

As amended and revised at the Annual Meeting, at Plymouth, Massachusetts June 19 and 20, 2010

ARTICLE I - REGISTRATION; COMPLETION

Section 1. Registration

Persons and associations desiring membership in Massachusetts Hockey are required to register in the category of membership sought as defined in Article III in the By-Laws of Massachusetts Hockey and shall meet the following requirements in order to be so registered:

A. Associations:

Only one association shall be registered for each city and town or groupings of cities and towns in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with populations of less than 150,000 residents. More than one association may be registered in cities or towns with populations over 150,000. Such programs shall consist of two or more groups of players who engage in competitive hockey play and may be referred to hereinafter as association(s) or town association(s).

In order to be registered each such association shall:

1. adopt a constitution and/or By-Laws which provide for the election of officers, a Board of Directors, the conducting of its business and affairs in accordance with generally accepted parliamentary procedures and defines who has the right to vote and submit a copy of same to the Association Registration Committee as required;
2. ensure that membership and voting powers of its governing body consist of not less than 20% of members who have children actively skating in the association;
3. provide the right to vote to parents(s)/guardian(s) of minor players, coaches, and any other volunteers in that association in the process for nomination and election of Directors. The Officers of the Association must be elected on an annual or biannual basis by either the Associations Board of Directors or by the parent(s)/guardian(s) of minor players, coaches, and any other volunteers in the Association;
4. hold no fewer than 4 meetings per year open to all members of the association
5. one of these meetings will be an annual meeting at which time
 - a) a written financial report for the most recent year ending shall be presented to its members,
 - b) the election of its Board of Directors shall be held.
 - c) Such meetings shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted parliamentary procedures.
 - d) forward to the Association Registration Committee of Massachusetts Hockey, within two (2) weeks of said meeting, the following:
 - 1) date, time and location of the meeting,
 - 2) agenda,
 - 3) minutes,
 - 4) nominees and winners of the annual election and
 - 5) method of communication (rink posting, newspaper, etc) which served as notice to the eligible members of the association regarding the meeting.
6. make copies of its By-Laws and/or Constitution Rules/Regulations, including methods of becoming an Officer or Director, method of selecting coaches, definition of membership and voting rights, and a list of current Officers and Directors, available to all parents, coaches, players and other members of the association;

7. abide by Massachusetts Hockey's By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and Policies and Procedures, including but not limited to, those regarding the prevention of Physical and Sexual Abuse;
8. secure and submit Individual Membership Registration forms (IMRs) from all members and prepare team rosters for all teams; and
9. pay required fees as established by USA Hockey and Massachusetts Hockey and as set out in the Fee Schedule herein.
10. maintain a file of signed Massachusetts Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct for each Coach and Manager.
11. maintain a file of signed Waiver of Liability forms for each Player, Coach and Manager.
12. No association may refuse to register a skater, who resides within the Association's geographic boundaries for any reason other than the following:
 - a. A player is in arrears of its financial obligations to this or any other Association
 - b. The player and or member is or has been subject to formal disciplinary action by the Association within the last 5 seasons.
 - c. The Association has no space available.

Adverse decisions may be appealed to Massachusetts Hockey in accordance with By-law XIII Grievance Procedure.

B. Leagues:

Leagues organized for competitive play in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall be registered with Massachusetts Hockey.

In order to be registered each such league shall:

1. be comprised of associations, teams and members registered pursuant to the provisions of these Rules and Regulations, or pursuant to the rules of any other affiliate District of USA Hockey;
2. agree to abide by Massachusetts Hockey's By-Laws, Rules and Regulation, and Policies and Procedures;
3. file a league registration annually with the Association Registration Committee certifying compliance with these requirements;
4. file a copy of current By-laws, Rules & Regulations with the Association Registration Committee.

C. Teams:

Teams shall be registered in one of the following categories:

1. Youth:-- Teams which are members of a City or Town association.
2. Girls/Women's:-- Teams which are registered pursuant to the provisions in the Registration procedures.
All By-Laws, Rules and Regulations in this Annual Guide apply to Girls/Women unless specifically exempted.
3. Select:-- Teams which are members of the Massachusetts Hockey Select League pursuant to the provisions of Article XIII of these Rules and Regulations.
4. Tier II Development--Teams which are the second Team of a Massachusetts Hockey District organization currently eligible for National Bound Tournaments.
5. Club:-- Teams which do not fit into the definitions above.
To be registered as club teams these teams must:

- a. be comprised of a minimum of 80% Massachusetts residents;
- b. agree to abide by Massachusetts Hockey Policy and Rules and Regulations regarding the prevention of Physical and Sexual Abuse and seek consents for the Criminal Offender Record Information for all relevant personnel on the team(s);
- c. comply with all registration procedures of USA and Massachusetts Hockey
- d. agree to be governed by the following restrictions:
 - 1)cannot participate in Massachusetts Hockey State Championship Tournaments, USA Hockey Regional, Sectional or National Championship tournaments;
 - 2)cannot participate in Massachusetts Hockey Registered Leagues without the approval of the Massachusetts Hockey Executive Board; and
 - 3)may only play against USA Hockey and Canadian Amateur Hockey Association registered teams, using USA Hockey playing rules, and registered USA Hockey referees.

D. Individual Members:

Those individual members who are players, coaches and/or referees shall be registered with Massachusetts Hockey.

In order to be registered a member shall:

- 1. complete the USA Hockey Registration process and pay required registration fee;
- 2. players registered as individual members on a youth team must play for the town association of residence except that a resident of a city or town which does not have a registered association may join an association in an abutting city or town. A member who has joined an abutting city or town association shall be deemed to be a member of that association for his/her youth hockey career. Midget level players and players rostered on a Bantam Tier II development team shall not be subject to these requirements.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of D.2 requirements, a city or town association may register and roster up to three (3) members per roster who are non residents provided such member does not have outstanding financial obligations to another Massachusetts Hockey or USA Hockey affiliated association. Any player coming into a program who played elsewhere the previous season must provide a financial release from their previous program to the new organization at the of registration. Any disagreements on whether a player owes money to another program can be appealed to the District/Division Registrar. Any non-resident member properly rostered for the 2000-01 regular season by the association not be subject to this limitation.
- 4. An association described in Article I Section 1(A) may petition for a waiver from the requirements of Article I, Section 1(D)(3) to their District Registrar who shall present it at the next District Meeting for a vote. An adverse decision of the District may be appealed by the program to the Roster Committee. The District approvals, including rosters or lists of players shall be forwarded to the Roster Committee by the District Registrar within 10 days of the vote for a review . The review shall be limited to established precedents in relation to creating teams from combinations of Associations, rostering out of state players and the adverse effect of such teams on competition factors for state bound tournaments. The Roster Committee shall

written
time

shall

notify the District Registrar of its findings within 14 days. The decision shall be final with no appeal.

5. In the event a player is registered on more than one team that participates in games leading towards a national championship, the USA Hockey registrar shall have the final authority to certify the eligibility of any such player solely on the basis of the following Regular –Season and Post- Season criteria.

Dual Rostering

Girls/Women may dual roster on a youth and female team and may continue playing on both teams until the end of the regular season

Dual-rostered males playing on Youth (T-I and T-II team) may continue playing on both teams until the end of the regular season.

Post –Season Play

In the event both the Teams advance to a National Bound State Tournament the player at that point must declare which team they will continue with. Once that decision is made they will be deleted from the 2nd teams’ roster (See Rules and Regulations Article XIII Section 5B)

If the player does not indicate which team they wish to be eligible and remain rostered for, state, and national tournaments, the player will continue with the Tier-I team and thus be deleted from the T-II Roster by the USA Hockey registrar.

- E. Honorary Members:

Honorary members shall not be required to register and shall be elected as honorary members by vote of the Board of Directors of Massachusetts Hockey.

Section 2. Completion

- A. In General

All registrations shall be done annually at the time and in the manner prescribed by Massachusetts Hockey on forms prepared by Massachusetts Hockey and/or USA Hockey, Inc. and shall be deemed complete and accepted when stamped by an appropriate Massachusetts Hockey official.

- B. Players

Players shall not be considered registered and shall not participate in any on ice activity until the USA Hockey registration process is completed and submitted to their association.

- C. Teams

Teams shall not be considered registered until a USA Hockey official player roster form (Form 1-T) are submitted to the District/Division Registrar with the required fees established by USA Hockey and Massachusetts Hockey 10 days prior to the start of playdowns or November 15, whichever comes earlier, for tournament bound teams, and on or before December 1 for all other teams.

- D. Associations

Associations shall not be considered registered until all Individual Membership Registrations (IMRs) for their members have been submitted, all team applications and rosters have been submitted, all Criminal Offender Record Information consent forms have been submitted, their constitution and/or By-Laws have been submitted and all required fees have been paid.

ARTICLE II - COACHES AND MANAGERS; CERTIFICATION

Section 1. Coaches and Managers

Coaches, managers and all bench personnel shall be registered as members of Massachusetts Hockey, Inc. and shall be identified as such on approved roster forms.

- A. They shall be responsible for the conduct of all members of their teams during sanctioned activities.
- B. There shall not be less than one nor more than four (4) bench personnel in the bench area during a game and a game shall be forfeited upon a failure to comply with the minimum requirement of one, all of whom must be certified pursuant to the provisions of Section 2 of the Article
- C. All coaches and managers are required annually to read, sign and be in compliance with the USA Hockey Code of Ethics.
- D. Rostered coaches, managers and bench personnel may be changed during the season by submitting a Change/Add Bench Official form and the appropriate fee to a District/Divisional Registrar.

Section 2. Certification

- A. To qualify as a head coach or assistant coach on an approved roster, the following USA Hockey Coaching Education Program qualification levels must have been attained by:

Team-Age-Classification	Date of required certification
Bantam (14&U) Midget (16&U) Midget 18&U)	Nov. 1st of current season
Mite (8&U) Squirt (10&U) Peewee (12&U)	Dec. 31st of current season

- B. Coaches who fail to comply within their inaugural season will be declared ineligible for subsequent season(s) until they first achieve the appropriate USA Hockey Coaching Education Program level endorsement.

- C. Required Level of Certification:

Age Division	Team Classification	Initiation Associate Intermediate Advance			
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Learn-to-skate	All	X			
8 & Under Mite	1st Year Coach	X	X		
8 & Under Mite	Tier II (A), Tier III(B)				
8 & Under Mite	2nd Year Coach	X	X	X	
8 & Under Mite	Tier II (A), Tier III(B)				
8 & Under Mite	Tier III(C)		X	X	
10 & Under Squirt	All	X	X	X	
12 & Under Peewee	Tier I	X	X	X	X
12 & Under Peewee	Tier II, III, IV	X	X	X	
14 & Under Bantam	Tier I	X	X	X	X
14 & Under Bantam	Tier II, III, IV	X	X	X	
16 & Under Midget	National Bound	X	X	X	X
16 & Under Midget	Non National Bound	X	X	X	
18 & Under Midget	National Bound	X	X	X	X
18 & Under Midget	Non National Bound	X	X	X	
Girls 8 & Under	All	X			
Girls 10 & Under	All	X	X	X	
Girls 12 & Under	All	X	X	X	
Age Division	Team Classification	Initiation Associate Intermediate Advance			
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Girls 14 & Under	All	X	X	X	
Girls 16 & Under	Non National Bound	X	X	X	

Girls 16 & Under	National Bound	X	X	X	X
Girls 19 & Under	Non National Bound	X	X	X	
Girls 19 & Under	National Bound	X	X	X	X
Girls/Women/High School		X	X	X	
Girls/Women/High School		X	X	X	

Although not required, it is recommended all coaching personnel complete a first aid treatment education program or receive a certification in EMT training and/or CPR techniques.

D. Re-certification

Coaches (except Advance or Masters Level) shall progress through the USA Hockey Coaching Education Program by attending a coaching clinic at least once every three (3) years up to the Intermediate level. A coach who has completed the Intermediate Level, shall do one of the following every three (3) years; a.) attend another Intermediate Level clinic; b) take a USA Hockey Continuing Education Course; or c.) attend an Advance Level Clinic.

ARTICLE III REFEREE IN CHIEF; REFEREE SUPERVISORS; MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY REFEREE REGISTRAR; REGISTRATION AND CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 1. Referee in Chief; Referee Supervisors; Referee Registrar

USA Hockey, Inc., shall designate a Referee-in-Chief for Massachusetts who will recommend his choice of District Referee Supervisors, one from each state District, from a list of three candidates submitted by each District, to the Massachusetts Hockey Executive Committee for approval. Each District Referee Supervisor shall be responsible for registering, collecting fees, and classifying the referees in his District on an annual basis and forwarding the same to the Referee-in-Chief

The Referee-in-Chief shall deliver all referee registrations, including fees, to the Massachusetts Hockey Referee Registrar.

Section 2. Registration and Classifications

All referees shall be registered as members of Massachusetts Hockey, Inc. and shall be classified in their district of residence by the USA Hockey Referee in Chief.

In order to be registered a referee shall:

- A. complete the USA Hockey registration process and pay the required registration and/or classification fees as set out in the Fee Schedule herein;
- B. attend an annual USA Hockey, Inc. seminar that includes information on Massachusetts Hockey rules.

In order to be classified a referee shall meet the requirements of USA Hockey, Inc. as set out in its Rules and Regulations and be classified thereunder.

Referees so registered and classified shall be responsible to supervise all games played under the auspices of Massachusetts Hockey, Inc. and shall enforce all rules of the game, including but not limited to, ensuring complete and accurate game sheets and meeting all reporting requirements. Only Level 3 and 4 referees shall be eligible to referee Peewee, Bantam, Midget, Girls/Women and Junior Massachusetts Hockey tournaments.

All referees must report all Match penalties within 48 hours, in writing, to his/her District Referee Supervisor, including attaching the relevant game sheet if possible. The District Referee Supervisor in receipt of the referees' report will forward a copy to the District Registrar of the offending party and the

Chairman of the Discipline Committee within 48 hours. Referees failing to report Match penalties may be subject to suspension from Massachusetts Hockey.

ARTICLE IV - NON-REGISTERED AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Members shall not play any team not recognized by or registered with Massachusetts Hockey or any team, which has been suspended and/or expelled by Massachusetts Hockey or USA Hockey, Inc.

Members shall not play in international competition without securing written permission from the USA Hockey Registrar submitted on the forms and in the manner prescribed by said Registrar and after having paid the required fee as set out in the Fee Schedule herein.

ARTICLE V - TEAM CLASSIFICATIONS

Teams in Massachusetts Hockey shall be classified in accordance with USA Hockey Rules and Regulations. See Rules and Regulations III Classification.

ARTICLE VI - A GAME

Section 1. Games And Scrimmages

The following conditions shall constitute a game:

- A. When two teams occupy the same ice surface for the purpose of competitive play, including scrimmages, at least for the minimum time and all rules prescribed by USA Hockey.
- B. Any tournament or exhibition game played with teams from other USA Hockey Districts or teams approved by USA Hockey from other countries.

Section 2. Referee Requirements

- A. All Playdown games are under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts Hockey and must be officiated by Massachusetts Hockey registered referees.
- B. Score sheets are required for all games played. It is mandatory that all games leading to District Playdowns including Tier IV playdowns be played with Massachusetts Hockey Referees. Before the beginning of the game, the referees, SHALL PRINT HIS/HER NAME ON THE GAME SHEET. At the end of the game the referees SHALL SIGN AND/OR INITIAL THE GAME SHEET.

Section 3. Mite Games

Starting in the 2011-12 season all Mite games shall be played in accordance with the USA Hockey American Development Model criteria (establishes 1/2 or 1/3 ice for Mite games).

ARTICLE VII - STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

Section 1. National And State Bound Championships

Massachusetts Hockey in the Youth and Girls/Women categories will recognize the following classifications for State Champions provided a minimum of four teams have applied. In the Youth categories that represent at least 3 Districts.

A. NATIONAL TOURNAMENT BOUND TEAMS;

Only Teams from these Massachusetts Hockey categories are eligible to compete in these Tournaments heading for a National Tournament site.

Youth Tier I (Select League Pee Wee Major, Bantam Major, Midget 16 and under and Midget 18 and under).

Youth Tier II (Select League Pee Wee minor, Bantam minor, Tier II Development Teams, City and Town Association Teams in Peewee, Bantam, Midget 16 and under and Midget 18 and under)

Girls Tier I (12 years of age and younger, 14 years of age and younger, 16 years of age and younger, 19 years of age and younger).

Girls Tier II (12 years of age and younger, 14 years of age and younger, 16 years of age and younger, 19 years of age and younger).
 Women's (18 years of age or older)

- B. TEAMS NOT A CANDIDATE FOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS;
 Teams eligible to compete for a State Tournament but not a National Tournament.
 Youth Tier II - Division L (Large)- Squirt through Midget.
 Youth Tier II - Division S (Small)- Squirt through Midget.
 Youth Tier III - Squirt through Midget.
 Youth Tier IV - Squirt through Bantam.
 Girls Tier II (10 years of age and younger, 12 years of age and younger, 14 years of age and younger, 16 years of age and younger, 19 years of age and younger).
 Girls Tier III Town Teams 10 years of age and younger, 12 years of age and younger, 14 years of age and younger, 16 years of age and younger, 19 years of age and younger.

Section 2. Tier Classifications

A. Classification for Youth State Tournaments are as follows:

TIER I:-National Bound

Tier I State Tournament will consist of Major Teams from the Massachusetts Hockey Select League The format will be determined by the State Tournament Coordinator.

TIER II: National Bound

Select minor teams, Tier II Development Teams and any City/Town Association team electing to enter.

Tier II Non National Bound

1. Any registered Massachusetts Youth Hockey team except a Massachusetts Hockey Tier I or Tier II National Bound team and Massachusetts Hockey Club teams may compete in the State Tournament at the proper Tier II classification. A Tier II team is considered to be the first, or highest rated, team in an association.
2. A Tier II team electing not to compete in the District playdowns and State Tournament will not penalize the Tier III and/or Tier IV teams from competing at the proper classification, subject to the approval of the District, if the District Registrar has a viable roster and at least ten (10) game sheets for the non-competing Tier II team.
3. A team competing in Tier II Division L (Large) shall be so classified where in the current playing season the association rostered, in the case of Midgets and Bantams more than 36 players at each level respectively, and in the case of Peewees and Squirts more than 48 players at each level respectively.
4. A team competing in Tier II Division S (Small) shall be so classified where in the current playing season the association rostered, in the case of Midgets and Bantams fewer than 37 players at each level respectively, and in the case of Peewees and Squirts fewer than 49 players at each level respectively.
5. Any team in Division S may apply for participation in the Division L District playdowns and State Tournament competition.
6. For purposes of total player census for Division S or L classification at the Tier II level, all players rostered in house leagues, other travel teams and on Yankee Conference teams shall be included for purposes of paragraphs 3 and 4 above.

TIER III:

Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this section, any second or third team from a association that has a team competing in Tier II in that same youth classification for that year's tournament (see rules under Tier II part 2 above for exception).

TIER IV:

Any third or lower team from a association that has teams eligible for Tier II and Tier III competition in that same youth classification for that year's tournament. Also included shall be any team playing in a city/town recreation league or combination of players from a recreation program, subject to eligibility requirements and upon approval of the STC and the District Registrar for that team's district.

Any team, except a Tier I or II National Bound team, may petition its District to play in one tier lower if the team plays in a lower tier in their League and/or they feel they would not be competitive in the tier these rules require them to enter. The petition must be submitted to their District/Division Registrar. The petition must document the basis for this change in tier. Documentation must show the record, the division they play in their league(s), or other information to document their reasons for the petition. The petition must be approved by a unanimous vote of the District. Any association making a travesty of this will be censured the following season.

Classification must be declared on the team application form. The home District shall be construed to be the District in which the team registers. Any team, which competes in an inter-district or inter-community league, must return to its home District for district play. District/Division teams shall, if directed by the Massachusetts Hockey State Championship Tournament Coordinator (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the "STC") enter inter-district/Division playdown activity to reduce the number of entries for the tournament.

B. Classifications for Girls/Women State Championships

National Bound Girl's Teams

National Bound teams must belong to associations that meet the following requirements:

1. Tier I teams

a. Tier I teams can recruit players and have open tryouts. Each organization may field no more than one team at each age level that can advance to a National Championship. No player shall be solicited nor shall the possibility of playing Tier I hockey be discussed with any player, prior to the conclusion of the USA Hockey National Tournaments except for existing Tier I player for the particular Tier I organization for which that player played during the existing season and then only by that Tier I organization.

b. Roster for 19 & Under and 16 & Under levels should not have out-of-district player restrictions. Rosters will be limited to a maximum of four (4) out-of-district players for levels 14 & Under and 12 & Under. Residency is based on where the players parent resides. An appeal can be made for a waiver if the number exceeds four.

c. Tier I teams have the intent to play at the highest competitive level possible.

d. Tier I teams should include as a minimum or build their programs to include: strength & conditioning, on-ice skills, tactics & habits, hydration and recovery, mental preparation, training elite athletes, training and opportunity for upward mobility.

2. Tier II teams

a. Tier II teams register as Tier II. Tier II denotes an intermediate level of competition.

b. Tryouts are open tryouts. Rosters will be limited to a maximum of four (4) out-of-district players for all levels: 19 & Under, 16 & Under, 14 & Under, and 12 & Under. Residency is based on where the players parent resides. An appeal can be made for a waiver if the number exceeds four.

c. Tier II teams or clubs must refrain from openly recruiting outside their defined boundaries or outside their member organizations.

National Bound Girl's Teams

National Bound teams must belong to associations that meet the following requirements:

1. Field the following minimum number of teams:
 - a. 12 & Under 1 team &
 - b. 14 & Under 1 team &
 - c. 16 & Under 1 team or 19 & Under 1 team
2. Provide a minimum of one (1) weekly on ice training session
3. Appoint a Coaching Director
4. Meet and maintain full compliance with Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey By-Laws and Rules & Regulations
5. Notify players at time of signing of the Massachusetts Hockey rule covering Dual registration.

3. National Bound Senior Teams

Teams that are properly registered and are in full compliance with Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey By-Laws and Rules & Regulations are eligible to compete in National Bound Tournaments.

State Bound Teams

All other teams that are properly registered and meet all other Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey By-Laws and Rules & Regulations are eligible.

Section 3. Playdowns to Select Teams for State Championships

- A. Girls/Women - All teams who submit a Playdown Application and meet the requirements of the tournament rules shall participate in playdowns to reduce the number of teams to enter the State Championship Tournament unless otherwise directed by the STC.
- B. Youth - Each District shall hold a playdown tournament to select their entry/entries in the State Championship Tournament except Tier II National Bound State Championships.
- C. Teams entering the competition for the Tier II - National Bound Tournament Championship will be seeded from Joint District Playdowns. National Bound Tier II competition shall consist of two divisions. Five (5) Joint Districts will be organized zones from Massachusetts Hockey Districts. Zone 1 will comprised of Districts 1 and 3; Zone Two will be comprised of Districts 4 and 5; Zone Three will be comprised of Districts 6 and 7; Zone Four will be comprised of Districts 8 and 9; and, Zone Five will be composed of Districts 2 and 10. The host organization for the zone playdowns will alternate annually, beginning with the lower numbered District in the 1999-2000 season.

Section 4. Tournament Application and Playdown Timetables

To enter these tournaments each team must submit to their District/Division Registrar a Playdown Application by the dates specified on the Application Form.

- A. All Youth District Midget II and III, and Bantam II National Bound playdowns must be completed by the date shown in the Calendar of Events. All other Bantam and Midget playdowns may also be held prior to December 1st at the option of the District.
- B. Youth District playdowns for all Squirt, Peewee, Bantam II, III, IV and Midget III must be completed by the date shown in the Calendar of Events.

Section 5. Youth District Playdowns

- A. District/Division Playdown Tournament Committees
The appropriate Registrar shall appoint the District/Division Playdown Tournament committee. They shall be responsible for all playdown activity, and will notify the STC verbally and in writing of the complete playdown results.
- B. At every District Playdown game, there shall be in attendance at least one member of the District Playdown Committee, and it shall be their responsibility to establish and monitor player sign-in procedures to prevent any irregularities. Any association making a travesty of this will be prohibited from entry in the playdowns the following season.

Section 6. Tournament Hosts

- A. The STC shall award the State and Northeast Sectional Tournaments to the Districts at the Annual June Meeting. The District will award the tournament to the Host/Co-host by the September State Meeting. The Host shall submit to the STC the compliance form for approval no later than the October State meeting. District/Divisions or Hosts failing to meet the above dates are subject to immediate forfeiture of that tournament. The STC may on the above dates award the tournament to a new candidate who shall submit the compliance form by the November State meeting.
- B. The Tournament Host shall pay all fees for that State tournament. The Semi Final and Final games for the Tier I and Tier II Bantam and Midget National Bound Tournaments shall have accredited medical personnel as outlined in the USA Hockey Regional Playoffs Rules. Massachusetts Hockey strongly recommends this policy for all Tournaments
- C. All State Tournaments shall be held on the dates scheduled in the Massachusetts Hockey Annual Guide.
- D. District/Divisional Teams entering the State Finals shall have a representative attend the Pre-Tournament meeting to obtain the schedules and other pertinent information, meet the host, give the tournament a check and receive an overview of the Tournament Rules by the committee and Hosts.
- E. Host teams for State, Sectional and National tournaments shall not participate in games leading to that tournament, unless invited by the STC.

Section 7. Tournament Seeding

- A. The STC shall set the number of teams in each non National Bound Tournament using as a guide 20% of the playdown applications for that level the previous year. Tournaments will be 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, or 16 teams.
- B. Tournaments consisting of 16 teams will be divided into 4 Divisions with the teams playing everyone in their division in a round robin. The team in each division with the best record (see section L below) shall advance to the Semi-Finals.
- C. Tournaments consisting of 12 teams will be divided into 3 divisions with the teams playing everyone in their division in a round robin. The division winners plus the second place team with the best record (see Section L below) shall advance to the Semi-finals. With the National Vs American and the Olympic Vs second place team. If the

second place team is from the Olympic Division then the American winner will play the Olympic winner and the National winner will play the second place team.

- D. Tournaments consisting of 10 teams will be divided into 3 Divisions. An Olympic division consisting of 4 teams and an American and a National Division consisting of 3 teams each. The teams in the Olympic Division will play each other in the round robin. The teams in the American and National Division will play the teams in the other Division in the round robin. The Olympic Division winner plus the top 2 teams from the combined American and National divisions and the remaining team with the best record (See Section L. Below) shall advance to the semi-finals, with the Olympic winner playing the team with the second best record from the combined American National Divisions and the best team from the American National divisions playing the remaining team.
- E. Tournaments consisting of 8 teams shall be divided into 2 divisions with the teams playing everyone in their division in a round robin. The 2 teams in each division with the best records (see section L below) shall advance to the semi finals with the winner in each division playing the runner-up from the other division.
- F. Tournaments consisting of 6 teams shall be divided into 2 divisions with the teams playing everyone in the other division in a crossover round robin. The 4 teams with the best records (see section L below) will advance to the semi finals with the team with the best record playing the team with the 4th best record and the teams with the 2nd and 3rd best records playing each other.
- G. Tournaments consisting of 4 teams will not be divided into divisions. They will play each other in the round robin (3 games each). the 2 teams with the best record (see section L (below) shall advance to the Finals.
- H. The National Bound Championship Tournament format will consist of eight (8) teams, one from each of the Zone Playdowns, two Zone Finalists (determined by the STC based on the number of teams entered in that tournament), and one (1) host team. The zone winners, finalists and host teams shall be placed in two divisions, with three playoff games for each team in all classifications. If less than 8 teams are entered in any age group the STC may set the number of teams at the state tournament to 4 or 6.

I. Seeding for 16 Team Tournaments

NORTH	SOUTH	EAST	WEST
2	1	3	7
5	6	4	9
HOST	8	HOST	10
RU	RU	RU	RU

J. Seeding for 12 Team Tournaments

OLYMPIC	NATIONAL	AMERICAN
1	2	6
4	5	9
7	8	HOST
HOST	10	3

K. Seeding for 10 Team Tournaments

OLYMPIC	NATIONAL	AMERICAN
2	3	4
5	6	7
8	9	10

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- L. In the case of a tie, Division winners will be determined by the following tie-breaking formulas. In order to break the tie, the following formulas will be followed until one rule determines the position of all teams that are tied.
1. The results of the games played between the teams (Head to Head) tied in the following order:
 - a. The points acquired in these games.
 - b. Least goals against.
 - c. Dividing the goals scored in these games by the goals scored against (GF divided by GA), the position being determined in order of the greatest quotient. A quotient involving dividing by zero (0) has higher standing than a quotient dividing by any number other than zero. Where two or more teams have no goals against and the quotient tie breaker is required, the teams shall be ranked high to low in descending order of "goals for"

Note: Forfeits-If a team forfeits any of its games, and their games become involved in any tie-breaking formula to determine who will advance to the next level of play, the team forfeits all games in the round robin play and the games are recorded as 1 - 0 victories for the non-offending team.
 2. If after applying the formulas of 1 a, b, and c, the tie still exists, 1a, 1b and 1c shall be applied using all games played by the teams tied. The formulas shall be applied in the order 1 a, b, c and 2.
 3. If the above procedure does not break the tie, then their position will be determined by the number of penalty minutes assessed in all games they played. Their position being determined in order of the least penalty minutes.

Section 8. Tournament Rules and Requirements

- A. No team participating in District Playdowns or State Tournament shall be required to play more than two (2) games per day, and no team shall be scheduled to play a second game in one day against a team playing its first game on that day, except in 6 team and 12 team State Championship Tournaments or with specific prior approval of the STC or his designee. It is recommended that there be a minimum of four (4) hours between games on the same day, and twelve (12) hours between games played on consecutive days. The playing schedule and times of games must be approved by the STC or his or her designee.
- B. Unless otherwise agreed by the Team and Tournament Director, the home team shall wear light/white jerseys and the visiting team shall wear dark colored jerseys in all games. If the home team has not been established by the Tournament Committee, it shall be determined by the toss of a coin. The team traveling the furthest distance shall call. The Host will provide the jerseys or pullovers as required for the team wearing the inappropriate colors.
- C. All State Tournament games shall be played stop time.
- D. USA Hockey Playing rules and Massachusetts Hockey variations shall prevail. All round robin games shall be 12-minute periods. All Tier I and Tier II National Bound semifinals and finals games will have fifteen (15) minute periods for Peewees, 16 minutes for Bantams and 17 minutes for Midgets. All other State Playdown and State Tournament games shall be no less than twelve (12) minute periods.

TIMES FOR PENALTIES AND OVERTIME ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PERIOD OVERTIME TIME (SUDDEN DEATH)	PENALTIES (MINUTES)			
	SEMI-FINALS		FINAL ONLY	
	MINOR	MAJOR	MISCONDUCT	
12 MINUTES (ALL SQUIRT GAMES)	6	1 1/2	4	6
15,16,17 MINUTES	7 1/2	2	5	10

- E. In case of a tie in the semi or final games, at the end of regular play, teams will be allowed a three minute rest period. All divisions are to play to a sudden death conclusion.
- F. In all Bantam and Midget National Bound Tournaments, Semi-Final and Final games the ice should be resurfaced after every two (2) regular periods of use, if possible. In all State Tournaments the 1st overtime period, if required will be played following a 3-minute rest period. If additional overtimes are required, the ice may be resurfaced, and again if possible after each set of 4 overtime periods with 1 minute rests between periods until a conclusion is reached.
- G. Tournament fees will be established by STC and announced at the January State meeting if possible.
- H. All disciplinary actions in playdowns or state final games will be acted upon using the Massachusetts Hockey regular process (Article XIV of the Massachusetts Hockey By-Laws). There will be no hearings conducted at Playdown or State Tournament sites.
- I. Suspensions resulting from a game misconduct imposed during a playdown or tournament game must be served in the next state playdown or tournament game. If there is an intervening non-playdown, non-state tournament game, the suspension will also apply to that intervening game. Any member incurring a Match Penalty during playdowns, regional or state tournaments shall be ineligible for such play for the balance of the games leading to a State Championship.
- J. State Champions will be considered to represent Massachusetts Hockey in the USA Hockey national and any other Tournaments designated by Massachusetts Hockey if they receive the approval of the Massachusetts Hockey STC and Executive Board.
- K. In the event a state champion is not selected through tournament competition at any level of play, for any reason, the Massachusetts Hockey STC, in consultation with the Executive Board, shall name a team to represent Massachusetts in all national and other competitions.

Section 9. Protests

Protests must be filed by a rostered team official of the protesting team. Protests must be filed with the on-site Massachusetts Hockey Tournament Committee representative(s), in writing, within one (1) hour after the completion of the game in question. On ice judgment calls and playing rules are not cause for protest.

Specific Requirements:

1. Written protest must contain all the facts and may only protest one stated issue or challenge the qualifications of one player. Multiple protests may be submitted if multiple issues and/or player qualifications are being protested. However each is considered a separate protest requiring a separate fee.
2. Protest will be accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 cash, and will be returned if the protest is upheld.
3. All parties must be duly notified and be present in person at the protest hearing or no appeal will be allowed the absentee.
4. A hearing of the protest will be heard by a committee designated by the STC.
5. If an appeal on the outcome of the protest committee's decision, is necessary, the offended party must file the appeal within (1) hour of the decision, in writing, accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 cash.
6. All parties must be duly notified and present in person at the appeal hearing; the appeal being heard by a committee of at least 3 members of the Massachusetts Hockey Tournament Committee.
7. The decision of the appeals committee shall be final.
8. All parties will be given the final decision at the conclusion of both the protest and the appeal hearings, a follow up of the decision, in writing, will be sent within 10 days.

Section 10. Referees

- A. Referees fees shall be negotiated at the Massachusetts Hockey Annual Meeting and submitted to the Board of Directors for approval. A two (2) man system may be used for all games in the District/Division playdowns, State Tournament, Regional and other tournaments designated by Mass Hockey, with the exception of Tier I and Tier II National-bound Semi-final and Final games which will utilize a 3 man system.
- B. The USA Hockey Referee-in-Chief and the Massachusetts Hockey Referee Registrar shall provide a list of Tournament-certified referees for all State Tournament sites. The Referee-in-Chief and The Referee Registrar shall assure availability of officials for each game played. The District Referee Supervisor shall provide a list of assigned Referees matched to the tournament game schedule to the respective District/Divisional Associate Registrar. All minor officials will be the responsibility of the Tournament Host Committee.
- C. The STC or his/her designee must approve all referees used for all State Tournaments, Sectionals (if held in Massachusetts), and any other tournaments designated by Massachusetts Hockey.

Section 11. Team and Roster Requirements

- A. All Teams entering District/Division playdowns must be prepared to compete through the State Tournament and National Tournament (if there is one) or other Tournament site as directed by Massachusetts Hockey. If a team withdraws prior to the Tournament its association may be held ineligible to participate in the following year's tournament. Withdrawing teams/associations must pay a \$100.00 fine payable to Massachusetts Hockey and shall nevertheless be responsible for their tournament financial obligation if a paying, qualified replacement team cannot be found.
- B. If a team fails to appear in time to start a game, the game may be forfeited provided the other team takes the ice to claim the forfeit. Forfeiting team, coach, team officials and associations may be subject to additional disciplinary action. The forfeiting

- association will be responsible for all tournament fees plus a penalty fee equal to the tournament fee made payable to Massachusetts Hockey within 14 days of the forfeit. In the event of exceptional circumstances, the forfeit fee may be timely appealed to the Tournament Committee.
- C. In order to qualify for a State Tournament, prior to the start of the Tournament each team must have competed, as a team and each player including roster change players: GIRLS/WOMEN — at least fourteen games, with each player having played in at least ten of those games, except in the case of State Championship Tournaments held before December 1, each team must have competed in nine games, with each player having played in at least six of these games. YOUTH — at least fifteen games, with each player having played in at least ten of those games, except in the case of State Championship Tournaments held before December 1, each team must have competed in nine games, with each player having played in at least six of those games.
- D. It shall be the responsibility of each team to make sure copies of the accepted stamped roster (with names, birth dates and signatures), Birth Certificates, approved waivers, game sheets and team personnel change forms (if applicable) are available at the site for each playdown and final site game. Any player who is unable to obtain a birth certificate will be allowed to register if the player is able to supply satisfactory proof of birth date. These include only hospital records, immigration papers or affidavits sworn before an officer of the court.
- E. Only eligible players and team officials listed on the approved official Team roster form or approved supplemental roster form and approved roster change forms may participate in District/Divisional non National Bound Playdowns, State, Regional and other Tournaments designated by Massachusetts Hockey except injured players on non-national bound teams may be replaced by players on a lower level team of the Association. Hand written players or team officials will not be accepted on any approved roster.
- F. Each team may dress 20 players (Massachusetts Hockey strongly recommends 2 goaltenders see Section 12 of this Article) equipped and ready to play. No more than four (4) registered and accredited team officials in good standing will be permitted on the bench. At least one properly accredited team official must be on the bench at the start of the game. Electronic communication in any form to or from the bench by team officials will not be permitted.

Section 12. Goaltenders

- A. Any alternate goaltender that meets the requirements in Section 11.C of this Article for his/her original team may return to his/her lower division or classification team if he/she does not enter the new team's game. The alternate goaltender shall only enter the game in the event of illness or injury to the regular goaltender during the Tournament Game. The alternate goaltender who enters the game due to illness or injury to the starting goaltender may return to his/her regular team. Coaches violating this rule are subject to suspension.
- B. Massachusetts Hockey strongly recommends all teams entering District/Division Playdowns, State, and other Massachusetts Hockey designated Tournaments, have two (2) goaltenders dressed and ready to play. The host will not be required to furnish alternate goaltenders for such playdowns or tournaments held in Massachusetts. Alternate goaltenders must come from teams in the same association as the team to which he/she is moving up.

Section 13. Miscellaneous

- A. Player and/or team eligibility can be resolved by the Massachusetts Hockey Tournament Committee at any time.
- B. There shall be no all-star teams selected at any State Tournament or Playdown sites.
- C. In the event of problems not covered by the existing rules, the STC may make any determination in the best interest of the Tournament.
- D. Any 18 and under Midget National Tournament Bound players, who are rostered on a dormant split-season 18 and under Midget team, are permitted to be rostered on a Junior team and be returned to their Midget team on or before February 15. These players file a Roster Designation Form with their District Registrar and the Junior Registrar before playing their first game with the Junior team. Players must complete the Roster Designation Form, which states their full intention of rejoining their Midget split season team no later than February 15.

ARTICLE VIII - OTHER TOURNAMENTS

All Senior and Junior Tournaments shall be held at the direction of and under the format prescribed by the State Championship Tournament Coordinator.

Any independent or invitational tournament held in Massachusetts must secure the sanction of Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey. One of the requirements necessary for obtaining a Massachusetts Hockey sanction is that only Massachusetts Hockey, USA Hockey, CAHA and IIHF registered teams be allowed to enter or compete in the tournament.

Any registered team participating in a non-sanctioned tournament, may be declared ineligible for the next Playdown, State or National Tournament.

ARTICLE IX - AWARDS

Hat Trick, Playmaker and Zero Club awards (one per player, per season) will be issued to players who earn them during regular season, State Finals and Tournament Games, providing the roster of the team has been registered with the Massachusetts Hockey. A copy of the official game sheet must be submitted to Massachusetts Hockey on the proper Award Form (see Massachusetts Hockey forms in the back of the Annual Guide). Game sheets copies will be returned only upon request.

ARTICLE X - TRAVEL PERMITS

Teams traveling outside the State must obtain a travel permit. The only exceptions will be the following;

- A. Single games played in bordering States,
- B. practice ice time,
- C. league play.

Provided a letter is on file with the District/Division Registrar indicating compliance with the above.

Travel Permits will only be issued by the Massachusetts Hockey Registrar's office, or your District/Division Registrar. Permit Applications can be obtained either from the Massachusetts Hockey Registrar's office, your District/Division Registrar, the Massachusetts Hockey web site (www.masshockey.com) or in the Massachusetts Hockey Annual Guide Book. Permit requests must be submitted well in advance of travel dates. Refer to the Application for the appropriate fees.

Associations/Team officials found in violation of these procedures shall be subject to disciplinary action.

The Massachusetts Hockey Registrar or your District/Division Registrar will send a copy of the team roster with the permit.

Unregistered teams wishing to travel and play outside of North America may apply for Travel Permits by filing a roster (names, addresses, birth dates, signatures and passport numbers) with the Massachusetts State Registrar and including a fee to Massachusetts Hockey of \$250.00 per team.

ARTICLE XI – ASSOCIATION MERGERS AND DIVISIONS

Mergers and/or divisive reorganizations of existing associations must be approved by the Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors.

Any request for a merger or division shall be made in writing to the President and shall identify the proponents of the merger or division, define the proposed geographic area to be merged or divided and give a brief statement of the purpose of the merger or division including, but not necessarily limited to, the number of players affected by the proposed action, the affect on any existing association and the financial plans of the proponents. The President shall inform any affected existing associations(s) of the proposal and shall refer the matter to the Association Registration Committee for an investigation of the merits of the proposal.

The Association Registration Committee may in its discretion interview the proponents and any affected existing associations and the affected Districts and shall determine, whether through hearing or written submissions, whether the proposal is consistent with Massachusetts Hockey's By-laws, Rules and Regulations and Policies and Procedures and in the best interest of Massachusetts Hockey. After the committee completes its review of the request, it shall report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors for action. The Committee shall so report no later than Sixty (60) days after the request has been referred to it.

ARTICLE XII - LOCAL RULINGS

Section 1. Problem Resolution

All Associations must attempt to resolve their problems within their District, and the District recommendation shall be considered and given probative weight prior to cases being presented to the Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors.

Section 2. Learn-to-Skate/Initiation program Equipment Requirement

All Learn to Skate and Initiation Program players must wear HECC approved helmets.

Section 3. Rules Interpretation

If when both teams are on the ice, and a team official(s) for any reason shall pull his/her team from the ice, rule 632 (Refusing to start play) in the USA Hockey Rule Book shall apply. If the Referee shall impose a Match Penalty under this rule, and the team official(s) has been found guilty of such actions, the game in question shall be forfeited and the team official(s) may be suspended for one year as the result of a hearing.

ARTICLE XIII - SELECT LEAGUE

Section 1. Massachusetts Hockey Select League

- A. Only those registered Massachusetts Hockey teams/leagues participating in the Massachusetts Hockey Select program are permitted to use the name "Selects". The use of the name "Selects" or advertising of "Selects" by anyone else is prohibited. The Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors will determine any exceptions to this rule. Violation of this rule will lead to suspension.
- B. General Intent - It is the general intent of Select Hockey in Massachusetts to provide an opportunity for the best players in the state to play Select Hockey and to limit Select Hockey to the best youth players.
 - 1. The number of selects and Player development teams shall be determined exclusively by the Select League Board of Directors.
 - 2. The number of Select teams will be not less than 10% nor more than 15% of the number of Tier II teams at each age level in the prior season.

- C. Effective with the 2010-2011 season Massachusetts Hockey Select Teams may only be formed and sponsored by Massachusetts Hockey Districts and approved leagues.
- D. Other USA Hockey affiliate teams may petition the Select League Registrar and Select League Board of Directors for entry into the league for the purpose of competition only.
- E. USA Hockey Affiliate Teams accepted into the league, by majority vote of the Select League Board of Directors, will be placed in the standings but will not be allowed to play in Mass Hockey "State Playdown" Tournament.
- F. Non-Massachusetts Hockey Affiliate Team rosters, shall not contain Massachusetts Hockey players (players residing in Massachusetts).

Section 2. Select Teams

- A. Teams for the Select League may be formed with the approval of the Select Registrar and the Select League Board of Directors with the right of appeal to the Massachusetts Hockey Select Committee in the following classifications.
Tier I Mite, Squirt Minor, Squirt Major, Peewee Major, Bantam Major, Midget Minor and Midget Major.
Tier II Peewee Minor and Bantam Minor.
- B. Select League teams cannot play an unregistered team without permission from the USA Hockey Registrar (and notification to the Select Registrar).
- C. All team officials and coaches will be appointed by the applicable league/district and approved by the Select Registrar.
Each league/district will be responsible for the enforcement of any violations of Massachusetts Hockey rules by a team member.

Section 3. Financial Obligations

All Massachusetts Hockey Selects players' parents are responsible for their financial obligations to their respective Massachusetts Hockey Selects league team. Selects players must be in good financial standing with both Town and Selects programs. Players shall not be rostered on a Select League team until a written financial release has been received from their prior team. Failure to do so will cause denial or suspension for all Massachusetts Hockey activities.

Section 4. State/District Tournaments

Massachusetts Hockey Selects teams cannot compete in District Playdowns, Massachusetts Hockey sanctioned Tier II, III or IV tournaments events.

Section 5. Player Eligibility and Registration

- A. Players may register with and play for Select teams in the geographic area or any jurisdictional venue, division or arrangement established by the Select League Board of Directors and approved by the Massachusetts Hockey Select Committee.
- B. Select players through nine (9) years of age on December 31 of the current season must register with and participate in the play of their respective town association. Peewee, Bantam and Midget players may not be rostered on more than one National Bound team (Tier I and Tier II) in the same season in accordance with USA Hockey Rules and Regulations. Should a conflict arise, the Tier I team shall retain the player.
- C. All Massachusetts Hockey Select League rosters must be forwarded to the Massachusetts Hockey Selects League Registrar.
- D. No player, coach or official under suspension for a violation of a Massachusetts Hockey rule will be permitted to participate in a game or practice of his Massachusetts Hockey Select team.
- E. 1. A dual rostered Mite and Squirt Minor Select player's first obligation, except between the hours of 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Sundays and for one Select practice per week, (non game

conflicting) is to play for their town association Tier II, Tier III, and Tier IV team's regular scheduled league game, practice, and/or tournament game. Town associations may waive this requirement.

2. Between the hours of 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Sundays and for one practice per week (non game conflicting), dual rostered Mite and Squirt minor players may play for the team of their choice. During State Select Tournaments, the Select player's first obligation will be to play for his/her Select team.

- F. Conflicts between Massachusetts Hockey Select teams bound for National Championships and town associations events may be appealed by the player(s) to the President of Massachusetts Hockey.

Section 6. Tier I Tryouts

- A. Tryouts must be held for each classification Mite, Squirt, Peewee, Bantam and Midget with a minimum of two tryouts for each classification. Teams will be formed with players attending these tryouts. Exceptions to the rule may be granted by the Select Registrar.
- B. Each Organization General Manager shall announce tryouts at least 15 days in advance by posting dates, times and places on its web site and/or by any of the following methods; postal mail, email, advertisements, brochures and placards in rinks. A list of all tryout attendees will be sent to the Select Registrar.
- C. Players whose town association does not belong to a Massachusetts Hockey league, or which does not participate in the Massachusetts Hockey Select League, may request a league designation by the League Board of Directors. Once designated to a Select league, no further requests will be allowed. The player's town association will be notified of the player's league designation by the Select League Board of Directors.
- D. All supplemental Select League Rules must be submitted to the Select Registrar for final approval by the Select Committee.

Section 7. Select League Administration

- A.
 - 1. There will be a league for all classifications if possible, and the duly elected Commissioner of the Select League except for Midgets will administer the day to day operations of the League and be the spokesperson for the League.
 - 2. The midget division and it's day to day operation will be directed by the commissioner of the midget division. The division will include a board of directors elected by Representatives from the participating team associations.
 - 3. The Select registrar will be responsible for the USA Hockey/Massachusetts Hockey IMRs team rosters, and team registration forms.
 - 4. The operating procedures will be submitted to Massachusetts Hockey Select Committee for approval.
- B. Prior to start of league play the Select League Commissioner, or the duly appointed representative, shall provide the Finance Committee with a budget and financial plan for the forthcoming season. At the conclusion of the season a final statement of condition must be submitted to the Finance Committee. Failure to provide the information may cause Massachusetts Hockey to withdraw its sanction.
- C. Massachusetts Hockey Select State Final's in all classifications will be held.
- D. The administration of the Select league shall be subject to the supervision of the Massachusetts Hockey Selects Committee.

Section 8. Player Development Program

Peewee Minor and above

- A. Select Players training curriculum will be under the supervision of the Massachusetts Hockey Player Development Committee and serve as an extension of the Massachusetts Hockey/USA Hockey Satellite Training Program. The mandatory training curriculum provided by each team will include a minimum of 2 on-ice practices and one off-ice Physical Training session per week and periodic classroom instructions.
- B. Coaches will follow the Satellite Training Program Policies, USA Hockey National training curriculum, and be involved in continuous coaching education prescribed by the Satellite Training Program. This will include attendance of pre, mid and post season seminars annually when scheduled. Peewee/Bantam head coaches must achieve or be working towards USA Hockey Level IV Coaching Certification. Assistant Coaches must achieve Level III Coaching Certification. Any question arising from coaching level qualifications may be directed to the Select League Registrar.
- C. A player's first obligation will be to his/her Select team.
- D. Player rostering will be restricted by geographical territory.
- E. Select teams that fail to comply with the required training curriculum will be deemed ineligible for Massachusetts Hockey State Championship and National Championships.
- F. All teams are to notify in writing their players and parents of the Massachusetts Hockey Select/Player Development required training requirements.

Section 9. Process and Criteria for Admission to the Select League

The Select League shall establish a process and criteria for admission of teams into the Select League, subject to the approval of the Massachusetts Hockey Select Committee, Any existing teams as of the 2004-05 season shall be exempt from this admission process and criteria. Any applicant for admission to the Select League that shall be denied admission shall have fifteen (15) days from receipt of notice of such denial to appeal that adverse action to the Selects Committee of Massachusetts Hockey.

Section 10. Transfer of Control

No Select may transfer control of their interest in the Select Club without approval of the Select Committee.

ARTICLE XIV - SEXUAL AND PHYSICAL ABUSE SCREENING

Section 1. Intent

The intent of these rules and regulations is to reduce the risk of a Massachusetts Hockey minor becoming the victim of sexual or physical abuse.

Section 2. Uniformity of Standard

All Massachusetts Hockey personnel and those of its members are subject to the same screening standard.

Section 3. Applicability of Standard

- A. All organizations associated with Massachusetts Hockey shall screen their personnel pursuant to these rules.
- B. For purposes of these rules, organizations associated with Massachusetts Hockey shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the Board of Directors and members of all committees of Massachusetts Hockey, Registered town associations, member club teams, member girls/women associations, select organizations, Team Massachusetts and Festival, or development camps, collectively referred to as "member(s)".
- C. For purposes of these rules, personnel shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, officers, members of Boards, coaches, managers, referees, instructors and staffs whether or not they receive compensation for the performance of their duties.
- D. Members may, in their discretion, apply the requirements of these rules to other

volunteer personnel not carried on rosters or registered by means of an Individual Membership Registration form and not specifically mentioned herein.

- E. Any individual required under these rules to be screened who does not consent to be subject to the application of these rules shall not be allowed to participate in activities of Massachusetts Hockey and its members.

Section 4. Standard For Participation In Massachusetts Hockey And Its Member Associations

A person may be disqualified and prohibited from serving as an employee or volunteer of Massachusetts Hockey and its members if:

- A. The person has been convicted (including crimes the record of which has been expunged and pleas of "no contest") of any crime of violence against minors, or any crime which indicates the person may pose a risk to the safety and well-being of children under his/her direction and/or stewardship, including but not limited to: indecent assault and battery on a child under fourteen, indecent assault and battery on a mentally retarded person, indecent assault and battery on a person who has obtained the age of fourteen, rape, rape of a child under sixteen with force, rape and abuse of a child, assault with intent to commit rape, assault of a child under sixteen with the intent to commit rape kidnapping of a child under sixteen, open and gross lewdness and lascivious behavior, unnatural and lascivious acts with a child under 16, distribution and trafficking of narcotics or other controlled substances, intent to commit any of the above crimes; and like violation of the law in another state; or
- B. It is determined that: he/she has been adjudged liable for civil penalties or damages involving sexual or physical abuse of children, is subject to any court order involving sexual abuse or physical abuse of a minor, including, but not limited to domestic order of protection, has had his/her parental rights terminated for reasons involving sexual or physical abuse of children; or
- C. Massachusetts Hockey or its members comes into possession of verified information that he/she has a history with another organization (volunteer, employment, etc) of complaints of physical or sexual abuse of minors, resigned, been terminated or been asked to resign from a position, whether paid or unpaid, due to complaint(s) of sexual or physical abuse of minors.

Section 5. CORI Screening Tool and Process

Criminal Offender Record Inquiry ("CORI"). Each person to be screened as provided by Section 3 of this Article shall sign a consent form.

Members shall collect CORI consent statement, as required by Section 3 herein- above, certify by letter the names of all members participants required by Section 3 herein-above to be screened, and forward a certification letter with all completed consent forms attached, to the appropriate Registrar. In the case of Development Camp Staffs, the letter and forms shall be sent to the USA Hockey Registrar or a person designated by him. Each individual is required to sign only one consent form per season. The members shall immediately notify the appropriate Registrar if an individual refuses to sign the consent form.

The lead official of the member, as appropriate, (e.g., association president), shall sign the certification letter. The certification letter shall be forwarded to the appropriate Registrar so as to be in the Registrar's possession no later than December 31, except for Development camp staffs and Team

Massachusetts. The lead official of development camps and Team Massachusetts shall forward the certification Letter to the USA Hockey Registrar prior to the beginning of on-ice activities. Registrars shall verify that members (and other organizations required to screen by Section 4 of this Article) have provided certifications and consent forms as required by Section 4 herein-above, and forward the letters and forms to the Task Force within two weeks of receipt.

CORI Screening Committee.

The CORI Screening Committee shall:

- A. Collect all letters and forms and construct a computer database of Massachusetts Hockey personnel.
- B. Forward to the Massachusetts Corrections History System Board all information required to obtain CORI information.
- C. Review the information provided by the Massachusetts Corrections History System Board.
- D. If relevant information, as defined in Section 4 of this Article is revealed, request that the President of Massachusetts Hockey (or his/her designee), notify the individual that relevant CORI information has been received that would exclude him/her from participating in Massachusetts Hockey and that he/she has ten (10) days to request an opportunity to dispute the accuracy or relevance of said information. Upon failure to make such a request or to satisfactorily explain why this information is not accurate or relevant, the individual shall be notified in writing by the President of Massachusetts Hockey (or his/her designee) that he/she is excluded from participation in Massachusetts Hockey. Notification shall be in writing, and indicate the individual is not in compliance with Massachusetts Hockey Policy. A copy of this notification shall be forwarded to the individual's parent organization and the cognizant registrar.
- E. Maintain and update the database that information was received and reviewed. F. Safeguard all information as required by the Criminal History Systems Board.
- G. With approval of the Executive Board, audit members to gather data on compliance with these rules, seek better methods for implementation and assist members in implementing these rules.

Section 6. Administrative

- A. Individuals who refuse to consent to screening may appeal according to the provisions of Article XIV of the Massachusetts Hockey By-Laws.
- B. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of any other Article in these Rules and Regulations and the provisions of this Article, the provisions of Article XV of these Rules shall take precedence.

Section 7. Awareness Program

Massachusetts Hockey shall incorporate into its various literature and clinic programs educational/awareness information as developed by the CORI Screening Committee, or other authoritative sources as pertinent information becomes available

Section 8. Appeal Process

Individuals who are prohibited from participation in Massachusetts Hockey pursuant to the provisions of this Article may appeal this action to the CORI Screening Committee in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of notice of such prohibition. The CORI Screening Committee or a designated subcommittee thereof shall hear all appeals within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request at a place and time and in a manner determined by the CORI Screening Committee consistent with the practices of Massachusetts Hockey. A decision shall be rendered in writing within ten (10) days of the completion of the hearing.

The individual may appeal any adverse decision of the CORI Screening Committee, in writing within ten (10) days of the receipt of same to the President of Massachusetts Hockey who will process the appeal consistent with its practices and procedures and these rules and regulations. A written decision signed by the members of the CORI Screening Committee rendering same shall be considered prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein, and the burden of proof as to why the individual shall not be prohibited from participation in Massachusetts Hockey shall be upon the individual in any hearing before the panel set up by the President whose decision shall be final.

Section 9. Complaint Process

Complaints concerning violations of the provisions of this Article and/or of Massachusetts Hockey's Sexual and Physical Abuse policy statements shall be in writing addressed to the President of Massachusetts Hockey and shall be signed by the individual making the complaint. The complaint shall state in full and complete detail the basis of the complaint concerning the alleged violations. Upon receipt of such a written complaint, the President shall refer the matter to the Physical/Sexual Abuse Screening Committee for its review. All credible complaints of sexual and/or physical abuse shall be referred to the appropriate governmental authorities by the President after the Physical/Sexual Abuse Screening Committee's review.

The Physical/Sexual Abuse Screening Committee or a designated subcommittee may, in its discretion recommend Massachusetts Hockey initiate administrative action against the individual complained of pursuant to the applicable sections of its Constitution and By-Laws and these rules and regulations. The individual may appeal any adverse decision or other action of the CORI Screening Committee in writing within ten (10) days of the receipt of same to the President of Massachusetts Hockey who will process the appeal consistent with its practices and procedures and these rules and regulations. A written decision signed by the members of the Physical/Sexual Abuse Screening Committee rendering it shall be considered prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein and the burden of proof as to why the individual shall not be prohibited from participation in Massachusetts Hockey shall be upon the individual in any hearing before the panel set up by the President whose decision shall be final.

Article XV Medical Waivers

Medical waivers to play down one age level may be granted by Massachusetts Hockey after review by qualified personal. Medical conditions that might indicate that a player should be allowed to play down include but are not limited to small stature, cancer or heart disease. To apply for such waiver fill out the Medical Waiver request form and the Release and Waiver of Liability form which can be found on our web site. Forward both completed forms to you District/Divisional Registrar who will forward it to the appropriate person for a determination.

The following restrictions apply to the waived player.

- The Waiver is for only one season and will not be automatically renewed

- Waivers will not be issued to players on Tier 1 or Tier 2 teams.

- Waivers will only be issued to players on Tier 3 Teams if it is the lowest level team in the program

- Waivers will be issued to players on Tier 4 Teams

- Waived Players cannot participate in District Playdowns or State Championship Tournaments

Waived players can:

- Participate in league play only if the league approves the participation at the lower age level

- Participate in Invitational Tournaments only if the Tournament Director approves it.