

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Grievances, questions or problems should first be directed to the team manager who shall forward comments to the Board where action will be taken as required. Although it is recommended that these matters should first be directed to the team manager/coach, any DYHA member may contact any Board member directly if they so desire. Board meetings are open and all DYHA members are encouraged to attend the meetings. Although not mandatory, advance notification of a request to address the Board will be appreciated.

ZERO TOLERANCE RULE

There will be no tolerance of any conduct that is not suitable for an amateur athletic event. This would include but is not limited to physical or verbal abuse by any individual, group or entity towards any on-ice official, member of opposing team or its spectators or other spectators at any time before, during or after a game. Failure to strictly adhere to this rule will result in disciplinary action. SAFE SPORT policies will be strictly enforced as well as COACHING CODE OF ETHICS.

DISCIPLINE AND SUSPENSION HEARINGS

If a DYHA Member, player, spectator, or board member is involved in any incident on or off the ice, for which it is thought that further disciplinary action may be required the following procedure will be followed:

- A Team Coach/Manager shall notify the HOCKEY DIRECTOR within 1 day of the infraction occurring.
- B. Hockey Director shall notify the President AND the Discipline Chair of the incident.
- C. The Discipline Chair shall review the incident and a decision on whether a hearing is required per USA Hockey, AHAI and/or DYHA rules, guidelines or procedures. If a hearing is required the “Rules and Disciplinary Committee” shall meet within 5 days of the incident to determine what disciplinary actions shall be taken.
- D If a hearing is not required no further action shall be taken.
- E A written report detailing the incident and any subsequent disciplinary actions taken shall be submitted to the President and reviewed by the Board and placed on permanent file.

FIGHTING AND DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO INJURE

Any DYHA player who receives a major penalty for fighting or deliberately injures or attempts to injure another player in any game or practice will be subject to the following disciplinary action (Note – *The use or attempted use of the hockey stick or skates during an altercation will be considered a deliberate attempt to injure*)

- A The player will be immediately removed from the ice by the coach for the duration of the game or practice.
- B The player will be suspended from all practices and games until the Disciplinary Committee meets. Absent extreme circumstances the Committee will follow the AHAI level of punishment for discipline.
- C If a player is found by the Disciplinary Committee to be guilty of a second offense or a deliberate attempt to injure, that player shall be automatically suspended for, at a minimum, the duration of that season.
- D If the incident occurs in a scheduled game and is called by the referee, the Disciplinary Committee shall consider any USA Hockey or league rules in determining any additional action to be taken.
- E. Any conduct deemed by the President to be detrimental to hockey or DYHA may be referred to the Discipline Committee.

GENERAL OPERATION POLICIES **DECATUR YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

INTRODUCTION

During the past seasons, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Decatur Youth Hockey Association (“DYHA”) has established General Operation Policies (“GOP”)

In an effort to acquaint new members with the GOP and also to keep existing members up to date on recent changes, we have compiled the following list of current policies. Please note that these are intended to be general guidelines and cannot be expected to cover every possible situation that may arise. Situations not covered will be dealt with on an individual basis by the Board.

Each skater’s parent/guardian will acknowledge reading the GOP as a part of the sign-up documents and electronic signature will be required.

The procedure for amending the GOP during the season is as follows: 1) the Board may change policies by a simple majority vote. 2) proposed changes will be submitted in writing to the general membership by posting the proposed changes on the home ice bulletin board or publication in the DYHA Newsletter. 3) the Board may not act upon the policy change for a minimum of thirty (30) days following written notification to the general membership.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

A skater MUST BE age 4 by December 31 of the current calendar to be eligible to begin the DYHA program.

A skater will not be considered a member of DYHA and will not be permitted to participate in any DYHA practice or game until the following have been completed and filed with the DYHA Registrar

- a) “USA Hockey Individual Membership Registration” form
- b) “DYHA General Operations Policies Acknowledgment” form
- c) Registration fee paid – amount set annually by the Board

A copy of each skater’s birth certificate must be on file with the team manager.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

In order to pay the cost of ice rental, insurance premiums, referee fees and other administrative costs, each skater must provide his or her fair share of income to DYHA. Members fulfill this fee obligation by direct cash payment or by credits earned through participation in DYHA fund raising projects. The Board establishes the amount of the membership fees each season and also establishes the schedule for fee payments. Non current status in fee payment by date listed on invoice shall result in the suspension of that skater from all practices and games. No payment arrangements will be accepted. No skater will be allowed to register until all previous year’s dues have been paid in full. Any skater who signs up after the season has begun shall pay a prorated fee based on the remaining days in the season to total days in the season. Any member that begins at the Beginner level and is then moved up to their respective level, based upon skill and age, will be charged a prorated fee based upon dues at that level.

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EQUIPMENT

The following list of equipment is considered mandatory to be worn by each skater at all practices and games. Deviations from the list must be approved by the Board -
Helmet/face mask - Gloves - Elbow pads - Shoulder Pads Hockey pants - Shinguards - Hockey skates - Supporter with Cup Mouth guard - Neck Guards

SKATING UP/DOWN

No player shall skate up or down with another age group in any practice. Players (squirt and pee wee level) may try out for a team above their respective age during regular season try outs and be subject to the same try out requirements as all other players.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation shall be furnished by parents on a voluntary basis. DYHA assumes no responsibility or liability for transportation.

INSURANCE

Insurance is furnished by USA hockey for each officially registered player, coach, referee, assistant coach, team representative, time keeper or minor official of USA Hockey who is participating in a sanctioned USA Hockey event. It covers charges in excess of the amount allowed by each person's personal insurance coverage and is subject to a \$1,000 deductible (the deductible is \$1,000 if you have no insurance yourself) Any claim must first be made against your personal insurance carrier and only claims in excess should be made against the USA Hockey policy. Forms are available through the team manager.

HOUSE LEAGUE AND TRAVEL TEAM PROGRAMS

DYHA may offer at the discretion of the Board two program levels within each age classification

- a) **House League Program** Primary purpose is to develop fundamental skating and hockey skills through practice and scrimmage games. All beginners start in the house league program if available at that age level.
- b) **Travel Team Program** Primary purpose is to play competitive hockey and differs from house league in that travel teams participate in regularly scheduled games out of town.

The primary differences in House League and Travel Team programs are as follows:

- a) Eligibility
House League: All members of DYHA may participate. There are no tryouts or skill tests required
Travel Team: The travel team coach selects the roster from tryouts conducted during the first part of the season. Tryouts are open to all DYHA Members. The coach may add skaters to or remove skaters from the travel roster during the course of the season. The roster size may vary from 11-20 skaters.
- b) Age classifications, ability groupings and number of teams
Mite Age 8 and under Squirt Age 9 & 10
PeeWee Age 11 & 12 Bantam Age 13 & 14
Midget Age 15 to 17 High School – Freshman to seniors in high school

Note: The skater's age on January 1 prior to the start of the season will determine the age classification they will be in for the entire season.

House League: The number of teams in each age group shall be determined by the total number of skaters in that age group. A team usually consists of 11 – 15 players. Within age classifications the skaters will be divided into the following ability levels if practicable 1) beginner 2) intermediate, and 3) advanced.

Travel Team: The number of teams in each age classification is determined by the Board based on the number of eligible skaters available.

c. Ice time during games and practices

House League: All skaters will receive equal amounts of ice time as is practically possible.

Travel Team: The League offers a travel hockey program. Those teams are competitive. Players will be given equal ice time whenever possible. Starting at the Squirt AA level and up, ice time will be at the coach's discretion. Coaches are encouraged to keep the ice time equitable, but parents and players must understand that there will be times when it will not be equal. Players at all levels may lose ice time due to any disciplinary reason.

d. Out of town games

House League: All regular games will be played between DYHA teams in the local ice arena. Occasional home or away games may be played with out of town teams with the approval of the Hockey Director. Participation in those games is not mandatory.

Travel Team: A regular schedule of both home and away games as worked out between the coach, manager and the scheduler will be provided.

INJURY REPORTS

A report shall be prepared on all injuries which occur during any practice or game and require more than routine first aid treatment. One copy of the report shall be provided to the parent/guardian and one copy shall be placed on permanent file with the Board.

DYHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELIGIBILITY

Any parent or guardian of a child registered with DYHA is eligible to serve as a member of the Board. Or person authorized by the Board as a Member.

DYHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE STAFF

Executive Staff of the DYHA Board or members appointed to the following positions will receive dues compensation as follows:

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President: Dues equal to the full amount of 1 skater's dues (if multiple skaters, the highest player's dues will receive the credit)

Vice President: Dues equal to 1/2 the amount of 1 skater's dues (if multiple skaters, the highest player's dues will receive the credit)

Treasurer: Dues equal to the full amount of 1 skater's dues (if multiple skaters, the highest player's dues will receive the credit)

Hockey Director: Dues equal to the full amount of 1 skater's dues (if multiple skaters, the highest player's dues will receive the credit)