

***YANKEE CONFERENCE
SOUTH HOCKEY
LEAGUE***

2012/2013

COACHES GUIDE

yankeekonferencehockey.com

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YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE CHARTER

USA HOCKEY

Revised 6/29/07

Reprinted 8/2007

House-keeping changes 8/2012

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE & INTENT:

1. The Yankee Conference South Hockey League was organized primarily to give our “C” or House Level Players, (Mite through Bantam), a good league that would strive to provide equal competition among players. If used properly by participating programs, it will be the much needed House League that our member towns do not have.
2. By banding together with a common goal, the children will benefit as well as each Youth Hockey Program that participates.

ARTICLE II

ORGANIZATION

Each participating Youth Hockey Program will send a Board appointed representative to sit on the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Executive Committee. The committee is responsible for:

1. Working with the League Director by representing their programs.
2. Appoint a sufficient number of Operating Directors to run the League.
3. Decide on all major issues affecting the League.
4. Holding a sufficient number of meetings with the League Director using an agenda, to conduct the business of the League.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

1. One representative from each Member Program, (Voting Members).
2. Operating Directors, (Non-Voting Members).
3. Referee(s) in Chief, (Voting Member).
4. Rink Management, (ex-officio/Non-Voting Members).

OPERATING DIRECTORS:

Appointed by the Executive Committee to a one year term, no more than three consecutive years for the League Director, and are responsible for the following:

1. Administer and run the League according to the Charter and League Rules of the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE. This includes preparations for the following season.
2. Working closely with Rink Management and Referee(s) in Chief for adequate ice time and coverage.
3. Notifying participating programs and conducting start-up meeting for teams to enter in September. This includes providing information and registration forms.
4. Applying and enforcing League Rules.
5. At game level, conducting hearings and deciding on disciplinary matters, (i.e. Team and/or player suspension, deliberate intent to injure etc.)
6. Making judgment calls on team and player eligibility in the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE.
7. Contact Youth Hockey Programs who are late in payments.
8. Organize family fun days.
9. Awarding trophies to teams and players at season's end.
10. Schedule League games, play-offs in March and April.

ARTICLE IV

CHARTER DURATION:

This Charter is designed to help guarantee a strong and ongoing "C" or house level league. The YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE CHARTER may be amended or changed only in accordance with the following:

1. A minimum of 90% of the Charter Program representatives **MUST** be present at a meeting to change the Charter.
2. 80% of those present **MUST** vote "FOR" a charter change or amendment.
3. Massachusetts Hockey must be notified of, and approve any amendment or change, other than member changes, prior to its implementation.
4. The change or amendment, once approved and accepted by Massachusetts Hockey will become effective on September 1, on the year following the date of such approval.

ARTICLE V

YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE POLICY:

To maintain, protect and preserve an ongoing “C” or House League for children and town youth hockey programs that promote FUN, ENJOYMENT, and DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG HOCKEY PLAYERS. The following five ingredients are common to most successful leagues and are incorporated into this Charter:

1. Self governing league
2. Adult referee staff
3. Equal competition
4. Reasonable cost
5. Prime ice time

ARTICLE VI

MEMBER PROGRAMS

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. BRAINTREE | 2. BARNSTABLE | 3. BREWINS | 4. COASTAL STARS |
| 5. CANTON | 6. C.C. CANAL | 7. DUXBURY | 8. EAGLES |
| 9. GATEWAY | 10. HANOVER | 11. MILTON | 12. N. ATTLEBORO |
| 13. PEMBROKE | 14. PLYMOUTH | 15. S.S.SEAHAWKS | 16. SE CYCLONES |
| 17. WEYMOUTH | 18. W/H/K | | |

NOTE: Whenever the word “he” is used in this Guide, it is meant to both include both the male and female gender.

The YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Rules and Regulations have been revised to include items that have been adopted by the League, since the Rules were last revised on 2/21/99.

YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS

The YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE is designed to provide A.H.A. Registered Programs on the South Shore area with a “C” House Level league (mites through bantams), to give players an opportunity to have fun playing hockey while competing against equal competition.

RULE NUMBER 1

Skaters that are registered on their Town’s roster as “A” “B” or “B2” or play in a higher category (mites thru bantams) are not eligible to play in this league. Examples CDL, Breakers, Coastal.

Any coach or program caught using illegal player refer to page 19 rule number 8.

The only exception are goalies, when on a basis of need, higher goalies may be waived into the league. This requires a written waiver to be entered into the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE WAIVER BOOK by a League Director.

NOTE:

It is the responsibility of both the team coach and member programs to assure that all players on their house team are in compliance with Rule #1 of YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE.

Players who are registered a “C” level but participate in any way with higher rate teams, including both A.H.A. and non A.H.A. teams, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE. The only exception would be intramural play within your home program. In order to determine the classification of a Non A.H.A. the team and all players that participate with the team, including opponents in game situation, will take on the same classification as the highest classified A.H.A. registered player on the team.

This League was classified a House League by the Youth Council of A.H.A.U.S., and sanctioned by Massachusetts Hockey (A.H.A.) provided the rules, as established and intended are followed.

A. U.S.A.HOCKEY, MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY:

1. Current A.H.A.U.S. and Massachusetts Hockey (A.H.A.) rules apply, but some rules may be amended or changed to enhance player development.
2. Only USA referees will be used for all games.

B. CATEGORIES:

1. INSTRUCTIONAL MITES, 5 - 8 years old
2. MITES, 9 and under
3. SQUIRTS, 11 and under
4. PEEWEES, 13 and under
5. BANTAMS, 15 and under

C. SEASON:

1. The season will begin in September (Instructional Mites in October) and go through the end of April.
2. Checking level team players must attend a mandatory checking class run by their program prior to the season.
3. March and/or April will be used for Play-offs. Any ice not used for play-offs in April will be assigned to the programs.
4. League standing will be posted weekly, starting with the first official game. Note: This can only be done if all teams report scores to the Standings Director.
5. There are no standings posted for the Instructional Mites.

D. MITE, SQUIRTS, PEEWEES, & BANTAMS

In the event one program places more than one team in the same level, the teams MUST BE BALANCED, (i.e. two equal strength teams, instead of one strong and one weak team.)

F. 1ST YEAR PEEWEES & BANTAMS NOT HAVING CHECKING CLASSES

All 1st year Bantams not having checking classes must attend a mandatory checking clinic run by their program before playing in any game.

G. YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE RECORD & WAIVER BOOK

The ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR will be responsible for all waivers. A Record & Waiver Book is maintained at his office for the purposes of recording:

1. Waivers granted by the League.
2. Protests, and results of the hearing.
3. Any records, letters or information important for future reference.

Directors are required to record any matter they deal with that is out of the normal operation of the League. The waiver book is maintained as a reference manual for the Executive Committee and Coaches.

H. PENALTIES:

1. Minor 1:30 minutes
Major 5:00 minutes
Game Misconduct—Ejection and 1 game suspension
2. Any player upon receiving a 3rd minor penalty in a game will be ejected for the remainder of the game.
3. FIGHTING Mites through Bantams. 1st offense—3 game suspension. 2nd Offense—Suspension from the League pending a hearing with the player, parent, coach, referee in chief and league officials.
4. Fighting during any playoff game disqualifies the player for the remainder of the playoffs.

5. Penalties will be run on stop-time basis, even though the game is running time.
6. Penalized players must proceed to the penalty box immediately; otherwise another penalty will be assessed.
7. There will be no stick throwing, stick banging, or profanity allowed by players, coaches or fans. A minor penalty will be assessed to the offending team.
8. Coaches:
 - 1st violation—Forfeiture of game and a 2 game suspension of coach.
 - 2nd violation—Forfeiture of that game and expulsion of coach, pending a hearing.

Member Programs:

 - 1st violation—penalties, fines, or both—as imposed by the league.
 - 2nd violation—Hearing before the Executive Committee or Executive Sub Committee.

Note:

All YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE hearings, requested by the president of the program penalized, or penalties imposed by the league, will not take place while a player, team or coach is waiting for, or serving an A.H.A. hearing or penalty respectively.

GAME RULES

1. All games will start on time. 3 minutes will be allowed for warm-up. The first two periods are 17 minutes running time with the 3rd period set to the time remaining on running time, with the last two minutes on stop time, if the game is within 2 goals.
2. Final Roster must be submitted to the League by **December 1st** along with a photocopy of A.H.A. “A” and “B” rosters.
3. Only teams with a responsible coach will be accepted into the League. All coaches must attend appropriate level coaching clinics.
4. It is required that each team have matching uniform jerseys with unique numbers. When a team color conflict occurs, it is the responsibility of the team listed first on the schedule to provide pullovers.
5. During the course of the season, if the coach is required to prove the age of a player, he must do so.
6. Coaches, officials, and score keepers may communicate their suggestion, comments or complaints, in writing, to any YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Director. All complaints about the officials must be a phone call to the referee in chief from the head coach only.
7. YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE rosters with both the players’ names and numbers must be provided to the time keeper before the game can begin. These rosters must also list borrowed players and team that they are borrowed from. ALL LEVELS must use the official YANKEE CONFERENCE ROSTER SHEET. Add minor penalty to start of game IF NOT USED.
8. Spearing the Goalie: No player is allowed to break a puck loose once a goalie has it tied up: either under them, in their glove, or under their stick. Any player doing so will receive a penalty and any goal scored will be disallowed.

YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE POLICY AMPLIFICATION

The YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE was formed by 15 South Shore area Youth Hockey Programs, joining together with a common goal of working in cooperative spirit to promote, develop and enhance the quality and stature of the “C” level player.

The total cooperation and support of our member rinks, Massachusetts Hockey and the referee staff has made the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE a strong and permanent part of youth hockey for years to come.

The ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR will be responsible for all waivers. The following information describes some of the operating policies, adopted by the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Executive Committee and is provided for information purposes.

1. YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE operates as a house league, but is defined and recognized as a “C” League. Consequently, we are able to sway players, borrow players and help one another when a program has either too many or too few players in a given level. New teams are allowed to exist now, where they may not have in the past.
2. In order to do this without being required to use the formal A.H.A. waiver/release rules, the following procedures must be adhered to:
 - A. Every player must register with their home youth hockey program.
 - B. If a player is loaned to another YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE team, it should be understood that the player still belongs to the home program and may be required to return, if needed.
 - C. If a program borrows a player, it is the borrowing programs’ responsibility to make sure the player is registered with his home program.
 - D. Borrowed players may only participate in games within YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE.
 - E. Mites Squirts Teams can only borrow up to 13 skaters. PeeWee & Bantams can only borrow up to 10 skaters.
 - F. If during the season play, a coach knows that he will not have a minimum of 10 skaters and a goalie for a game, he may borrow players from another team, in the same level. The game sheet must contain the names of all borrowed players and where they were borrowed from.
 - G. NO player can be borrowed more than 3 times. Any violation will result in a forfeit.

GOALIES:

Due to the fact that goalies are few in number, and goalie absenteeism can be a problem, the following is the policy of the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE:

1. It is the policy of this league to have only trained goalies in the net for games.
2. For reasons of safety and liability, this league does not require a coach to pick or assign an untrained player to be in the net.

3. Normally, teams borrow goalies from other teams in the league for one or two games. If a team has no goalie and there are no extra goalies available at the time, a program can request a waiver from YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE to allow a “B” level goalie to play until a “C” goalie is found.

MITES:

The YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Mite level was established using the following criteria:

1. Any Mite player who is not registered as a Mite “A” or “B” is eligible to play in this league. Note: Mite “B” alternates are eligible. Programs are encouraged to borrow from their instruction level if needed.

PLAYOFF, AWARDS & TROPHIES:

Every team in the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE is in the Playoffs. Teams are placed in categories, based on their position in the league standings, at the end of the season. The categories prevent the top teams from playing the bottom teams. It is the policy of this league and rink management that every player in the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE receives a trophy after their final playoff game.

ADULT BEHAVIOR—COACHES, PARENTS, REFEREES AND LEAGUE OFFICIALS:

YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Directors are charged with the responsibility of protecting the “KIDS ENVIRONMENT” for the kids. Any adult who wants to vent anger, vulgarity, disrespectful behavior towards referees or league officials, or violence in front of children will receive penalties imposed by the league.

SOUTH SHORE CONFERENCE AND YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE:

A main goal of the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE has been to create a strong and permanent “C” League, much the same as is provided for the “A” and “B” players in the SOUTH SHORE CONFERENCE. We have worked, since our inception, at developing open communication and cooperation between the two leagues. This is very important so as to develop a smooth flow of YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE, developing players, into the “A” or “B” level of the SOUTH SHORE CONFERENCE, or other league.

This cooperative effort of communicating has proven to be very effective in other areas as well, such as:

1. Resolving conflicts of team and player eligibility, between the two leagues.
2. Standardization of league and game rules.
3. Non-conflicting policies regarding adequate ice time and referee coverage between the two leagues.

Problems are worked out in the best interest of all parties, Youth Hockey Programs, YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE, SOUTH SHORE CONFERENCE, and Rink Management, referee Staff and A.H.A.....

NOTE TO COACHES

YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE operates in 10 locations and as such, League Directors can not be present at all games. You have a responsibility to help ensure a good experience for your team, as well as the other teams in this league. If you see a condition that is unsafe for participants or spectators, or detrimental to the purpose and intent of the league, you must report it to the appropriate party.

Rink safety problems should be reported to the rink office and then to the League Director.

Adult behavior that is not appropriate to a child's playing atmosphere should be reported to the referee in charge of the game and then to the League Director in charge of your division.

In all cases, such reports must be made to the appropriate party by the team coach and not parents. Please advise your Parents of this procedure.

YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE **GAME SWAP PROCEDURES**

GENERAL RULES:

The YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE game schedule takes priority over any and all other considerations. Changing any game causes problems for the league, rink and teams involved. The extent of the problem depends on the amount of time and effort the coach trying to accommodate the change is willing to spend in doing the things the right way.

No team or program has the right to change the league schedule in any way, and to do so could result in serious penalties and fines.

Any request for a game change, where the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE ice will not be used, must come from the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE President or Rep of the program requesting the change.

In all cases, no game change will be allowed by the league if less than **thirty days** notice is given to the Administrative Director or Scheduling Director and/or if no effort was given trying to make changes within the schedule, as shown in the examples below. Any game change must be signed off on by the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE.

Game swaps are to be used for team participation in tournaments and exchanges only. Early morning games, week night games, games scheduled on Super Bowl Sunday, or games scheduled on any other inconvenient date or time for some coach, does not justify a reason to cancel and impose a scheduling change to the families of your team or those of your opponent. Ice hours left empty are not only very expensive to you program, but also to the member rinks as they have their employees available to make ice, work the snack bar and pro-shop etc. for an empty building.

All game swaps and make-up games must be completed before March 1st.

ALL PLAY-OFF GAMES SCHEDULED BY YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE MUST BE PLAYED, AS SCHEDULED BY THE LEAGUE. NO CHANGES WILL BE MADE TO THE PLAY-OFF SCHEDULE.

Any team that causes a change in the league, or play-off schedule, after March 1” will be subject to immediate suspension or elimination from YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE participation. Their home program will also be held responsible for any cost incurred in providing scheduled opponents with a game and/or financial penalties imposed by the league, as established by the Executive Committee.

PROCEDURES:

EXAMPLE-1

1. On the weekend you will be away, check the schedule to see who your opponent will be. (For this example, call your original opponent Team-B)
2. Note the day of your game and then find another team that is playing on another day of the same weekend (Team-C)
3. Now, look elsewhere on the schedule for a weekend that your team is playing on one day and Team-B is scheduled to play Team-C on the other day.
4. On the weekend Team-B was scheduled to play Team-C, your team takes the place of Team-C and you play your scheduled game as well.

EXAMPLE-2

If a single team move is not possible, then a game move may work:

1. On the weekend you will be away, check the schedule to see who your opponent will be, (for example, call your team Team-A and your scheduled opponent Team-B).

Now look at all teams at your level, playing on the same weekend, but not the same day.

1. From that list, find another weekend that two of the teams (Team-C and Team-D) will play each other on the day that Team-A and Team-B do not play.
2. On the weekend you are away, Team-C and D play their own scheduled games on one day and also play each other in your place. (Both your team and your scheduled opponent are off).
3. On the weekend Team-C was scheduled to play Team-D, your team and Team-B plays in their place on one day and your scheduled games on the other. Teams-C and D are off.

EXAMPLE - 3

If procedures in example 1 and 2 are not workable, then you have the responsibility for the following:

1. Secure ice from your own program and make the game up to your opponent.
2. Make up hours must be consistent with the game level. (Example) a 9:00 PM hour for a Mite make-up would not be acceptable but a 6 or 7 PM week night hour would be.
3. Your opponent may reject any time that is not reasonable but must accept any time that is.
4. When a make-up game is required, it is the responsibility of the team causing the make-up to notify the Administrative Director or Scheduling Director as soon as possible, as to the date, time and location of the game being canceled along with all make-up in formation.
5. You must provide a full hour of ice, contact the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Level Director and the League's Referee-in-chief, (for referee coverage), at least two weeks prior to the make-up game.
6. You will be responsible to pay the referees in cash at the time of the game, provide a score keeper and submit the A.H.A. score sheet to the league following the game.

As you can see, using Examples 1 or 2 utilizes league ice, with no additional cost to your program or parents, with referees and time keepers in place. These options should always be your first choice. If you play your tournament early enough, you can usually avoid the expense of making up a game on your own ice.

NOTE:

When a make-up game on your own ice is required, the League will utilize the canceled league hour to accommodate scheduling needs. If the hour is not required, the team that was scheduled for the hour and is available may use the ice for a practice or scrimmage with another team.

Non YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE teams will not be allowed to use such hours.

Member programs are responsible for insuring that all YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Teams from their program are available to play in the year end play-offs.

Any program that allows one or more of their teams to participate in non-league events during the YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE Play-offs will be subject to penalties, including forfeiture of membership in YANKEE CONFERENCE SOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE.

GAME ROSTERS:

NO duplicated numbers are to be on shirts for any team.

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