION:
MAIN HEADING: Bylaws
REGULATION (Heading):
BY-LAW (Heading):
Section: 2.B.; 4.A.; 10.B.; 10.D.(3)(g)
Reference (sub-section):
Paragraph / Page no(s): 67, 69-71; 117-118; 127

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

2. AUTHORIZATION AND COMMITMENTS

B. USOPC Constitution

The Constitution of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (the "USOPC Constitution") also has several provisions applicable to national governing bodies, including grant of authority and continuing eligibility to act as a National Governing Body. USA Hockey is committed to comply with applicable provisions thereof.

(1) Binding Arbitration

USA Hockey agrees to submit to binding arbitration in any controversy involving (i) its recognition as a National Governing Body, as provided in Article VIII of the Constitution of the USOPC, upon demand of the USOPC or (ii) the opportunity of any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official to participate in amateur athletic competition, as provided for in Article IX of the Constitution of the USOPC, upon demand of the USOPC or any aggrieved amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official, conducted with the Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association, as modified in accordance with the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

4. GOVERNANCE BY THE CONGRESS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. Athlete Representation Requirements

American Games, Parapan Am Games, the IIHF Men's World Championships, the IIHF Women's World Championships, the IIHF Under-20 World Championships, the IIHF Men's Under-18 World Championships, the IIHF Women's Under-18 World Championships, and the IPC Sled Hockey Championships.

(iii) "10+ Year Athlete(s)" shall be an athlete who has, competed at hockey competition in the following events within the indicated time periods:

- Olympic Winter Games, the Paralympic Winter Games, Pan American Games, Parapan Am Games, or the IPC Sled Hockey Championships, at any time except within the ten (10) years prior to their election/selection;
- IIHF Men's World Championships or the IIHF Women's World Championships, at any point after 1990 but not within the ten (10) years prior to their election/selection; and
- IIHF Under-20 World Championships, the IIHF Men's Under-18 World Championships, or the IIHF Women's Under-18 World Championships, at any point after 2008 but not within the ten (10) years prior to their election/selection.

(iv) "Actively Engaged Athlete(s)" shall be an athlete who qualifies either as a 10 Year Athlete, a 10+ Year Athlete, or who shall have competed in other international events on behalf of USA Hockey, including Four Nations or similar events, World University Games, U22 or Rivalry Series or similar events against Hockey Canada, or on USA Hockey's Men's or Women's Sled Development teams, in all cases within 24 months prior to their election/selection as a Council, Committee or Section member.

Bylaw 10.B, Definition of Protected Competition:

"Protected Competition" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the current governing documents of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee, including its Bylaws and the provisions of the Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act (36 USC Sec. 371 et seq.). Without limiting the foregoing, such term shall include (i) competition by Registered Participant Members or Allied Members in the following international ice hockey competitions: the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, Operation Gold, World Championship or international championships recognized by the International Ice Hockey Federation ("IIHF"), the Paralympic Games, or an International Paralympic Committee recognized World Championship in events on the Paralympic Games program, and (ii) any event, including but not limited to, games, tryouts, and competitions organized and conducted by USA Hockey in its selection proceedings and publicly announced in advance as a competition or event directly qualifying each successful competitor therein as an athlete representing the United States in events listed under the preceding subsection (i). For purposes of the foregoing definition of Protected Competition, actual tryouts for the team which will participate in competition set forth in (i) shall be included.

Bylaw 10.D.(3)(g), Doping, Protected Competition Participants

(g) Doping, Protected Competition Participants

All Protected Competition Participants and USA Hockey, Inc. shall be subject to the applicable provisions of the USOPC National Anti-Doping Policies, and the USOPC agreement with the USADA, and its enforcement of the USADA Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing, which procedures and policies have incorporated the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code. Such Participants shall be further subject to doping guidelines as may be promulgated from time to time by the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF), and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and any agreements between USA Hockey and these entities relative to doping. No athlete or athlete support personnel shall be denied eligibility within the meaning of this subparagraph (g) without first being afforded the opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the USADA Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing ("USADA Protocol"), or the hearing provisions of this Unified Procedure.

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

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

2. AUTHORIZATION AND COMMITMENTS

B. USOPC Bylaws Constitution

The **Bylaws** Constitution of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (the "USOPC **Bylaws** Constitution") also has several provisions applicable to national governing bodies, including grant of authority and continuing eligibility to act as a National Governing Body. USA Hockey is committed to comply with applicable provisions thereof.

(2) Binding Arbitration

USA Hockey agrees to submit to binding arbitration in any controversy involving (i) its **certification** recognition as a National Governing Body, as provided in Article VIII of the **Bylaws** Constitution of the USOPC, upon demand of the USOPC or (ii) the opportunity of any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official to participate in amateur athletic competition, as provided for in Article IX of the **Bylaws** Constitution of the USOPC, upon demand of the USOPC or any aggrieved amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official, conducted with the Commercial Rules of the **arbitral organization designated by the USOPC** American Arbitration Association, as modified in accordance with the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

4. GOVERNANCE BY THE CONGRESS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

B. Athlete Representation Requirements

American Games, ~~Parapan Am Games~~, the IIHF Men's World Championships, the IIHF Women's World Championships, the IIHF Under-20 World Championships, the IIHF Men's Under-18 World Championships, the IIHF Women's Under-18 World Championships, and the IPC Sled Hockey Championships. **The 10 Year Athlete status shall apply throughout the term of the position held by the Eligible Athlete, including any consecutive reappointment term(s); and in cases where the athlete's seat derives from an underlying office (e.g., a board member serving on a committee) this measurement is based on the underlying office rather than the new role (i.e., no additional measurement applied).**

(iii) "10+ Year Athlete(s)" shall be an athlete who has, competed at hockey competition in the following events within the indicated time periods:

- Olympic Winter Games, the Paralympic Winter Games, ~~Pan American Games, Parapan Am Games~~, or the IPC Sled Hockey Championships, at any time except within the ten (10) years prior to their election/selection;
- IIHF Men's World Championships or the IIHF Women's World Championships, at any point after 1990 but not within the ten (10) years prior to their election/selection; and
- IIHF Under-20 World Championships, the IIHF Men's Under-18 World Championships, or the IIHF Women's Under-18 World Championships, at any point after 2008 but not within the ten (10) years prior to their election/selection.

(iv) "Actively Engaged Athlete(s)" **means** shall be an athlete **(i)** who qualifies either as a 10 Year Athlete ~~or~~, a 10+ Year Athlete; ~~and/or~~ **(ii)** who **has been actively engaged in 24 months prior to election/selection as a Council, Committee or Section member** shall have competed in other international events on behalf of USA Hockey, including Four Nations or similar events, World University Games, U22 or Rivalry Series or similar events against Hockey Canada, or on USA Hockey's Men's or Women's Sled Development teams, ~~in all cases within 24 months prior to their election/selection as a Council, Committee or Section member.~~

Bylaw 10.B, Definition of Protected Competition:

"Protected Competition" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the current governing documents of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee, including its Bylaws and the provisions of the Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act (36 USC Sec. 371 et seq.). Without limiting the foregoing, such term shall include (i) competition by Registered Participant Members or Allied Members in the ~~following international ice hockey competitions: the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, Operation Gold, World Championship or international championships recognized by the International Ice Hockey Federation ("IIHF"),~~ **or** the Paralympic Games, or an International Paralympic Committee recognized World Championship in events on the Paralympic Games program, and (ii) any event, including but not limited to, games, tryouts, and competitions organized **or approved** and conducted by USA Hockey **where the athlete's performance or results are considered in the published selection criteria to represent the United States in the Olympics or Paralympics, and/or (iii) any international competition where (a) athletes represent the United States against athletes representing other nations, (b) USA Hockey officials**

~~**Olympics or Paralympics.** in its selection proceedings and publicly announced in advance as a competition or event directly qualifying each successful competitor therein as an athlete representing the United States in events listed under the preceding subsection (i). For purposes of the foregoing definition of Protected Competition, actual tryouts for the team which will participate in competition set forth in (i) shall be included.~~

Bylaw 10.D.(3)(g) -- Doping, Protected Competition Participants

(g) ~~Doping, Protected Competition Participants~~

~~All Protected Competition Participants, and USA Hockey, Inc. shall be subject to the applicable provisions of the USOPC National Anti-Doping Policies, and the USOPC agreement with the USADA, and its enforcement of the USADA Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing, which procedures and policies have incorporated the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code. Such Participants shall be further subject to doping guidelines as may be promulgated from time to time by the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF), and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and any agreements between USA Hockey and these entities relative to doping. No athlete or athlete support personnel shall be denied eligibility within the meaning of this subparagraph (g) without first being afforded the opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the USADA Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing ("USADA Protocol"), or the hearing provisions of this Unified Procedure.~~

(g) Anti-Doping Violations

A pending case or decision concerning an anti-doping rule violation under the jurisdiction of, or adjudicated by, an anti-doping organization is not reviewable through, or subject to, the USA Hockey Bylaws. By virtue of their membership in USA Hockey, if it is determined that an individual member may have committed a doping violation, the member agrees to submit to the results management authority and processes of USADA, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or to the results management authority of the IIHF, if applicable or referred by USADA.

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL: To modify definitions of Athletes and Protected Competition, and move Anti-Doping provisions to Policies, to conform to USOPC changes.

Submitter: Tom Regan

Proposal directed also to (Board, Council, Committee, Section): Board of Directors, Legal Council

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 - WM – Legal #4

NAME OF PUBLICATION: Affiliate Agreement

REGULATION (Heading):

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section: III. III. ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES WHICH MUST BE CONTAINED IN
AFFILIATE'S BYLAWS OR OFFICIAL POLICY

Reference (sub-section):

Paragraph / Page no(s): 140 USAH 2022-23 Annual Guide

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

C. Voting

Each Registered Participant Member of Affiliate shall be entitled to one vote in the process adopted by Affiliate for the election of its Board of Directors, which process may (pursuant to USA Hockey Bylaw 3.D.) allow for such votes to be cast through a representative. The process adopted by Affiliate for the election of its Board of Directors shall be based upon the premise that each Registered Participant Member of Affiliate shall be entitled to one vote. The manner of any voting by proxy or through a representative, shall be stated in writing and shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of USA Hockey.

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

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

- a) **Changes to Affiliate Bylaws shall be by a minimum two-thirds majority vote of the Affiliate's Board of Directors.**

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL:

Provides a consistently high standard for changes to Affiliate Bylaws.

Submitter: George Atkinson

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

AUTHOR: George Atkinson **AFFILIATION:** Michigan

EMAIL: President@maha.org

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 April 1, 2023.**
- E-mail to: **lauren.tesler@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 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):

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 -WM – Legal #5

NAME OF PUBLICATION:

MAIN HEADING: Policies

REGULATION (Heading):

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section: New Policy "N"

Reference (sub-section):

Paragraph / Page no(s): 56

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

NO CURRENT POLICY – DOPING MATTERS CURRENTLY IN BYLAW 10.

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

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

N. ANTI-DOPING POLICY

It is the duty of individual members of USA Hockey to comply with all anti-doping rules of the World Anti-Doping Agency ("WADA"), the International ice Hockey Federation ("IIHF"), the USOPC including the USOPC National Anti-Doping Policy, and of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency ("USADA"), including the USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing ("USADA Protocol") and all other policies and rules adopted by WADA, the IIHF, the USOPC and USADA. By virtue of their membership in USA Hockey, athlete members agree to submit to drug testing by the IIHF and/or USADA or their designees at any time and understand that the use of methods or substances prohibited by the applicable anti-doping rules make them subject to penalties including, but not limited to, disqualification and suspension. If it is determined that an individual member may have committed a doping violation, the member agrees to submit to the results management authority and processes of USADA, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or to the results management authority of the IIHF, if applicable or referred by USADA.

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL: To incorporate required Anti-Doping Policies into USA Hockey policy section.

Submitter: Tom Regan

Proposal directed also to (Board, Council, Committee, Section): Board of Directors, Legal Council

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 – WM – Affiliate Presidents #1

NAME OF PUBLICATION:

MAIN HEADING: Rules & Regs

REGULATION (Heading):

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section: III Team Membership and Registration

Reference (sub-section):

Paragraph / Page no(s):

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

No Current Rule

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

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

See attached a m e n d e d Tier I Tryout Task Force Timeline

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL: To create a player card system to address tampering issues and set rules for Tier I tryouts.

Submitter: Affiliate Presidents Task Force

Proposal directed also to (Board, Council, Committee, Section): Board of Directors, Legal Council and Affiliate Presidents, Youth and Girls Councils

~~Task Force version on 3-1-23~~

This Tier I Player Card Policy (this "Policy") applies throughout USA Hockey to all Youth and Girls Tier I players/teams only.

Under this Policy, the following definitions shall apply:

~~"Player Card" shall mean a card in a form approved by USA Hockey that binds a player to a Tier I team and the Tier I team to that player, for the full Playing Season, and which Player Card must meet all requirements of this Policy.~~

~~"Playing Season" shall mean the period beginning September 1 of each year (or the first game of the team's regular season, if earlier) through forty eight (48) hours after the Tier I National Championships.~~

~~"Off Season" shall mean the period beginning with the end of the prior Playing Season and September 1 (or earlier if player is signed with a team and plays in a game before September 1).~~

~~"Parents" or "parents" shall mean and refer to the player's parents or legal guardians, if applicable.~~

~~"Signing Team" shall mean the Tier I team that has signed a player to a Player Card for a Playing Season.~~

~~"Tryout" means any process on or off ice that evaluates a player or group of players for the purpose of choosing players for a program or team. A Tryout also includes any team practices, off ice training sessions, open skates, skills sessions, or identification skates which include a player that is not on a regular season USA Hockey Roster with that association's teams or program. USA Hockey programs, coaches and administrators are not permitted to operate a program outside of USA Hockey as a means of avoiding the prohibitions on tryouts or recruiting. While USA Hockey does not restrict a coach's private business, if a coach runs a private camp, meeting, event, skate or skills clinic outside of USA Hockey for one or more players, then the coach and/or team/program should be investigated as Code of Conduct/tampering and the player should face disciplinary action as set forth below.~~

~~"Early Signing Period" shall mean the time between January 1 and the last day of February of each Playing Season.~~

~~I. Player Card between Player/Parent and the Team~~

USA Hockey will create a Player Card system under which any USA Hockey Youth or Girls Tier I team will be required to have all players (and parents) on its roster sign a Player Card, and each player and parent agreeing to be on a Tier I roster will be required to sign a Player Card, all according to and as set forth herein:

- ~~a. Upon execution by the Signing Team, player and parents, the Player Card will commit and bind the player to the Signing Team for the entirety of the Playing Season, and the player will not be permitted to be rostered or to participate in any way with another USA Hockey Tier I team during the Playing Season except as set forth herein.~~
- ~~b. The Player Card will also bind the Signing Team to that player and secures a roster spot for that player on the Signing Team for the entire Playing Season. The Signing Team cannot cut, release or dismiss a player from the team except as set forth herein.~~
- ~~c. The Player Card will indicate that the player may not participate in any Tryout for another Tier I team/program during the term of the Player Card; a violation of this provision will subject the player to not less than a five game suspension. In the event a player who has signed a Player Card has been found to have participated in any Tryout for another Tier I team/program, then the player will be ineligible to sign a Player Card with that program for a period of 18 months from the last date of the Tryout. The Player Card will not restrict a player from moving to or participating with another team in the following circumstances:~~

- i. ~~the Player Card would not restrict a player from leaving a Signing Team and playing on or participating with a USA Hockey Tier II (youth or girls), High School, Junior hockey or college hockey team, provided that if the player returns to play Tier I in the same Playing Season, they must return to the original Signing Team unless released by the Signing Team;~~
 - ii. ~~the Player Card would not restrict a player from playing with any other team, including a Tier I team, if the Signing Team and player mutually agree for the player to be released by the Signing Team.~~
 - iii. ~~If the player were released by the Signing Team for violation of the Player Card requirements or other violation by the player of the Signing Team's or its program's written Code of Conduct, and is released following any required hearing and appeal process required under USA Hockey or Affiliate bylaws or rules, then the Player Card would not restrict the player from joining another team that season;~~
 - iv. ~~the Player Card would not restrict a player from playing with another team, including a Tier I team, if the player files a grievance with the applicable Affiliate and a hearing is held or overseen by the Affiliate (and not the Signing Team or Local Program) where it is determined that the Signing Team, its coach(es) or other participants have violated USA Hockey Safe Sport Policies or other USA Hockey, Affiliate or Signing Team policies and which violation(s) justify the player's release from the Player Card and eligibility to sign with another Tier I team (but still subject to any other rostering rules and timelines). Affiliates shall endeavor to hold hearings on such grievances on an expedited basis when appropriate. The Affiliate's determination shall be final and is not subject to appeal.~~
- d. ~~Prior to signing the Player Card, an authorized program or team representative from the Signing Team must present and review a Team Fact Sheet with the player and their parent, which must include all the information, provisions and requirements the player and family will be committing to by signing the Player Card and becoming as a member of the Signing Team. The Team Fact Sheet must be referenced in the signed Player Card, must be signed by the team and parents, and must be provided to the player's parents. The required elements of the Team Fact Sheet must include at least the following information:~~
- i. ~~The specific team upon which player will be rostered;~~
 - ii. ~~The Signing Team's anticipated budget and fees for the season, which includes team fees to participate on the Signing Team for the season, uniform or equipment fees, and anticipated travel fees (to the extent known or planned) for the player and any required travel for parents, and any other anticipated fees that are required to be paid as a condition of participation on the team;~~
 - iii. ~~The required payment schedule or payment options for the fees in (ii) above;~~
 - iv. ~~The anticipated or planned number and average per week of practices, games, off-ice sessions, etc.~~
 - v. ~~Any player code of conduct or parent code of conduct required for participation on the Signing Team; and~~
 - vi. ~~Players and families and the Signing Team acknowledge and agree to be bound by the terms of the Team Fact Sheet and Player Card.~~
- e. ~~Teams are only allowed to offer and sign the number of Player Cards equal to the maximum number of roster spots permitted on a USA Hockey Roster at any one time for the Signing Team's rostered age level. For example, a team that is permitted to~~

have 20 players on a USA Hockey roster may not sign more than 20 players to Player Cards and then move players on and off the roster. A team may only sign additional players to Player Cards if another player on the roster has been released from their Player Card pursuant to Section 1.c. above.

- f. ~~The Player Card will be immediately binding on the Signing Team upon the signature of the team, player and parents. The Signing Team must file the Player Card with the applicable Local Program Registrar, at which time the Registrar will add the player to the Signing Team's Tier I roster for the following season. The player will also be immediately bound to the Player Card upon signature by the Signing Team, player and parents, provided that if the Local Program Registrar does not add the player to the applicable roster within seven (7) days of execution by the Signing Team, player and parents, then at any time thereafter that is prior to the player being added to the roster, the player may notify the Signing Team in writing that the Player is voiding the Player Card, at which time the Player shall not be bound by the Player Card (and is free to sign a Player Card with any other team).~~
- g. ~~During any time a Player Card is in effect as set forth above, any Player Card signed with a different team shall not be enforceable.~~
- h. ~~The binding nature of the Player Card addresses only the player's commitment to the Signing Team, the Signing team's commitment to the player, and the enforceability of the rules and requirements set forth in this Policy. USA Hockey and the applicable Affiliate(s) are not responsible for enforcing the contractual terms of the Fact Sheet.~~

Commented [C31]: It is anticipated that the current season's rostering tool can be used but it would include a designation to reference that it is a roster for the following season — perhaps it could have a "Z" at the beginning, or could include a reference to the following year.

We also need to confirm that for these following year rosters, the other roster restrictions would not be obstacles — for instance, a 14 year old could be added to the 150 roster for the following season, and a player that would need SafeSport but does not yet have it would be permitted on the roster.

II. ~~Signing Players~~

~~Subject to the provisions below, teams may sign players to a Player Card either during (a) the Early Signing Period, (b) during the Off Season, or (c) during the Playing Season, all as described below:~~

- a. ~~Early Signing Period Player Cards: Tier I teams/programs are allowed to sign any player not already bound to a different Tier I team to a Player Card for that team for the following Playing Season during the Early Signing Period. The offering or signing of Player Cards during the Early Signing Period is only available for players at the 130, 14U, 150, 16U, and 18U boys teams and 14U, 16U, and 19U girls teams and are only valid for the immediately following Playing Season. This does not require a program to sign any players during the Early Signing Period, but it is available for programs that choose to use it. The decision to sign Player Card offer during the Early Signing Period is ultimately upon the player and his or her family.~~
- b. ~~Off Season Player Cards: After the Early Signing Period, a Tier I team cannot offer or sign players to Player Cards until the beginning of the Off Season. Beginning with the Off Season, a Tier I team may sign players that are not already bound to a different Tier I team (by a Player Card signed with such team) to fill up to the maximum allowed roster spots.~~
- c. ~~Player Cards During Playing Season: A Tier I team may offer or sign players that are not already signed to a Player Card with another Tier I team at any time prior to December 31 of that Playing Season, provided that at no time may the Tier I team have more signed Player Cards than roster spots on its team.~~

~~Under no circumstances will a Player Card be signed or enforceable for any future seasons except as set forth in the Early Signing Period provisions above.~~

III. ~~Recruiting, Tampering and Tryouts~~

The USA Hockey Coaching Ethics Code provides:

~~"Coaches will not recruit a participant who is already a member of another USA Hockey team. Direct contact by a coach or his/her staff or indirect contact through an agent or parent during the playing season with a participant who is a member of another USA Hockey team is considered tampering and is prohibited."~~

~~Coaches (or "persons affiliated with the team" as defined below) who make contact with a player (or the player's agent, advisor or parents/family members) who is bound to another Signing Team through a Player Card, for the purpose of inviting, enticing, or convincing them to play for a specific team/program other than the Signing Team during the current Playing Season, shall be considered Tampering and shall subject the responsible Party(ies) to sanctions according to this Policy and applicable USA Hockey or Affiliate rules or bylaws. For the purposes of this paragraph, "persons affiliated with the team" shall include any member of the team or program and includes without limitation general managers, player development personnel, coaches, current or past team players, or their parents.~~

~~Player recruitment, which may not include an on-ice skate of any kind, may occur (i) for a player NOT signed to a Player Card for the upcoming or current Playing Season, at any time during the Off Season or Playing Season, up until December 31, (ii) for a player signed to a Player Card for the upcoming or current Playing Season, at any time during the Off Season or Early Signing Period. Players are prohibited from having any type of on-ice skate or Tryout with a recruiting program/school during the Playing Season.~~

~~IV. Coach Awareness~~

~~Coaches/programs will be made aware by their Affiliates that attempting to recruit a player in any way during the Playing Season for that current Playing Season will be a violation of the Code of Conduct/tampering. Reported Code of Conduct/tampering violations will be investigated by the Affiliates involved and sanctions issued if it is determined a violation occurred.~~

~~V. Enforcement~~

- ~~a. **Enforcement against Players.** Players violating the Tryout rule shall be subject to disciplinary action by their Signing Team or applicable Affiliate according to the provisions of paragraph I.c. above. If a player leaves their Signing Team and attempts to play for another Tier I team during that Playing Season (other than as permitted above), the player will not be permitted to be rostered on the new team for the remainder of current Playing Season and the following Playing Season. Affiliate registrars will be instructed by the affiliate to not roster the player on the new team's roster for the remainder for such period.~~
- ~~b. **Enforcement against Coaches:** Incidents in which coaches or others involved in a program are alleged to have tampered with players who have signed a Player Card in violation of Tampering as defined above, will be referred to the Applicable Affiliate for investigation and disciplinary action. **Any coach determined by the Affiliate or USAH to have tampered with another player will face a minimum suspension of one calendar year and minimum probationary period of two calendar years for the first offense.**~~
- ~~c. **Enforcement against Programs.** A Tier I program that is involved in tampering with a player who is signed to a Player Card with another Tier I team, in violation of Tampering as defined above, will be referred to the applicable Affiliate for investigation and disciplinary action. A Tier I program shall be deemed to be involved if a member of the program is involved in a tampering violation. Tier I programs assume responsibility for all actions of all personnel involved in their program; if there is a finding of tampering, the organization is also held accountable for the violation. An organization who has been deemed as involved in a tampering~~

~~violation are subject to sanctions that could include, monetary fines, exclusion from participating in Affiliate, District or National Tournament play and/or loss of ability to field USA Hockey sanctioned teams at a/all playing levels. Any sanction shall be determined and enforced by the USA Hockey Affiliate in whose jurisdiction the organization resides and shall be recognized by all Affiliates of USA Hockey.~~

~~VI. Roster Change Date~~

~~The deadline for changing hockey rosters will remain December 31.~~

Tier I Tryout Task Force Timeline

KEY LEGISLATION (As put forward from Tryout Committee)

- Nationally Governed Tier I Rules Package (Effective Date Proposed as 24/25 season)
 - One Season/One Team
 - Once team commits, they are committed to that player for the year.
 - Once player commits, they are committed to that player for the year.
 - There will be a process for release approval (national review) under exceptional circumstances.
 - No Out of Affiliate/District Requirements – 15O, 16U, 18U & 19U
 - International Import Rules remain as is
 - Season long open recruiting period for next season
 - Recruiting Blackout Period: March 1 through the last game of the National Championships
 - No tryouts or skating with another team or representatives of another team.
 - Recruiting for current season is still considered tampering. Coaches found guilty of tampering will be suspended for 1 year.
 - January 1 signing period commences for following season only.
 - Teams can sign any players to a contract/agreement/player card.
 - Any disagreement by clubs would be reviewed by national review committee.
 - 10/20 and all other USA Hockey Rules stay in place.

Note: Districts and Affiliates are asked to remove all Tier I rules that are in conflict with the above guidelines

November 2023 – Final document completed and distributed.

January 2024 – Approval from Congress

- If approved this would go into effect immediately for the 24/25 season

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 - WM – High School #1

NAME OF PUBLICATION: Annual Guide

MAIN HEADING: Rules & Regulations

REGULATION (Heading): CLASSIFICATIONS

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section: II CLASSIFICATIONS

Reference (sub-section): II B. (1)

Paragraph / Page no(s): pages 149-150

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

HIGH SCHOOL

Restricted to amateurs who are enrolled as full-time students (grades 9-12), and under 20 years of age on or before December 31 of the Playing Season. Eligibility shall not exceed eight (8) consecutive semesters starting with the player's freshman year (9th grade).

For home-schooled students, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at a high school and is designated as carrying sufficient credits to be considered a full time-student for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the high school upon the student completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements.

Clarification: Those High School students graduating mid-year shall no longer be considered full-time students and, therefore, are no longer eligible to play High School hockey, effective on their last day of attending classes full-time as defined by the school.

The High School National Championship shall be divided into four (4) divisions; Division I (Pure), Division II (Combined), Prep School Division and Girls. All four (4) divisions will be played under the High School National Championship Tournament. Each division shall compete for their own National Championship. Following definitions for each division:

Division I (Pure): A community based academic high school where teams consist of players attending the same high school as full-time students who are eligible to play in sanctioned varsity sports at that school.

Division II (Combined): Community or non-community based academic high schools where teams consist of players representing more than one high school who are full-time students eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at any one of the combined schools.

A High School player residing in one Affiliate may not play on a National Tournament bound Division II (Combined) High School team in a different Affiliate unless both the Affiliate where the player resides and the Affiliate where the player desires to play have granted permission. In the event that a High School player has been denied such permission to play on a Division II (Combined) High School team other than in the Affiliate where the player resides, the player may appeal such denial to the National Championship Appeal Committee.

Prep School Division: Boarding schools or Academies that house players in a school dormitory or with billet families, and non-community based high schools consisting of full-time students attending the same school and non-community based online schools. All teams, players and coaches must register with USA Hockey prior to application for participation.

Girls Division: Pure, Combined, or prep school teams consisting of full-time, female students attending the same high school or prep school, attending more than one high school/prep school, or full-time students that are eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at that school.

NOTE: High School teams shall compete in their appropriate division which shall be governed by eligibility requirements by the respective Affiliates before determining its representation. To encourage the growth of Division I (Pure), an Affiliate with Division I (Pure) teams must send a Division I team to the High School National Championship Tournament before applying for a spot in the Division II (combined) division. All High School Division teams must play a regular season schedule in a high school league as a team and shall not be an "all-star" team formed for the purpose of attending a High School National Championship Tournament.

Any Affiliate with a Division I (Pure) team that cannot be fielded for that tournament, for whatever reason, can petition the USA Hockey High School Section for a waiver of the Division I requirement. Waivers will be considered on an individual basis.

These classifications apply completely and without modification to all interleague and interstate or interdistrict series in USA Hockey regional playoffs and national championships.

SPECIFIC WORDING OF PROPOSAL: (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11)
(as it should appear with new wording-**bold**, Deletions-~~striketrough~~)

HIGH SCHOOL – Pure (Division 1), Combined (Division 2), Prep and Girls Teams

Restricted to amateurs who are enrolled as full-time students (grades 9-12), and under 20 years of age on or before December 31 of the Playing Season. Eligibility shall not exceed eight (8) consecutive semesters starting with the player's freshman year (9th grade). **Fifth year and Postgraduate (PG) players are not eligible to participate on USA Hockey High School national championship bound registered teams.**

For home-schooled students, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at a high school and is designated as carrying sufficient credits to be considered a full time-student for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the high school upon the student completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements.

Clarification: Those High School students graduating mid-year shall no longer be considered full-time students and, therefore, are no longer eligible to play High School hockey, effective on their last day of attending classes full-time as defined by the school.

High School teams shall register in their appropriate division which shall be governed by eligibility requirements of the respective Affiliates.

~~The High School National Championship shall be divided into four (4) divisions: Division I (Pure), Division II (Combined), Prep School Division and Girls. All four (4) divisions will be played under the High School National Championship Tournament. Each division shall compete for their own National Championship.~~ **The following definitions apply to High School team registration classifications:**
~~for each division:~~

Division I (Pure): ~~A community-based academic high school~~ **High school teams where teams that** consist of players attending the same high school **or participating in the same educational program** as full-time students who are eligible to play in sanctioned varsity sports at that school.

Division II (Combined): Community or non-community based academic high schools where teams consist of players representing more than one high school who

are full-time students eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at any one of the combined schools.

~~A High School player residing in one Affiliate may not play on a National Tournament bound Division II (Combined) High School team in a different Affiliate unless both the Affiliate where the player resides and the Affiliate where the player desires to play have granted permission. In the event that a High School player has been denied such permission to play on a Division II (Combined) High School team other than in the Affiliate where the player resides, the player may appeal such denial to the National Championship Appeal Committee.~~

Prep School Division: Boarding schools or Academies that house players in a school dormitory or with billet families, and non-community based high schools consisting of full-time students attending the same school and non-community based online schools. All teams, players and coaches must register with USA Hockey prior to application for participation.

Girls Division: Pure, Combined, or Prep school-teams consisting of full-time, female students attending the same high school or prep school, attending more than one high school/prep school, or full-time students that are eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at that school.

~~**NOTE:** High School teams shall compete in their appropriate division which shall be governed by eligibility requirements by the respective Affiliates before determining its representation. To encourage the growth of Division I (Pure), an Affiliate with Division I (Pure) teams must send a Division I team to the High School National Championship Tournament before applying for a spot in the Division II (combined) division. All High School Division teams must play a regular season schedule in a high school league as a team and shall not be an "all star" team formed for the purpose of attending a High School National Championship Tournament. Any Affiliate with a Division I (Pure) team that cannot be fielded for that tournament, for whatever reason, can petition the USA Hockey High School Section for a waiver of the Division I requirement. Waivers will be considered on an individual basis.~~

~~These classifications apply completely and without modification to all interleague and interstate or interdistrict series in USA Hockey regional playoffs and national championships.~~

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL:

Relocate language on High School National Championships to Rules and Regulations Section IX. Limit the language in this Section to High School Registration classifications.

Submitter:

Don Wright, High School Section Chair

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

Youth Council, VP – Keith Barrett

Girls Council VP – Don Gould

National Championship Tournament Chairperson

Affiliate Presidents Committee Chair

AUTHOR: Don Wright, High School Section Chair

AFFILIATION: High School Section Chair and Michigan District High School Section Representative

EMAIL: donvwright89@gmail.com

Date Submitted/sent to Affiliate (Dist Org): _____

Date submitted/sent to respective Council/Committee chairperson: March 28, 2023

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 April 1, 2023.**
- E-mail to: **lauren.tesler@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 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):

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 - WM – High School #2

NAME OF PUBLICATION: Annual Guide

MAIN: Rules & Regulations

HEADING: Rules & Regulations

REGULATION (Heading): Section IX STATE/AFFILIATE AND/OR DISTRICT
PLAYOFFS AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section: IX STATE/AFFILIATE AND/OR DISTRICT PLAYOFFS AND NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS

Reference (sub-section): IX C. Team Classifications

Paragraph / Page no(s): 167-168

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

**IX. STATE/AFFILIATE AND/OR DISTRICT PLAYOFFS
AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Youth Classifications

[13 & 14 (14U), 15-only (15O), 15 & 16 (16U), 17 & 18 (18U)]

Girls Classifications

[13 & 14 (14U), 15 & 16 (16U), 17 to 19 (19U)]

High School Divisions

(Division I, Division II, Prep School Division, Girls Division)

Page 168

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISIONS – Any high school team that is properly registered with USA Hockey as a High School national championship bound team in one of the four divisions (Division I, Division II, Prep School Division or Girls Division). Representation from each state will be determined by the state Affiliate participating in the tournament.

For districts only, these rules and regulations may be modified for local and state association competition and districts that are composed of a single state, as conditions may require.

Player eligibility regulations may not be less restrictive than those governing national championships.

SPECIFIC WORDING OF PROPOSAL: (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11)
(as it should appear with new wording-**bold**, Deletions-~~strike~~through)

C. Team Classifications

IX. STATE/AFFILIATE AND/OR DISTRICT PLAYOFFS AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Youth Classifications

[13 & 14 (14U), 15-only (15O), 15 & 16 (16U), 17 & 18 (18U)]

Girls Classifications

[13 & 14 (14U), 15 & 16 (16U), 17 to 19 (19U)]

High School Divisions-

(~~Division I, Division II, Prep School Division, Girls Division~~)

Page 168

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISIONS – Any high school team that is properly registered with USA Hockey as a High School national championship bound team ~~in one of the four divisions (Division I, Division II, Prep School Division or Girls Division)~~ **shall be eligible to participate in the High School National Championship.** Representation from each state will be determined by the state Affiliate participating in the tournament.

For districts only, these rules and regulations may be modified for local and state association competition and districts that are composed of a single state as conditions may require.

Player eligibility regulations may not be less restrictive than those governing national championships.

Teams seeking to participate in the High School National Championship should play a regular season schedule in a high school league as a team, if available within that team's state, or compete against other high school registered teams during their regular season schedule. They should not be an "all-star" team formed for the purpose of attending the High School National Championship.

A High School player residing in one Affiliate may not play on a National Tournament bound Division II (Combined) High School team in a different Affiliate unless both the Affiliate where the player resides and the Affiliate where the player desires to play have granted permission. In the event that a High School player has been denied such permission to play on a Division II (Combined) High School team other than in the Affiliate where the player resides, the player may appeal such denial to the National Championship Appeal Committee.

As set forth in greater detail each season in the USA Hockey District and National Championship Guidebook, to achieve balance and parity at the High School National Championship, teams participating in the High School National Championship (other than Girls teams) shall be placed in three (3) divisions (3A, 2A and 1A) with the 3A division made up of teams from states that have traditionally demonstrated a high level

of competitiveness at prior High School National Championships and/or teams that have demonstrated a high level of competitive play during the current season.

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL:

Relocate some language on National Championships currently in Rules & Regulations Section II to Rules and Regulations Section IX. Also, language added to transition High School National Championships from current Pure, Combined, Prep and Girls divisions to 3A, 2A, 1A and Girls format similar to current Tier II National Championship format with the goal to promote a more competitive level of play within the High School divisions.

Submitter: Don Wright High School Section Chair

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

Youth Council VP – Keith Barrett
Girls Council VP – Don Gould
National Tournament Committee Chair
Affiliate Presidents Committee Chair

AUTHOR: Don Wright

AFFILIATION: High School Section Chair and Michigan High School Section Representative

EMAIL: donvwright89@gmail.com

Date Submitted/sent to Affiliate (Dist Org): _____

Date submitted/sent to respective Council/Committee chairperson: March 28, 2023

INSTRUCTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please type or print all information. <i>(Please use another sheet if the current or proposed language does not fit in the space provided on the form)</i>• 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 <u>on or before April 1, 2023.</u>• E-mail to: lauren.tesler@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 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*):

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

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2024 - WM – High School #3

NAME OF PUBLICATION: Annual Guide

MAIN HEADING: Rules & Regulations

REGULATION (Heading): IX STATE/AFFILIATE AND/OR DISTRICT PLAYOFFS AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY-LAW (Heading):

Section: IX

Reference (sub-section): IX E. (2) (a)

Paragraph / Page no(s): page 170

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

(2) Nationals – Youth Tier I, Tier II, Girls, High School Divisions

(a) The Youth Tier I and Girls Tier I National Championship Tournament shall include a total of 16 teams. The Youth Tier II, Girls Tier II and High School National Championship Tournaments shall include up to 48 teams.

SPECIFIC WORDING OF PROPOSAL: (please type in Tahoma/Pitch 11)
(as it should appear with new wording-**bold**, Deletions-~~striketrough~~)

(2) Nationals – Youth Tier I, Tier II, Girls, High School Divisions

(a) The Youth Tier I and Girls Tier I National Championship Tournament shall include a total of 16 teams. The Youth Tier II **and** Girls Tier II ~~and~~ ~~High School~~ National Championship Tournaments shall include up to 48 teams. **The High School National Championship shall include up to 48 High School teams and up to 48 Girls High School teams. The High School Section will decide each year the specific number of teams for High School National Championships.**

INTENTION OF PROPOSAL:

Allow for increase in the Girls High School National Championship without decreasing the number of youth High School teams. For the 2023 the Section increased the number of Girls participating from 8 teams to 12 teams. The Section anticipates continued growth of Girls teams.

Submitter: Don Wright, High School Section Chair

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

Youth Council Chair
Girls Council Chair
National Championship Tournament Chair
Affiliate President Chair

AUTHOR: Don Wright

AFFILIATION: High School Section Chair and Michigan District Representative to the High School Section

EMAIL: donvwright89@gmail.com

Date Submitted/sent to Affiliate (Dist Org): _____

Date submitted/sent to respective Council/Committee chairperson: March 28, 2023

INSTRUCTIONS

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- Receipt of submission to the USA Hockey Executive Office has to be **on or before April 1, 2023.**
- E-mail to: **lauren.tesler@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.
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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):



USA HOCKEY, INC.
PLAYING RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM



RULE NUMBER: USA Hockey Official Rules: 303 (b),
304 (a),(b), (e), (g) and (h)
501 (c)

Junior Hockey Rules: 303 (b),
304 (a),(b), (e), (g) and (h)
501 (c)

Official Rules of Sled Hockey: Sled Hockey Equipment Rules

CURRENT RULE READS ([click here](#) to access electronic rulebook):

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Amend to Read

Add

Delete

Please see attached Rule proposal regarding Neck Laceration Protection showing existing rules along with edits to existing rules.

PLEASE EXPLAIN REASON FOR CHANGE:

To require that all players wearing neck laceration protection during all USA Hockey games and practices.

As there are no specific standards approved at this time, the proposed rule requires that it be designed for protection from neck lacerations.

The proposed rule applies to ALL age classifications, including Junior and Adult Hockey.

The proposed rule also recommends that game officials wear a neck laceration protector.

In addition to neck laceration protection, the proposed rule recommends that players wear cut-resistant socks, sleeves or undergarments.

Like a player's or goalkeeper's helmet, the proposed rule includes what should occur if the neck laceration protector comes off during play.

Please print legibly or type all pertinent information.

You may use the back of this form for additional space or to present rationale for proposed change.

USA Hockey Official Rules and Casebook of Ice Hockey

CURRENT RULE	PROPOSED RULE CHANGE
<p>Rule 303 Goalkeeper's Equipment (b) It is compulsory for all goalkeepers to wear helmets and full facemasks. Hanging throat/neck laceration protectors are recommended. No form fitted facemasks shall be permitted.</p>	<p>Rule 303 Goalkeeper's Equipment (b) It is compulsory for all goalkeepers to wear helmets and full facemasks. <u>Neck laceration protectors designed for that purpose are required.</u> Hanging throat/neck laceration protectors are recommended. No form fitted facemasks shall be permitted.</p>
<p>Rule 304 Protective Equipment <i>(Note) Not all protective equipment is mandatory in all age classifications. However, if not mandated by rule, USA Hockey strongly recommends that all skaters and goalkeepers in all age classifications properly wear an internal mouthpiece, a HECC approved helmet and a HECC approved full facemask for all games and practices.</i></p> <p>(a) Each player is personally responsible to wear protective equipment for all games, warm-ups and practices. Such equipment should include gloves, shin pads, shoulder pads, elbow pads, hip pads or padded hockey pants, protective cup, tendon pads plus all head protective equipment as required by USA Hockey rules. It is recommended that all protective equipment be designed specifically for ice hockey.</p> <p>(b) All protective equipment, except gloves, padded hockey pants, helmet/ facemask and goalkeeper's leg guards, must be worn under the uniform.</p> <p><i>(Note) Players, including goalkeepers, violating this rule shall not be permitted to participate in the game until such equipment has been corrected or removed.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>(e) In all classifications, including Adults, if a skater's helmet/ facemask comes off during play, the officials shall stop play immediately. The skater shall be ruled off the ice and may not participate in the game until completion of the ensuing face-off.</p> <p>In all classifications, if the goalkeeper's helmet/facemask comes off during play, the officials shall stop play immediately. However, the goalkeeper shall not be ruled off the ice prior to the face-off.</p>	<p>Rule 304 Protective Equipment <i>(Note) Not all protective equipment is mandatory in all age classifications. However, if not mandated by rule, USA Hockey strongly recommends that all skaters and goalkeepers in all age classifications properly wear an internal mouthpiece, a HECC approved helmet and a HECC approved full facemask for all games and practices.</i></p> <p>(a) Each player is personally responsible to wear protective equipment for all games, warm-ups and practices. Such equipment should include gloves, shin pads, shoulder pads, elbow pads, hip pads or padded hockey pants, protective cup, tendon pads plus all head <u>and neck</u> protective equipment as required by USA Hockey rules. It is recommended that all protective equipment be designed specifically for ice hockey.</p> <p>(b) All protective equipment, except gloves, padded hockey pants, helmet/ facemask, <u>neck laceration protector</u>, and goalkeeper's leg guards, must be worn under the uniform.</p> <p><i>(Note) Players, including goalkeepers, violating this rule shall not be permitted to participate in the game until such equipment has been corrected or removed.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>(e) In all classifications, including Adults, if a skater's helmet/ facemask <u>or neck laceration protector</u> comes off during play, the officials shall stop play immediately. The skater shall be ruled off the ice and may not participate in the game until completion of the ensuing face-off.</p> <p>In all classifications, if the goalkeeper's helmet/facemask <u>or neck laceration protector</u> comes off during play, the officials shall stop play immediately. However, the goalkeeper shall not be ruled off the ice prior to the face-off.</p>

<p>A minor penalty for delay of game shall be assessed to a goalkeeper or skater who causes a stoppage of play by deliberately removing their helmet/facemask during play.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>(g) USA Hockey recommends that players wear a neck laceration protector, choosing a design that covers as much of the neck area as possible.</p> <p>(h) All players who wear the required, or recommended, protective equipment must wear it in the manner for which it is designed. For violation of this rule, following a team warning, a misconduct penalty for an equipment violation shall be imposed.</p>	<p>A minor penalty for delay of game shall be assessed to a goalkeeper or skater who causes a stoppage of play by deliberately removing their helmet/facemask <u>or neck laceration protector</u> during play.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>(g) USA Hockey recommends that players <u>All players, including goalkeepers, in all age classifications are required to</u> wear a neck laceration protector <u>designed for that purpose and</u>, choosing a design that covers as much of the neck area as possible <u>and are recommended to wear cut-resistant socks, sleeves or undergarments.</u></p> <p>(h) All players who wear the required, or recommended, protective equipment must wear it in the manner for which it is designed <u>without any alterations.</u> For violation of this rule, following a team warning, a misconduct penalty for an equipment violation shall be imposed.</p>
<p>Rule 501 Appointment of Officials</p> <p>(c) All On-Ice Officials shall wear black trousers and an official sweater with the current USA Hockey officiating crest on the left chest of the sweater during all games. Any other crest that is worn must be located on either arm of the sweater. The wearing of nameplates and/or numbers shall be regulated by each League.</p> <p>Each official is required to wear a black hockey helmet, with chin strap properly fastened, and a non-altered halfshield visor properly attached to their helmets.</p>	<p>Rule 501 Appointment of Officials</p> <p>(c) All On-Ice Officials shall wear black trousers and an official sweater with the current USA Hockey officiating crest on the left chest of the sweater during all games. Any other crest that is worn must be located on either arm of the sweater. The wearing of nameplates and/or numbers shall be regulated by each League.</p> <p>Each official is required to wear a black hockey helmet, with chin strap properly fastened, and a non-altered halfshield visor properly attached to their helmets. <u>All officials are recommended to wear a neck laceration protector designed for that purpose.</u></p>
<p><i>Also, will need to have edits and/or additions made to the Casebook situations.</i></p> <p><i>See Rule 303, Situation 5, Rule 304, Situations 7 and 18-21, and Rule 501, Situation 3.</i></p>	

USA Hockey Official Rules of Ice Hockey -- Junior Hockey Edition

CURRENT RULE	PROPOSED RULE CHANGE
<p>Rule 303 Goalkeeper's Equipment</p> <p>(b) It is compulsory for all goalkeepers to wear helmets and full facemasks. Hanging throat/neck laceration protectors are recommended. No form fitted facemasks shall be permitted, with the following exception:</p> <p>USA Hockey strongly recommends that all goalkeepers wear HECC approved headgear. However, any such goalkeeper, having reached the age of majority and having signed the proper waiver, shall be permitted to wear a full mask of their choice or a form fitted facemask with a frontal wire insert, providing such mask includes a back skull plate in lieu of a HECC-approved helmet. The signed waiver must be made available to Game Officials prior to each game, upon request. In addition, a copy of the signed waiver must be filed with the USA Hockey Junior Liaison prior to the start of the regular season.</p>	<p>Rule 303 Goalkeeper's Equipment</p> <p>(b) It is compulsory for all goalkeepers to wear helmets and full facemasks. <u>Neck laceration protectors designed for that purpose are required.</u> Hanging throat/neck laceration protectors are recommended. No form fitted facemasks shall be permitted, with the following exception:</p> <p>USA Hockey strongly recommends that all goalkeepers wear HECC approved headgear. However, any such goalkeeper, having reached the age of majority and having signed the proper waiver, shall be permitted to wear a full mask of their choice or a form fitted facemask with a frontal wire insert, providing such mask includes a back skull plate in lieu of a HECC-approved helmet. The signed waiver must be made available to Game Officials prior to each game, upon request. In addition, a copy of the signed waiver must be filed with the USA Hockey Junior Liaison prior to the start of the regular season.</p>
<p>Rule 304 Protective Equipment</p> <p><i>(Note) Not all protective equipment is mandatory in all age classifications. However, USA Hockey strongly recommends that all players and goalkeepers in all age classifications properly wear an internal mouthpiece, a HECC-approved helmet and a HECC-approved full facemask for all games and practices.</i></p> <p>(a) Each participant, and the team, is personally responsible to wear protective equipment for all games, warm-ups and practices. Such equipment should include gloves, shin pads, shoulder pads, elbow pads, hip pads or padded hockey pants, protective cup, tendon pads plus all head protective equipment as required by USA Hockey rules. It is recommended that all protective equipment be designed specifically for ice hockey.</p> <p>(b) All protective equipment, except gloves, padded hockey pants, helmet/ facemask and goalkeeper's leg guards, must be worn under the uniform.</p> <p>For violation of this rule after a warning by the Referee, a minor penalty for an equipment violation shall be imposed.</p>	<p>Rule 304 Protective Equipment</p> <p><i>(Note) Not all protective equipment is mandatory in all age classifications. However, USA Hockey strongly recommends that all players and goalkeepers in all age classifications properly wear an internal mouthpiece, a HECC-approved helmet and a HECC-approved full facemask for all games and practices.</i></p> <p>(a) Each participant, and the team, is personally responsible to wear protective equipment for all games, warm-ups and practices. Such equipment should include gloves, shin pads, shoulder pads, elbow pads, hip pads or padded hockey pants, protective cup, tendon pads plus all head <u>and neck</u> protective equipment as required by USA Hockey rules. It is recommended that all protective equipment be designed specifically for ice hockey.</p> <p>(b) All protective equipment, except gloves, padded hockey pants, helmet/ facemask, <u>neck laceration protector</u>, and goalkeeper's leg guards, must be worn under the uniform.</p> <p>For violation of this rule after a warning by the Referee, a minor penalty for an equipment violation shall be imposed.</p>

<p><i>(Note) Players, including goalkeepers, violating this rule shall not be permitted to participate in the game until such equipment has been corrected or removed.</i></p> <p>*****</p> <p>(e) A player, excluding the goalkeeper, whose helmet/facemask comes off during play must immediately leave the ice surface and may not return to play unless they are able to properly put their helmet back on with the chin strap fastened. Should the referee feel that the player who has lost their helmet is in a vulnerable position and allowing play to continue might lead to an injury of the player with no helmet, the referee must stop play immediately. If play is stopped for this reason, the face-off shall take place at the nearest allowable location (last play).</p> <p>If the goalkeeper's helmet/facemask comes off during play, the play shall be stopped immediately regardless of any imminent scoring opportunity. A minor penalty shall be assessed to any goalkeeper who purposely removes their helmet/facemask during play unless in the course of a breakaway in which case a penalty shot/optional minor shall be awarded.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>(g) All players who wear the required, or recommended, protective equipment must wear it in the manner for which it is designed. For violation of this rule, following a team warning, a misconduct penalty for an equipment violation shall be imposed.</p>	<p><i>(Note) Players, including goalkeepers, violating this rule shall not be permitted to participate in the game until such equipment has been corrected or removed.</i></p> <p>*****</p> <p>(e) A player, excluding the goalkeeper, whose helmet/facemask comes off during play must immediately leave the ice surface and may not return to play unless they are able to properly put their helmet back on with the chin strap fastened. Should the referee feel that the player who has lost their helmet <u>or neck laceration protector</u> is in a vulnerable position and allowing play to continue might lead to an injury of the player with no helmet <u>or neck laceration protector</u>, the referee must stop play immediately. If play is stopped for this reason, the face-off shall take place at the nearest allowable location (last play).</p> <p>If the goalkeeper's helmet/facemask <u>or neck laceration protector</u> comes off during play, the play shall be stopped immediately regardless of any imminent scoring opportunity. A minor penalty shall be assessed to any goalkeeper who purposely removes their helmet/facemask <u>or neck laceration protector</u> during play unless in the course of a breakaway in which case a penalty shot/optional minor shall be awarded.</p> <p>*****</p> <p><u>(g) All players, including goalkeepers, in all age classifications are required to wear a neck laceration protector designed for that purpose and that covers as much of the neck area as possible and are recommended to wear cut-resistant socks, sleeves or undergarments.</u></p> <p>(g)<u>(h)</u> All players who wear the required, or recommended, protective equipment must wear it in the manner for which it is designed <u>without any alterations</u>.</p> <p>For violation of this rule, following a team warning, a misconduct penalty for an equipment violation shall be imposed.</p> <p><i>Renumber subparagraph (h) as subparagraph (i).</i></p>
<p>Rule 501 Appointment of Officials</p> <p>(c) All On-Ice Officials shall wear black trousers and an official sweater with the current USA Hockey officiating crest or the league sanctioned crest on the left chest of the sweater during all games. Any other crest that is worn must</p>	<p>Rule 501 Appointment of Officials</p> <p>(c) All On-Ice Officials shall wear black trousers and an official sweater with the current USA Hockey officiating crest or the league sanctioned crest on the left chest of the sweater during all games. Any other crest that is worn must</p>

be located on either arm of the sweater. The wearing of nameplates shall be regulated by each League.

Each official is required to wear a black hockey helmet, with chin strap properly fastened at all times (with the exception of the national anthem), and a halfshield visor properly attached to their helmets.

be located on either arm of the sweater. The wearing of nameplates shall be regulated by each League.

Each official is required to wear a black hockey helmet, with chin strap properly fastened at all times (with the exception of the national anthem), and a halfshield visor properly attached to their helmets. **All officials are recommended to wear a neck laceration protector designed for that purpose.**

USA Hockey Official Rules of Sled Hockey

CURRENT RULE	PROPOSED RULE CHANGE
<p>SLED HOCKEY EQUIPMENT RULES</p> <p><u>General Rules</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mouth guards are strongly encouraged for every player in any division. - Neck guards are strongly encouraged for every player in any division. - Hockey Pants are not required. - All other normal hockey equipment rules and guidelines apply as outlined in Official Playing Rules of USA Hockey. <p>Reasonable modifications to general hockey equipment rules may be permissible if the player must have these modifications in order to participate because of their disability. Any modification must be requested and notified to USA Hockey in advance of participation involving the modification.</p> <p>The use of prosthetics or other equipment made of hard or unyielding material that is not completely covered by protective equipment must be covered on all exterior surfaces with no less than ½ inch thick, high-density, closed-cell polyurethane or an alternate material of the same minimum thickness and similar physical properties to protect an injury.</p> <p>In addition to USA Hockey typical hockey equipment rules, the following apply to sled specific equipment.</p> <p>Sled Player Equipment (Mobility Devices) Player Equipment shall be defined as the sled, skag, bucket, skate holder, skate blade, sticks and picks.</p>	<p>SLED HOCKEY EQUIPMENT RULES</p> <p><u>General Rules</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mouth guards are strongly encouraged for every player in any division. - Neck guards are strongly encouraged for every player in any division. - <u>All players, including goalkeepers, in all age classifications are required to wear a neck laceration protector designed for that purpose and that covers as much of the neck area as possible and are recommended to wear cut-resistant socks, sleeves or undergarments.</u> - Hockey Pants are not required. - All other normal hockey equipment rules and guidelines apply as outlined in Official Playing Rules of USA Hockey. <p>Reasonable modifications to general hockey equipment rules may be permissible if the player must have these modifications in order to participate because of their disability. Any modification must be requested and notified to USA Hockey in advance of participation involving the modification.</p> <p>The use of prosthetics or other equipment made of hard or unyielding material that is not completely covered by protective equipment must be covered on all exterior surfaces with no less than ½ inch thick, high-density, closed-cell polyurethane or an alternate material of the same minimum thickness and similar physical properties to protect an injury.</p> <p>In addition to USA Hockey typical hockey equipment rules, the following apply to sled specific equipment.</p> <p>Sled Player Equipment (Mobility Devices) Player Equipment shall be defined as the sled, skag, bucket, skate holder, skate blade, sticks and picks.</p>