

SOUTH JERSEY HIGH SCHOOL ICE HOCKEY LEAGUE

OPERATING POLICIES

I. GENERAL

All rosters shall be locked by December 31 for play-off purposes. Any player starting after December 31 is not eligible for play-offs.

In the event of an altercation which may or may not result in personal injury or property damage, the league will take appropriate action, possibly including expulsion from the league, should such incident occur before, during or after any league sanctioned game or activity.

The USA Hockey Rule Book will govern in all cases.

It is the intention of the League to follow rules as dictated by USA Hockey in all circumstances. However, the League reserves the right to review, at the request of any member team, any situation and to take action upon any situation, which develops during the course of the season.

It is the home team's responsibility to be sure that the scoresheet is properly completed and routed in the following manner:

- One copy to be retained by the home team
- One copy to be given to the visiting team
- One copy to be mailed to the statistician*

THE COPY TO BE MAILED IS TO BE POSTMARKED WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF THE DATE THE GAME IS PLAYED, i.e., a game played on November 1st, must be postmarked no later than November 5th. A FINE OF \$25.00 SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON THE HOME TEAM IF THIS RULE IS NOT ADHERED TO.

SHOULD A GAME BE PROTESTED IT SHOULD BE NOTED ON THE ORIGINAL COPY OF THE SCORESHEET.

HOME TEAM IS THE TEAM THAT APPEARS FIRST ON THE SCHEDULE.

Mercy Rule: When a seven (7)-goal differential exists at or after the beginning of the third period, the game will operate with a running clock. If the differential drops below seven (7) goals, then stop clock will resume.* If the difference is ten (10)-goals at or after the beginning of the third period, the game will be ended.

Third Period Time: There must be thirty (30) minutes ice time available at the start of the third period to have a fifteen (15) minute period. Whatever amount of time remains (if less than 30 minutes) should be divided in half, and that amount of time put on the clock. It is the responsibility of the referee to see that this is accomplished. *

II ELIGIBILITY

All teams must be pure (players must be enrolled in the high school which the club represents).

Vocational and Home schooled players are eligible to play provided they live in the schools' sending district.

Students attending a small private or parochial school (enrollment < 150 students), that does not have a team in any sport that participates in the NJISAA, are eligible to play provided they live in the schools' sending district.

Students will not be permitted to play for a varsity team until he/she achieves the ninth grade.

All students are eligible to play provided they are with their original graduating class. No student may have more than four year's high school eligibility.

Players turning 19 years of age prior to September 1 are not permitted to play (NJSIAA Rule).*

All players must meet the proof of eligibility provisions as outlined under registration. *

III COACHES

The Head Coach for each team must be identified at the start of the season. Each club must submit a copy of each coach's USA coaching certification card. In order to be the head coach of a varsity team, the coach must possess a USA Hockey Advanced or Master Coach Certification Card (the only exception to this rule will be if a coach is in possession of an Intermediate Certification Card and will be enrolled in the Advanced clinic within 1 year). To be a head coach of a JV team, a coach must be in possession of an Intermediate Certification Card (a coach may be permitted to act as head coach of a JV team if he is in possession of an Associate level Certification Card and will be enrolled in the Intermediate clinic within 1 year).

Coaches select teams. Coaches have total responsibility for participation, positioning and assignment of players.

Coaches are responsible for the actions of their players before, during and after all games. This includes the parking lot of the rink. *

Coaches and Managers are responsible for ensuring that the player bench is kept clear of individuals not associated with the team during games. This includes friends and/or parents of players. Coaches are also responsible for ensuring that players are not on the ice while it is being cleaned.

Coaches and Managers are responsible for the penalty box. Only one team official is allowed in the penalty box during a game. Exception is the backup goalie.*

If a post-game situation is bad, coaches should keep all players on the bench and talk to them while the situation clears. Forego the usual handshake if necessary.

It is the responsibility of each coach to read the scoresheet after each game and to insure that suspended players are advised of their suspension and not be permitted to play in the next game.*

Game misconducts to coaches or other officials will be assessed in a progressive manner. First game will result in one game suspension; second game misconduct will result in two games suspension, etc. Game misconducts caused by the 15-penalty rule do not apply.*

If a team should incur 15 penalties in a game, the Head coach (identified by the club to the league) will be assessed a Game misconduct penalty. If the Head coach is not coaching in a game at which 15 penalties have been assessed, then the Assistant Coach responsible for signing the scoresheet will be assessed the Game Misconduct penalty. Game misconduct penalties to a coach whose team incurs 15 penalties will remain at one game for the first and second offense. If a coach incurs a third game misconduct penalty for his team accumulating 15 penalties in a game, the coach will be suspended for

one game and the team will have 1 point deducted from their point total in the standings. If a fourth 15-penalty game misconduct is issued to a head coach, two (2) additional points will be deducted from the point standings of that team and the coach will be suspended until a Coaches Review Committee can determine if that coach should continue coaching in this League. The Coaches Review Committee will be selected from the Board of Directors of the S.J.H.S.H.L and must meet and arrive at a determination within 10 days from the date of the infraction. (10/2001)

IV. PARENTS - GUARDIANS

By signing the application form, the parent/guardian agrees to abide by the operating rules and procedures of the League.

No alcoholic beverages are allowed in the rink area during games or practices.

Parents are requested to support the coach and manager by:

- a) Encouraging their child at all times
- b) Providing an example of calm and restraint at all games and practices

V. PLAYERS

Players' complete attention to the staff is mandatory.

Abusive language and actions by players will not be tolerated.

Any damage, to person or property, will not be tolerated. Anyone found in violation is subject to immediate expulsion and is responsible for all payments for damage.

Equipment: All players must wear their full equipment when on the ice. All players must wear a USA Hockey approved helmet and facemask; an internal colored mouthpiece. All players on the bench, whether playing or not, must wear a helmet during games.

The Coach or Commissioner, for the following cases of serious misconduct, shall discipline players:

- a) Deliberate injury to another person
- b) Deliberate attempt to injure another person, including butt-ending spearing, kicking, high-slashing or vicious charging and/or boarding
- c) Fighting
- d) Attempting to fight, including dropping or removing gloves
- e) Leaving bench or goaltender leaving crease to join an altercation
- f) Incurable behavior, including but not limited to, refusal to obey coaches, refusal to comply with a referee's decision, using force on an official or coach, or attempting to use force on an official or coach, or serious verbal intimidation
- g) Any other act of serious misbehavior which in the opinion of the coach or the commissioner calls for imposition of a special penalty

The application of serious penalties during a game, such as a match penalty or gross misconduct or game misconduct, will generally result in league or USA Hockey action including long-term suspensions for participation. Club action may also result from these types of penalties.

Any player receiving five (5) penalties in any game will be ejected from the game upon receipt of the fifth penalty. Another player will take his place in the penalty box. A double minor is considered two penalties.

Any player, coach or team official that receives a suspension as a result of that individual's actions during a SJHSIHL game, must serve that suspension during a SJHSIHL game.

VI. PLAYER SUSPENSIONS

The penalty for fighting will be administered as follows: First offense will be a five (5) game suspension; second offense will be an additional five (5) game suspension, and the player will not be permitted to participate in playoffs at any level. A third offense will **suspend the offending player for the remainder of the season and playoffs.** (10/2001). All suspensions must be served with the team on which the player or coach received the suspension.

A player receiving a 5 game fighting suspension will not be permitted to participate in any games at another level, until these 5 games are served. However, the total number of games assessed at the second level shall not exceed 5. Hence, the TOTAL number of games the player must serve will not exceed 10.

The following **major penalties** always carry an additional game suspension and are **cumulative**: Unsportsman-like game misconduct ejection, butt-end, check from behind, fighting, head-butt, grabbing face mask, leaving the bench to join an altercation, stick swinging, spearing, obscene gestures, roughing, racial or ethnic slur, kicking. (11/2000)

Game misconduct penalties will be added to the list of major penalties and will figure in the cumulative major penalty total. Any combination of game misconduct penalty and other major penalties, as listed in but not limited to those specified above, that total four (4), will result in the suspension of that player from League play for the remainder of the season and playoffs. (10/2001)

Misconduct penalties will be kept during the course of the year. If a player receives 3 misconduct penalties throughout the season, that player will receive a 1 game suspension. If a player receives 2 more misconduct penalties a 2 game suspension will issued along with a mandatory hearing with further penalties possible.

Suspended players must sign the scoresheet. *

Suspended players are not permitted on the bench, in the penalty box or in the stands.* A suspended player or coach is permitted to view the game along the boards to the side of the bench in the area restricted for that teams' managers only.

Failure to serve a suspension for any reason will result in a minimum of one additional game suspension.*

VII. LEAGUE COMMISSIONER

The duties of the League commissioner are:

1. Enforce disciplinary action
2. Act as a liaison between USA Hockey and the League
3. Counsel the League on rules in accordance with USA Hockey regulations

VIII. APPEAL PROCESS

Appeal for match or gross penalties is to be handled as follows:

1. Team wishing to appeal a decision made by the commissioner must notify the President of their intent to appeal within seven days.
2. The President will then appoint a five member panel to review the Appeal within seven days (No Executive Board member shall be permitted to serve on the panel).
3. The panel will make an irrevocable decision within seven days.
4. All panel decisions must conform to USA Hockey regulations.

IX. STATISTICIAN

The League Statistician is to maintain a list of individuals that are assessed Major, Misconduct, and Game Misconduct penalties. The purpose is to track repeat offenders for potential review by the league.*

X. REGISTRATION

The following forms must be completed for each team member and returned to the Registration Committee, if possible, by the September league meeting:

1. USA IMR waiver of liability form
2. Medical history form [teams should retain]
3. Consent-to-treat form [teams should retain]
4. SJHSIHL waiver of liability form
5. Verification that the player attends the school that the team represents (if an eighth grade student, the player must reside within the school district of the representative team)

All forms are to be **signed by** the appropriate individuals and filed with the league before any player is permitted to participate in a league game. *

Verification can be in the form of one or all of the following:

Current Year's Class Schedule (copy)

Current School ID (copy)

Letter of verification on school letterhead listing students/players with a roster attached. This letter should be mailed directly to the chair of the Registration Committee from the school's Athletic Director.*

The registrar will approve and notify each team of each players' eligibility. If a team uses an ineligible player, the team will forfeit the games in which that player participated.

XI. ROSTERING

Team rosters (copy of the original, signed, USA hockey team roster [T-1]) are due into the League registrar and the USA Hockey Atlantic District registrar prior to that team's first game. **Each team must identify all coaches and players that will be associated with and/or play for that team on the roster, ie, if a player is to play for both a varsity and a JV team, that player must be listed on both team rosters.** Any club that skates a JV team in addition to its varsity team, must abide by the following formula to determine the number of players to be locked on the varsity team:

**Total number of players in club
plus 1 designated goalie per team***
30 and above

Number of locked varsity players
13 & a goalie

28 - 29	12 & a goalie
26 - 27	11 & a goalie
24 - 25	10 & a goalie
22 - 23	9 & a goalie
20 - 21	8 & a goalie

*For example, if a club has 26 skaters and 5 goalies and intends to register a varsity and a JV team, that club is expected to lock 12 skaters and a goalie (ie, 26 skaters + 2 goalies for a total of 28 players).

Any club that skates a JVB team in addition to its JVA team, must lock a total of 9 skaters on its JVA roster.

Designated players to be locked will be identified on the team roster.

No player may be rostered on more than 2 SJ teams within a club (except goalies).

For example:

- If a club has 2 teams an unlocked varsity player is permitted to play on both teams.
- If a club has the following 3 teams (Varsity Tier I, JVA, and JVB), an unlocked varsity player is only permitted to be rostered on the Varsity and JVA levels.
- If a club has the following 3 teams (Varsity Tier II, JVA, and JVB), an unlocked varsity player is only permitted to be rostered on the Varsity and JVA teams. An unlocked JVA player is only permitted to be rostered on the JVA and JVB teams.
- If a club has the following 3 teams (Varsity Tier I, Varsity Tier II, and JVA), an unlocked Varsity Tier I player is only permitted to be rostered on the Varsity Tier I and Varsity Tier II teams, an unlocked Varsity Tier II player is only permitted to be rostered on the Varsity Tier II team and the JVA team.
- If a club has the following 3 teams (Varsity Tier I, Varsity Tier II, and JVB), an unlocked Varsity Tier I player is only permitted to be rostered on the Varsity Tier I team and the Varsity Tier II teams, an unlocked Varsity Tier II player is only permitted to be rostered on the Varsity Tier II team and the JVB team.
- If a club has the following 4 teams (Varsity Tier I, Varsity Tier II, JVA, and JVB), an unlocked Varsity Tier I player is only permitted to be rostered on the Varsity Tier I and Varsity Tier II teams, an unlocked Varsity Tier II player is only permitted to be rostered on the Varsity Tier II team and the JVA team, and an unlocked JVA player is only permitted to be rostered on the JVA and JVB teams.

Additional players may be added to a team's roster up to the 31st of December, if all required paperwork has been submitted to the League registrar and the player has been deemed eligible by the registrar. In order to be eligible for playoffs, a player must appear in at least 1 game prior to the 31st of December and must play in 5 league games for the respective team before the start of playoffs (The 5 game minimum only applies to players dropping down a level in order to be eligible for playoffs and not to players coming up from a lower level). Each player added must be identified either as a locked or non-locked player and a supplemental USA hockey team roster must be submitted to the league registrar and the USA Hockey Atlantic District registrar before the player will be permitted to play in a league game. **If a team fails to submit the required paperwork and/or fails to file the supplemental roster, the team will forfeit the games in which that player participated.**

Clubs with 2 Varsity teams must lock their entire rosters prior to the start of playoffs.

Since USA Hockey insurance expires as of August 31st each year, no player may step on the ice unless IMR forms have been filed with the Atlantic District Sub-Registrar.*

NOTE: All additions marked with an asterisk () were voted upon and incorporated into the Operating Policies at the July 12, 1994 meeting.*

I have read the above rules and agree to abide by them.

Organization

Title of Club Officer

Signature

Team

Date

Head Coach

Date

Revision #4 0/5/02/2002
Revision #5 09/12/2006