

NORTH DAKOTA AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Initially Adopted: July 29, 1954 - Adopted as Amended: May 18, 2011

SECTION I – ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE I: ADMINISTRATION

A. These Rules and Regulations are designed and arranged to explain and implement the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION and the BYLAWS of the NDAHA.

B. Rules and Regulations may be adopted or amended only at the NDAHA Annual Spring Meeting of the Board of Directors of the NDAHA. Changes to the Rules and Regulations proposed for any other meeting of the Board of Directors requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%) majority vote of the directors present to be placed on the agenda unless the issue was tabled from a previous Annual Spring Meeting from where it can be moved to the agenda by a motion and vote to bring it to the floor. Proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations must be distributed to the Secretary of the NDAHA at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting with dissemination to the Board of Directors at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting date.

C. Rules and Regulations may be adopted or amended upon receiving the votes of the majority of the members present of the Board of Directors, provided a quorum has been established.

D. Conduct of business will be in compliance with Robert’s Rules of Order and the Bylaws of the NDAHA.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP – REGISTRATION – ROSTERS

A. MEMBERSHIP

1. **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership in the North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association, NDAHA, is defined as a USA Hockey, Inc. registered participant that is a member of a local affiliate organization that is registered and in good standing with the NDAHA and USA Hockey, Inc.
- 2.
3. **MEMBERSHIP VOTING REPRESENTATIVES:** Membership Voting Representative is defined as that individual designated by the Local Affiliate Organization to speak for and to cast votes equal to the number of USA Hockey, Inc./NDAHA registered participants in the organization.
4. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IN THE NDAHA:** Associate membership shall be comprised of a hockey organization not competing in NDAHA competition: any individual, group, association, business, or firm interested in ice hockey and desiring membership in the NDAHA. Membership may be obtained from the Secretary of the NDAHA. An associate member will not be entitled to voting rights on any matters.

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5. **LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP:** All member leagues of the NDAHA must be members in good standing of USA Hockey, Inc. Each independent league (not authorized by or sponsored by the NDAHA) shall file with the Secretary of the NDAHA a copy of its Bylaws certified to by its membership's President and Secretary immediately after adoption by the league.

B. REGISTRATION

1. **TEAM REGISTRATION:** Teams must be registered with both NDAHA and USA Hockey, Inc. before playing their first game. Any team not registered with the ND Associate Registrar before playing their first game will not be eligible for State, Regional, or National Tournament play. The ND Associate Registrar will send the prescribed fees to the ND Treasurer and the USA Hockey, Inc. District Registrar.
2. **PLAYER REGISTRATION:** Each player must be registered with the NDAHA and USA Hockey, Inc. before playing in his/her first game. If a player's registration is not received by the ND Associate Registrar before his/her first game, the player will not be eligible for State, Regional, and National Tournament play. The ND Associate Registrar will send the prescribed fees to the NDAHA Treasurer and USA Hockey, Inc. Late registration of a player will be handled on a case-by-case basis with the ND Associate Registrar and District Directors.
3. **DUAL REGISTRATION:** No player shall be registered with two or more NDAHA or USA Hockey, Inc. teams at the same time regardless of league classification. As allowed by USA Hockey, Inc., a female player may register and play on a Youth team and a Girls/Women's team at the same time to encourage growth and development of the Girls/Women's programs. Any team using a player registered with another NDAHA or USA Hockey, Inc., team, except as provided in city leagues, shall be declared ineligible for State Tournament play. Exceptions to this rule will be under the jurisdiction and decision of the District Directors of the districts involved, with the right of appeal as granted in the NDAHA Bylaws.

C. ROSTERS

1. **TEAM ROSTERS:** The ND Associate Registrar must receive the team's official roster before that team participates in any game. If the official roster is not received by the ND Associate Registrar prior to the first game, the team will not be eligible for State, Regional, or National Tournament play.
2. **PLAYER ROSTERS:** Each player must be rostered on a properly registered NDAHA and USA Hockey, Inc. team before playing in his/her first game. If a player is not on a properly registered team roster before his/her first game, the player will not be eligible for participation in State, Regional, or National Tournament play.
3. **DUAL ROSTERS:** No player shall be registered with two or more NDAHA or USA Hockey, Inc. teams at the same time, regardless of league classification. Any team using a player registered with another NDAHA or USA Hockey, Inc. team, except for community in-house leagues, shall be declared ineligible for State Tournament play. Exception to this rule will be under the jurisdiction and decision of the District Directors of the district involved, with the right of appeal as granted in the NDAHA Bylaws.

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ARTICLE III: ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS

- A. For the purpose of voting, management, control, and operations, the NDAHA shall be divided into four (4) geographical districts. Adjustments to the boundaries or number of districts may be accepted by majority vote of a resolution by the Board of Directors.
- B. The current districts and assigned communities are as follows:

<u>NE DISTRICT</u>	<u>SE DISTRICT</u>	<u>NW DISTRICT</u>	<u>SW DISTRICT</u>
Cando	Fargo	Bottineau	Bismarck
Devils Lake	Jamestown	Crosby	Dickinson
Grafton	Valley City	Glasgow, MT	Hazen-Beulah
Grand Forks	Wahpeton	Minot	Mandan
Langdon	West Fargo	Sidney, MT	Miles City, MT
Mayville-Portland		Watford City	
Northwood		Williston	
Park River			
Rugby			

ARTICLE IV: COMMITTEES/SECTIONS

A. The following committees and sections are recommended, but not limited, to be empowered by the NDAHA to conduct the affairs of the Association as described. The NDAHA President shall have the power to appoint the committee members, chairperson and vice-chairperson. Sections shall be empowered by inclusion in the NDAHA Bylaws or by incorporation by resolution of the Board of Directors.

1. COMMITTEES

- Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation: To correct, change and update annually.
- Rules and Regulations: To correct, change and update annually.
- Tournament Committee: To create guidelines and pairings, conduct meetings, and coordinate tournaments. The tournament committee shall include a Chairman, one District Director from each district, “A” and “B” League Secretaries, and ND League Director. The tournament committee shall meet at the winter board meeting in early January to determine the brackets for Pee Wee and Bantam levels of play.
- Nominations Committee: To investigate and propose candidates for offices.
- Referee Committee: To train, develop, and coordinate on-ice officials’ activities. Refer to the North Dakota Officials Association through the North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association Board liaison.
- Executive Committee: See Article VIII, NDAHA Bylaws.
- Discipline Committee: To investigate, hold hearings, and determine sanctions as required.
- Coaches Committee: To train, develop and coordinate coaches.

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2. SECTIONS

- Girls/Women’s Section: Promote and operate Girls/Women’s leagues of the NDAHA.
- High School Section: Promote and operate the High School league of the NDAHA.
- Youth Leagues Section: Planning, operations, and coordination of youth “A” and “B” leagues.

ARTICLE V: CLASS OF PLAY

A. PLAYERS

1. **CITIZENSHIP:** All players participating in NDAHA competition are restricted to United States citizenship, with the exception of a player who is not a US citizen but whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are bona fide residents of the United States, or such player is a foreign exchange student from outside North America and holds an OSP-66 card making him/her eligible to compete providing he has approval of the NDAHA Associate Registrar.
2. **BIRTH CERTIFICATION:** Players must have a copy of his/her birth certificate (or Baptismal certificate, if the individual was baptized prior to age five) for certification or proof of age, unless the player is already on an approved age list used by the NDAHA.
3. **RESIDENCY:** North Dakota is a community-based amateur hockey program. Players are to participate on teams within their local affiliate organization based on the physical property address of their custodial parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and the established affiliate boundaries as defined by the Association Affiliate Agreements which are signed by NDAHA. It is the primary responsibility of the local affiliates to verify the legal addresses of all of its participants and to seek and obtain waivers if necessary. Waiver requests may be denied if an individual has repeatedly open-enrolled in different school systems without a change in physical address. NDAHA Residency Rules and Player Transfer and Waiver Procedures supersede all conflicting rules enacted by an organization affiliated with NDAHA.
4. **AMATEUR PLAYER:** An amateur player is one who is properly registered with the National Association governing amateur hockey and is not engaged in playing organized professional hockey under contract to a professional club.
5. **REINSTATED AMATEUR:** A reinstated amateur is any player who was under contract to a professional club, and having completed his/her contractual obligations to the professional club, has successfully applied to USA Hockey, Inc. through the NDAHA for reinstatement of amateur status. USA Hockey, Inc. fees are in effect.
6. **PLAY IN LOWER AGE GROUP:** No player may play down from one class to a lower age class without the written permission of the Northern Plains District Registrar and the ND Associate Registrar. All directors and all community representatives will be notified of an approval.

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7. **HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER:** High School and Bantam players are eligible to be rostered by December 15th of the playing season, even if they have been rostered, dressed, and/or played as a high school varsity or junior varsity player prior to this date.
8. **PLAY AT TWO LEVELS:** The cut-off date to request the use of the same player at two different levels of play is January 20th of the current playing season. The player may not register on more than one team that will participate in games leading to a national championship.
9. **PLAYER TRANSFER AND WAIVER PROCEDURE:** No player residing in the boundaries of an NDAHA approved local affiliate, or who would normally play for that organization under standard team eligibility rules, may play for another organization without the approval of both organizations and the notification of both District Directors. Transfer of a player from one organization to another must be made by mutual agreement of the two organizations and a waiver of release must be made and signed by the local organization, received and approved by the receiving organization, and approved by the District Directors of the district(s) involved before the transfer is official. Approval of the District Directors involved is mandatory. Transfer requests begin with submitting a waiver request form to the local organization. A deadline for submission of waiver requests may be determined by the local affiliates. If a deadline is imposed, only waiver requests which demonstrate extenuating circumstances will be reviewed and will require special, discretionary approval of a District Director. Transfers of players will not be permitted after January 20th of the current playing season. Approvals of transfer requests are only valid for the current playing season.
10. **AUTOMATIC WAIVERS:** An individual player may receive an automatic waiver from one organization to another in the event a given organization does not have space for that player to play. Automatic waivers may also be granted district-wide at a specified age level at the discretion of the District Director(s), but such policies will be stated no later than a date designated by the District Directors for a given playing season. Automatic waivers will be processed following the Player Transfer and Waiver Procedures and the approval of the District Director(s) is mandatory. In the case of combined community teams, individual waiver requests may not be required and an overall document listing the participants may be prepared and submitted to the District Director(s) for approval.
11. **INELIGIBLE PLAYER:** The playing of an ineligible player automatically disqualifies the entire team for which he/she played as an ineligible player.

B. TEAMS

1. **OUTLAWED TEAMS:** No member of the NDAHA may play any team outlawed by USA Hockey, Inc. or the NDAHA, or play any teams using players outlawed by USA Hockey, Inc. or the NDAHA.
2. **ALL STAR TEAMS:** Selection and use of a player for All Star Team play is permitted upon completion of the schedule of play for the NDAHA registered team, which is defined as midnight of the final day of that player's age category state tournament.

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3. **DISQUALIFIED TEAMS:** Any team found to have an ineligible player that participates in any North Dakota sanctioned competition will be suspended from further league and state tournament play for the current playing season. This suspension may be reviewed by the cognizant District Director to determine if the severity is appropriate, and a less severe penalty may be imposed if the facts so dictate.

ARTICLE VI: CLASS OF PLAY

A. GENERAL

1. **COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS:** North Dakota is a community-based amateur hockey program.
2. **CLASSIFICATION OF PLAY:** A two-tier classification of play will be instituted in the Youth League Division of the NDAHA. These classes will be designated as Class “A” and Class “B”. Further division will occur at the end of season league play depending on final standings into “A1”, “A2”, and “B1”, “B2”, “B3”.
3. **NEW TEAMS:** Teams not previously registered with the NDAHA and that comply with all the rules and regulations for membership in the NDAHA will be placed into the “B” League of play, unless the organization requests a higher level of play.
4. **MOVE FROM CLASS OF PLAY:** If an organization wishes to move from its present level of play to a different level of play, that organization must present in writing its petition to move to the Secretary of the NDAHA. If received by the Secretary of the NDAHA at least thirty (30) days prior to the Board of Directors meeting, the petition to move will be placed on the agenda and voted on by the Board of Directors.
5. **INADEQUATE NUMBERS:** In the event an organization does not have adequate numbers to fill out a team, that organization may use players from a lower age classification to fill out a team to a maximum of fourteen (14) players including goaltenders without the player(s) from the lower age classification losing his/her eligibility to continue in league and state tournament play at the lower age level. The District Directors/Section Directors involved and the ND Associate Registrar must approve the request. Requests are to be submitted to the appropriate District Directors/Section Directors and the ND Associate Registrar.
6. **COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES:** Organizations having more than one team in Youth Leagues shall follow current high school boundaries defined in their Association Affiliate Agreement to determine their player residency boundaries. Local affiliate boundaries in metropolitan areas will be defined by school district boundaries or high school attendance areas to preserve community based programs; however, open enrollment may not be considered for purposes of defining affiliate boundaries. Certain affiliate associations may have boundaries defined which combine school districts such that these associations can fill team(s) while also serving the purpose of providing an opportunity for players to participate at a specified level of play. A local affiliate organization requesting a number of teams different than the number of high schools in the city shall provide an application, reasons, and proposed team boundaries for consideration at the Spring Annual Meeting of the NDAHA. A majority of votes allowed by the teams in the class of play affected will be required for acceptance of

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the application and the plan. Organizations having teams participating in a class of play and wishing to also participate in another class shall use the same boundary plans and requirements for these teams as used in the original class.

B. AGE CATEGORIES

North Dakotas' cut-off date of July 1st is different than that established by USA Hockey, Inc. of December 31st. For compliance to USA Hockey, Inc. National Festivals and National Tournaments, the players and teams advancing must comply with the proper age category using the December 31st cut-off date established by the USA Hockey, Inc. Board of Directors.

ELIGIBLE PLAYERS MUST HAVE BEEN BORN ON OR AFTER THE DATE BELOW: (For the 2010-2011 Season)

<u>YOUTH</u>		<u>GIRLS</u>	
High School	July 1, 1991	High School	January 1, 1991
Bantam	July 1, 1995	16 & Under	July 1, 1993
Pee Wee	July 1, 1997	14 & Under	July 1, 1995
Squirt	July 1, 1999	12 & Under	July 1, 1997
Mite	July 1, 2001	10 & Under	July 1, 1999
Mini-Mite	July 1, 2003	8 & Under	July 1, 2001

High School Class –No player may be eighteen (18) prior to July 1st of the commencing year except for a player who has not completed his/her eighth consecutive semester of high school. For players of any age, including home-schooled students, their eligibility ends after their graduation or their receiving a graduation certification.

Girls High School – No player may be nineteen (19) prior to January 1st of the current playing season.

ARTICLE VII: FEES

The combined registration fee needed to finance NDAHA shall be the total cost of the USA Hockey, Inc. registration, the North Dakota Affiliate registration, and any other fees approved by the NDAHA Board of Directors. The total registration fee is due to the Associate Registrar of the NDAHA by the deadline dates approved for the playing season except for those fees paid by online registration, which appropriate share shall be returned to the NDAHA by USA Hockey, Inc.

ARTICLE VIII: TRAVEL PERMITS

Travel permits are required for any team playing outside the Northern Plains District or outside the continental United States. Permits may be obtained by contacting the ND Associate Registrar.

ARTICLE IX: GAME OFFICIALS

A. Two (2) USA Hockey, Inc. registered referees or one (1) registered referee and two (2) registered linesmen will be required for all league games and tournament games. Whichever system is selected for a state tournament must be used throughout the entire tournament. Selection of tournament referee

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systems will be made by the tournament committee at the winter meeting.

B. There will be four (4) state sponsored referee seminars before the end of October (one in each District) to be rotated within the district. The NDAHA will pay the administrative fee of \$300.00 per state sponsored referee seminar to the NDHOA. Any community wanting to sponsor its own additional referee seminar must be responsible for all cost and administration of the seminar. Coordination with District and NDAHA Referee-in-Chief is mandatory. Deadline date for any official to be certified shall be November 30th of the playing year.

C. A list of approved officials and their level shall be sent to the League Coordinators, Tournament Officials, Team Representatives, and the District Referee-in-Chief by December 1st of the playing year. Referees that are certified must wear the certification patch and carry the identification card at all USA Hockey, Inc. games. All officials registered with NDAHA will be required to sign an “Authorization to Release Information” form for background screening.

D. All on-ice referees shall be USA Hockey, Inc. certified for the current playing season and shall be classified as follows:

Level 4: Eligible to referee all classifications

Level 3: Eligible to referee at Junior C and below classifications

Level 2: Eligible to referee at age 14 and below classifications

Level 1: Eligible to referee at age 12 and below classifications

Level 1, 2, and 3 officials working like age games or above must be paired with a minimum of one (1) senior level 3 official and be approved by the District Supervisor of Officials.

E. Only USA Hockey, Inc. Level 3 or higher certified shall be used in and for State Tournament play and shall be assigned by the State RIC with input from the nominations given by the District Supervisor of Officials.

F. Any official that wants to attend a National Camp or apply to work a National Tournament must have an evaluation to be considered as eligible. Contact the State RIC.

ARTICLE X: COACHES

A. All coaches registering with NDAHA will be required to sign an “Authorization to Release Information” form for random screening.

B. Coaching Education Required Levels for Ice Hockey

1. USA Hockey, Inc. requires that the following set of Coaching Education Levels must be the minimum criteria for Districts and/or Affiliates.
2. It must be clearly understood that Coaching Education requirements must be monitored and enforced by the Districts and/or Affiliates.
3. All coaches must have a current USA Hockey, Inc. Coaching Education Program card by December 31st.

C. Education and Years of Coaching Prerequisite

1. Education and years of coaching prerequisite requirements are noted in the Coaching Education Chart. These requirements must be strictly adhered to.

D. Evidence of Level

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1. Proof of Coaching Education Level will be evidenced by a USA Hockey, Inc. Coaching Education Card with the appropriate dated verification sticker. All coaches must carry this card for all USA Hockey, Inc. games.
2. Before the start of each game and in the presence of the referee, each coach must present their card to one another for verification of Coaching Education Level.
3. If a coach cannot produce their current and up to date USA Hockey, Inc. Coaching Education Card prior to the start of the first period, it must be noted on the official game score sheet and signed by the opposing coach.
4. Beginning January 1st of the current season, prior to the start of the game, all coaches present, from each team, are required to sign the designated area of the score sheet in order to verify the accuracy of the playing roster, as it appears on the score sheet, for that game. In addition, all coaches must include their USA Hockey, Inc. Coaching Education Program (CEP) card number, their CEP Level (1-Skill Development, 2-Associate, 3-Intermediate, 4-Advanced, 5-Masters) and the year their CEP Level was attained. The CEP Card number, level and year attained shall be printed legibly and next to the signature of the coach.

E. Continuing Education Requirements

1. All coaches below Level 4 shall progress through the Coaching Education Program, attending a coaching clinic at least once every three years through Level 3 (Intermediate). After a coach has completed Level 3 (Intermediate); the coach shall do one of the following:
 - a. Attend another Level 3 (Intermediate) clinic within three years
 - b. Take a USA Hockey, Inc. Continuing Education Course within 3 years
 - c. Take the new On-Line Level 3 Recertification Course
 - d. Attend a Level 4 (Advanced) Clinic as per the Coaching Education Program Requirement chart Once Level 4 (Advanced) is achieved; there is no further requirement for recertification.
2. If a coaches accreditation was received more than 3 years from the current calendar year, the card is rendered invalid/expired below Level 4 (Advanced) and a refresher course at the same level or attending a clinic at the next level is necessary for the accreditation to remain current.

F. Penalty and Enforcement

1. Beginning January 1st of the current season, it will be the responsibility of the District/ Affiliate to determine if there should be any penalties imposed on an individual coach whom fails to produce a current, up to date coaching education card with appropriate verification of level. It will also be the responsibility of the local association registering the team to enforce any penalties.

G. Lost Coaching Cards

1. If a coach has lost his original Coaching Education Card, they must contact the State Coach-in-Chief to obtain a replacement card form which they must fill out along with \$5.00 and send to USA Hockey, Inc.. USA Hockey, Inc. will then turn around a new card with the coach's old CEP number and the stickers that were on the previous card.

H. Temporary Coaching Cards

1. The State Coach-in-Chief will have all final decisions regarding the distribution of temporary Coaching Cards. The only reason to receive a temporary coaching card is if a

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coach leaves town, is terminated, medical reasons, quits and the community and team is left without a coach. Requesting a card because a coach could not get to one of the clinics will not be reason enough to receive a temporary coaching card.

I. Hosting Coaching Education Clinics

1. All four State districts will need to send in a request to hold the coaches clinics for that district. Any community that submits a request must meet the needed host requirements. The clinic host request must be in before the Spring NDAHA Community Representative Meeting and sent to the State Coach-in-Chief.

J. Clinic Registration

1. All clinics require re-registration by either phone or using the USA Hockey, Inc. website located at www.usahockey.com. All clinics are posted on this website and you can register for all clinics online, and pay with a credit card. Any coach that does not call ahead to the clinic coordinator or register online may not be admitted to a clinic if they just walk up without pre-registering! Any coach that does not have the clinic fee at the time of the clinic will not receive his/her certification sticker and/or card with sticker until payment is received. A minimum of 10 coaches are needed in order to run a clinic. If there are less than 10 coaches, the clinic will be cancelled.

K. Coach Discipline

1. Any coach receiving a game misconduct penalty will be immediately suspended for the following periods: (within the same season)
 - a. First Offense – current game and the next scheduled game
 - b. Second Offense – same as first offense plus 7 day suspension from all team functions
 - c. Third Offense – same as first offense plus 15 day suspension from all team functions
 - d. Fourth Offense – coaching certification would be revoked and the suspension would carry over to the next season and recertification would require a discipline hearing with NDAHA.

L. Coaching Education Requirements

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. Mite (8 and Under) | Level 1 (Skill Development Program) |
| b. Squirt (10 and Under) | Level 2 (Associate Level) |
| c. Pee Wee (12 and Under) | Level 3 (Intermediate Level) |
| d. Bantams (14 and Under) | Level 3 (Intermediate Level) |
| e. Jr. Gold (18 and Under) | Level 3 (Intermediate Level) |
| f. High School (18 and Under) | Level 3 (Intermediate Level) |
| g. Junior “C” | Level 3 (Intermediate Level) |

L. Coaching Education Requirements (Cont)

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| h. Junior “A” and “B” | Level 4 (Advanced Level) |
| i. Girls/Women 8 and Under | Level 1 (Skill Development Program) |
| j. Girls/Women 10 and Under | Level 1 (Skill Development Program) |
| k. Girls/Women 12 and Under | Level 2 (Associate Level) |
| l. Girls/Women 14 and Under | Level 3 (Intermediate Level) |
| m. Girls/Women 16 and Under | Level 3 (Intermediate Level) |
| n. Girls/Women 19 and Under | Level 3 (Intermediate Level) |

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SECTION II – GENERAL PLAYING RULES

ARTICLE I: GENERAL PLAYING RULES

A. PLAYING RULES – The USA Hockey, Inc. Official Playing Rules will be the official Playing Rules used by the NDAHA for all league and tournament games.

B. NON-RESIDENT TEAMS – Out of state and Canadian teams playing in leagues under the jurisdiction of the NDAHA shall comply with all regulations of USA Hockey, Inc. and the NDAHA.

C. SUSPENSION – Suspension used in these Rules and Regulations means that the individual player, coach, team representative, entire team, or local affiliate organization would be prohibited from participating in the hockey activities governed by the suspending authority. The suspending authority will determine the exact penalty, length, and extent of the suspension. Any individual or organization that has been suspended shall have the right to appeal the suspension to the next higher authority. If appeals are made to NDAHA or USA Hockey, Inc., the procedure to follow is outlined in the USA Hockey, Inc. Annual Guide, Bylaw 10: Resolutions of Disputes, Arbitration, and Suspensions.

D. FORFEITURE – A penalty described by a refusal of players to obey the decision of the referee, failure to send the official record of a league game to the District or Regional Secretary within five (5) days of the game date, or failure to obey the Rules and Regulations of the NDAHA. Forfeiture as used in these Rules and Regulations means the team or Local Affiliate Organization will be charged with the loss of the game or games involved with the infraction of the rules. The game score will automatically be set at: Winner 1 – Loser 0. Any team assessed a forfeiture shall have the right to appeal the forfeiture to the next higher authority, according to the Bylaws of the NDAHA.

E. DISPUTES, PROTESTS, AND APPEALS – Any team, league, or local affiliate organization may protest a ruling, a decision, or some act causing a disagreement or may appeal a ruling or decision of a controversy, argument, or dispute, per the NDAHA Bylaws.

ARTICLE II: LEAGUES

A. GENERAL – The NDAHA shall be the governing body of the leagues sanctioned in these Rules and Regulations.

B. OBJECTIVES – The leagues established by the NDAHA shall have as their purpose:

1. to foster, encourage, and improve all organized hockey played under its jurisdiction,
2. to promote sportsmanship and leadership within the state,
3. to maintain and increase the interest in the game of hockey, and
4. to provide and regulate competition for hockey teams within the state

C. MEMBERSHIP – Membership in the leagues described is open to any hockey team in North Dakota that complies with all the requirements of the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the NDAHA, and is approved for membership by the NDAHA Board of Directors.

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ARTICLE III: SANCTIONED LEAGUES

A. YOUTH LEAGUES

- 1. **AGE CLASSIFICATIONS:** For purposes of classification of play, there shall be two (2) age categories, Pee Wee and Bantam, each divided into Class “A” and Class “B” for competitive season and tournament league play.
- 2. **CLASS OF PLAY:** For purposes of competitive classification for state tournament play, there shall be divisions within each age category for balanced games. They shall be Pee Wee “A1”, “A2”, “B1”, “B2”, “B3” and Bantam “A1”, “A2”, “B1”, “B2”, “B3”.
- 3. **GEOGRAPHY OF PLAY:** League play shall be by district for class “B” play and by region for class “A” play. If team numbers in the Pee Wee “B” or Bantam “B” divisions fall below five (5) teams in a district, that district may combine with the closest district that has the fewer number of teams competing. This decision must be made by October 15th of the current playing season. The district that is asked to add teams has the right to refuse the additional district’s teams.
- 4. **REGIONS:** Pee Wee “A” and Bantam “A” regions and teams:

NORTH REGION

Devils Lake
Grafton
Grand Forks 1
Grand Forks 2
Grand Forks 3
Hazen-Beulah
Minot
West Fargo 2
Williston

SOUTH REGION

Bismarck 1
Bismarck 2
Dickinson
Fargo Angels
Fargo (FYHA)1
Fargo (FYHA)2
Jamestown
Mandan
Wahpeton
West Fargo 1

- 5. **DISTRICTS:** Pee Wee “B” and Bantam “B” Districts and Teams:

NE DISTRICT

Cando
Devils Lake
Grafton
Grand Forks
Langdon
Mayville-Portland
Park River
Rugby

SE DISTRICT

Fargo
Jamestown
Valley City
Wahpeton
West Fargo

NW DISTRICT

Bottineau
Crosby
Minot
Sidney, MT
Watford City
Williston

SW DISTRICT

Bismarck
Dickinson
Hazen-Beulah
Mandan

- 6. **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership in the Youth League is open to any Pee Wee or Bantam amateur hockey team in North Dakota through application to the NDAHA at its fall Board of Directors meeting. Teams which are members of the league shall be considered Class “A” and Class “B” teams and shall be governed according to national criteria for such matters as numbers of players on teams, rules for play and Bylaws for the NDAHA.
- 7. **LEAGUE MEETINGS:** League meetings for the Youth League of the NDAHA shall be held in conjunction with the meetings of the NDAHA, or as called by the Youth League

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Director of the NDAHA or the President of the NDAHA.

8. **LEAGUE OFFICIALS:** Each region and district of the NDAHA shall have one League Secretary for the collection of results on league games. Home teams of all games in the league shall report the results of the league games to the League Secretary within five (5) days from completion of the game. The region League Secretaries shall be appointed by the Youth League Section Director, and the district League Secretaries shall be elected by each district at its fall district meeting, and then reported to the Youth League Section Director and the NDAHA Board at the fall meeting of the NDAHA.
9. **DUTIES:** The District Directors shall have the duty of overseeing the “B” league games played in their districts in cooperation with the NDAHA Youth League Director.
10. **STANDINGS:** District and region secretaries shall have the duty of compiling standings for the district and region once a week, if games are played, and shall send these standings to all teams in the district or region. The standings are also to be sent weekly to the Youth League Section Director. The standings compiled shall be used to determine tournament seeds, and shall be submitted to the NDAHA Tournament Committee.
11. **GAME SCHEDULING:** Teams approved for inclusion in the Youth League shall schedule a home and away game with each team assigned to its region or district. This requirement can be met if the games are played in a neutral site agreeable to both teams. Each team shall send a copy of its scheduled games to the District or Region League Secretary by November 15th with the requirement that the schedule reflects completion of their league schedule by two (2) weeks prior to their league state tournament. The region or district League Secretary shall send a list of scheduled games in the region or district to all teams participating in the region or district, as well as the NDAHA Youth Leagues Section Director. Any team failing to submit their schedule by November 15 may be subject to a \$250.00 fine. The maximum fine per affiliate will be \$1000.00.
12. **SCHEDULE COMPLIANCE:** Only teams which have completed their home and away games shall be eligible to play in their appropriate NDAHA state tournament. The appropriate League Secretary shall notify a team that it will not be eligible for their state tournament when the team is not in compliance with its home and away game requirements. The Executive Committee, regarding team eligibility, shall exercise strict enforcement for state tournament play when league requirements have not been met.
13. **LEAGUE RULES:** All games shall be played in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the NDAHA, and the following rules governing play:
 - a. League standings shall be determined through the use of a point system. Two (2) points shall be awarded for a win, one (1) point awarded for a tie, and zero (0) points for a loss.
 - b. No league games are to be played before the team roster has been submitted to the NDAHA Associate Registrar. Non-compliance will result in game forfeiture(s) by the offending team.
 - c. In the event of cancellation of a league game, such as due to inclement weather, the teams shall notify the League Secretary and make up the game prior to the end of the league season. If they are not able to make up the game, then by the agreement of both teams and the League Secretary the game played, or the game to be played, may be counted as a four (4) point game.

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- d. League games tied at the end of regulation play shall play one (1) overtime period of ten (10) minutes. If still tied after the overtime, the teams will be awarded a tie.
 - e. Home teams shall keep an official game sheet on an NDAHA approved form, and shall submit copies of the game sheet to the visiting team officials after the game, and also to the respective League Secretary within five (5) days.
 - f. Failure of the home team to send the official record of the league game to the respective league secretary within the prescribed five (5) days shall result in the forfeiture of the game by the home team.
 - g. Tournament seeding of the teams tied in league standing at the end of season play shall be determined by the total goals of the teams involved with league games with each other. If the teams are still tied, a flip of a coin by the League Secretary will determine the seeding of teams.
 - h. Exceptions for the age requirements of officials for a league game may be made by the District Referee-in-Chief if he/she has worked with the younger official and notifies the State Referee-in-Chief prior to allowing their officiating of any games.
 - i. Host communities shall provide warm-up pucks for league games
14. **STATE TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY:** Teams will be seeded into tournament brackets according to a schedule drawn up by the NDAHA and the NDAHA officials. Tournament sites will be on a current rotation basis as approved by the NDAHA. No out of state team will be allowed to play in a North Dakota State Championship without the prior approval of the NDAHA Board of Directors.

B. NORTH DAKOTA AMATEUR HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NDAHSHL)

1. Attendance at the fall meeting by a high school team representative, or by a proxy, is mandatory in order for a team to participate in league play for the season. Teams shall be required to submit a \$500.00 check to the NDAHA to be cashed and used as a season performance bond that will be returned to the team at the end of the season, provided there were no recorded issues of noncompliance to league rules during that season.
2. Teams wanting to enter the NDAHSHL for the first time shall apply in writing to the NDAHA Executive Committee, through the Secretary. This request shall provide reasons and proposed boundaries as well as team membership. Any such team must have a representative at the fall meeting.
3. High school registration and attendance is mandatory for all NDAHSHL team members. All teams will provide a player list, on school stationary signed by an appropriate school administrator, to the High School Director. This list will be submitted no later than December 15th of the playing season.
4. Any high school player receiving a penalty for fighting will receive a suspension for the next two (2) scheduled games. A second fighting penalty during the season will result in suspension of the next four (4) scheduled games. A third offense will result in a suspension until review by the High School Committee.
5. If mutually agreed upon by the communities involved and by the High School Director, NDAHSHL teams may play one four (4) point game or two (2) point games alternating communities each year. A record of which team travels will be kept by the High School Director.
6. NDAHSHL team representatives will hold a meeting at or before NDAHA annual and fall

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meetings.

7. New teams entering the league will be added to the bottom of the Harold Holien State Tournament rotation schedule. Teams, with the approval of the league, may switch years for hosting the tournament. The deadline for any switch in hosting the tournament will be the NDAHA Affiliate Spring Meeting. After hosting the tournament, the host will be added to the bottom of the rotation schedule. Any host team that is unable to switch or declines its date on the rotation will be added to the bottom of the rotation schedule. Any team that drops out of the High School League will be removed from the rotation. If a team reenters at a later date, they will be added to the bottom of the tournament rotation schedule.
8. NDAHSHL and Harold Holien State Tournament will play twenty (20) minute periods. The local organization has the right to adjust the time period from twenty (20) minutes to seventeen (17) minutes if there is a conflict in scheduling of ice time. If twenty (20) minute periods are played then the ice must be resurfaced after each period, excluding overtime.
9. All High School hockey games will use a three (3) man refereeing system. This will include league, non-league, and Harold Holien State Tournament games.
10. The NDAHSHL shall use the tag up offside rule for league and tournament games.
11. Inadequate numbers – Teams in the NDAHSHL with inadequate numbers may use players from a lower age group to fill out a team to a maximum of sixteen (16) players including goaltenders without the player(s) from the lower age classification losing his/her eligibility to continue in league and state tournament play at the lower age level providing the Section Director and the ND Associate Registrar approve the request.
12. NDAHSHL game schedules will be completed at least one (1) week prior to their league state tournament.

C. NORTH DAKOTA AMATEUR GIRL'S HOCKEY LEAGUE (NDAGHL)

All rules of the NDAHA listed above that apply to the other leagues also apply to the state Girls/Women League. The following rules apply specifically to the Girls/Women League.

1. Attendance at the fall meeting by a NDAGHL team representative, or by a proxy, is mandatory in order for a team to participate in league play for the season.
2. Teams wanting to enter the league for the first time shall notify in writing to the Girls/Women Director. This request shall provide reasons and proposed boundaries as well as team membership.
3. No team shall be admitted to the league for league play or state tournament play after December 15th of the playing season.
4. NDAGHL representatives will hold a meeting at or before the NDAHA annual meeting.
5. NDAGHL will be split into two (2) districts, East and West. Teams shall schedule a home and away game with each team in their district.
6. High school registration and attendance is mandatory for all high school league girls playing in the NDAGHL. All teams will provide a player list on school stationary signed by an appropriate school administrator to the NDAGHL Director. This will be submitted no later than December 15th of the playing season.

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7. The state tournament for the Girls/Women will be as follows: 12U, 14U & 16U will be played the second full weekend of March. Girls High School will be played the first full weekend in March. One (1) tournament will be held for each division until there are sixteen (16) teams in a division. At that time that division will split into "A1" and "A2".
8. NDAGHL game schedules will be completed by one (1) week prior to their league state tournament.
9. In the event of a tie by one or more teams in the season final standings, the following tie breaking formulas shall be used in succession until one formula determines the position of ALL tied teams:
 - a. Head to head competition among tied teams.
 - b. Largest goal differential among tied teams.
 - c. Fewest goals allowed in league play.
 - d. Flip of a coin by a league official in the presence of the Tournament Committee.
10. Inadequate numbers – Girls High School level teams in the NDAGHL with inadequate numbers may use players from a lower age group to fill out a team to a maximum of sixteen (16) players including goaltenders without the player(s) from the lower age classification losing her eligibility to continue in league and state tournament play at the lower age level providing the Section Director and the ND Associate Registrar approve the request.

ARTICLE IV: TOURNAMENTS

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. The state tournaments shall be under the supervision of the officers and the directors of the NDAHA, in cooperation with the tournament managers, who will be in charge of arrangements.
2. The officers, in all matters pertaining to state tournament play, have the power to adjust matters at any time which seems to be in the best interest of hockey.

B. TOURNAMENTS

1. All teams participating in invitational and/or state tournaments must be registered and rostered with USA Hockey, Inc.
2. All players and coaches participating in invitational and/or state tournaments must be properly registered for the current year with USA Hockey, Inc..
3. Affiliates hosting invitational and/or state tournaments are required to check for proper and current registration credentials prior to a team playing its first game. Any team unable to produce proper registration credentials shall not be allowed to participate in the tournament. Proper credentials are:
 - a) Signed, stamped team roster
 - b) Signed "Consent to Treat" form for each player
 - c) Signed "Waiver of Liability" form for each player. Players who have registered online with USA Hockey, Inc. are not required to carry a waiver.
4. Any affiliate allowing an unregistered team, player, or coach to participate in invitational and/or state tournaments will not be allowed to sanction another tournament for one year.

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C. STATE SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

1. The following State Tournaments are sanctioned by NDAHA.
 - o High School Level
 - o Bantam Level for Class “A1”, “A2”, “B1”, “B2” and “B3”
 - o Pee Wee Level for Class “A1”, “A2”, “B1”, “B2”, and “B3”
 - o Girls High School, 16U, 14U, and 12U
2. All tournament sites will be decided at the spring meeting of the NDAHA.
3. The state Pee Wee and Girls High School tournaments, for all classes of play, will be held the first weekend in March.
4. The state Bantam and Girls 12 U, 14U, & 16U tournaments, for all classes of play, will be held on the second weekend in March.
5. The NDAHSHL Harold Holien State Tournament will be held on the first weekend in March.
6. The “A” state tournaments shall be no larger than sixteen (16) teams and at the tournament committee’s discretion may hold two (2) “A” tournaments (A1 and A2). If two tournaments are held, the “A1” tournament is the advancing tournament for regional and national tournaments. If the overall “A” team numbers fall below fourteen (14) teams, there will be one state “A” tournament. Tournaments shall include all the “A” teams, and the tournament committee may issue first round byes in order to schedule all games, and make bracketing and pairings more equitable or declare that two (2) “A” tournaments shall be held.
7. The first weekend in March is considered a full weekend when the 1st of the month falls on a Saturday, or earlier, i.e. the 1st of March falling on a Sunday would not be considered the first weekend of March.

D. STATE TOURNAMENT ROTATION

1. The “A”, “B1”, “B2”, “B3”, “12U”, and “14U/16U” tournament sites shall be rotated in a clockwise direction. The members within the district shall determine the specific location of these tournaments within the district. If a district does not want to host a scheduled tournament, other districts may bid for the tournament.
2. Tournament Rotation Schedule: SW (SOUTHWEST), SE (SOUTHEAST), NW (NORTHWEST), NE (NORTHEAST).

<u>PEE WEE</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B1</u>	<u>B2</u>	<u>B3</u>
2011	SE	NE	NW	SW
2012	SW	SE	NE	NW
2013	NW	SW	SE	NE
2014	NE	NW	SW	SE
2015	SE	NE	NW	SW
2016	SW	SE	NE	NW
2017	NW	SW	SE	NE
2018	NE	NW	SW	SE

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2019	SE	NE	NW	SW
2020	SW	SE	NE	NW
<u>BANTAM</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B1</u>	<u>B2</u>	<u>B3</u>
2011	NW	SW	SE	NE
2012	NE	NW	SW	SE
2013	SE	NE	NW	SW
2014	SW	SE	NE	NW
2015	NW	SW	SE	NE
2016	NE	NW	SW	SE
2017	SE	NE	NW	SW
2018	SW	SE	NE	NW
2019	NW	SW	SE	NE
2020	NE	NW	SW	SE
<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>12U</u>	<u>14U/16U</u>	<u>GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL</u>	<u>HIGH SCHOOL</u>
2011	NW	NE	LANGDON	WATFORD CITY
2012	SE	SE	NW	LANGDON
2013	SW	SW	NE	CROSBY
2014	NW	NW	SE	RICHLAND
2015	NE	NE	SW	MAYPORT
2016	SE	SE	NW	FARGO FLAMES
2017	SW	SW	NE	GF STALLIONS
2018	NW	NW	SE	WATFORD CITY
2019	NE	NE	SW	New Team or Host 2012
2020	SE	SE	NW	New Team or Host 2013

E. TOURNAMENT MANAGERS

The Tournament Manager will be required to administer the tournament rules in accordance with the Basic Tournament Rules. The tournament rules will be attached to this section (par. E.). These rules will be in accordance with the Bylaws of NDAHA and the rules of USA Hockey, Inc. The NDAHA Secretary and Tournament Manager will be required to send these rules to each tournament coach at least ten (10) days prior to the start of the State Pee Wee, Bantam, Girls, and High School Tournaments. The Secretary of NDAHA will also provide the Tournament Manager a copy of the NDAHA Bylaws and Rules and Regulations.

F. BASIC TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The Tournament Manager will be in charge of tournament arrangements and team bracketing. The Manager will have the authority to handle all issues in regard to rules and regulations during the tournament days, both on and off the ice, in accordance with the NDAHA Bylaws and USA Hockey, Inc. rules.
2. Age Classifications shall be as established by the NDAHA Board of Directors.
3. Players in the state Pee Wee, Bantam, Girls/Women's or High School tournaments must be registered in accordance with Section 1, Article II of these rules and regulations.

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4. All teams will be properly uniformed.
5. A registered Pee Wee, Bantam, Girls/Women's or High School player may not play in more than one (1) NDAHA tournament. That is any one player regardless of age eligibility cannot play in Pee Wee, Bantam and NDAHSHL tournament. (For exceptions see Section 1, Article VI Class of Play, A.5. Inadequate Numbers; Section II, Article III Sanctioned Leagues, B.11.; & Section II, Article III Sanctioned Leagues, C.10.).
6. The Tournament Manager will provide another copy of these rules to each coach upon arrival to the state tournament.
7. The NDAHA, through the Treasurer, will provide monies for the cost of the NDAHA State Tournament trophies. Standardized trophies will be provided for each state tournament for first, second, third, and consolation winner places. In tournaments of six (6) teams or less, trophies will be provided for first, second, and third place winners only. Existing traveling trophies will be presented. Individual gold medals will be provided for the individuals of the championship team. Individual silver medals will be provided for the individuals of the second place team.
8. Tournament Seeding: Seeding of teams shall be determined by the standings of the team in regional or district leagues after finishing the mandatory league play. The top three (3) teams in each "B" district will be seeded into the "B1" state tournament and the lower teams in each "B" district will be seeded into the "B2" tournament, according to the approved NDAHA tournament format.
9. Teams shall be guaranteed two (2) games in state tournaments.
 - Tournament formats shall provide the opportunity for all teams to enter the consolation bracket after their first loss in the championship bracket.
 - No teams shall play three (3) games in one day in state tournament competition regardless of bracketing.
 - Scheduling at state tournaments must allow at least a two (2) hour break between games for the same team, prohibiting back-to-back games for the same team.
 - During the course of tournament play, if one of the teams involved has a score lead of six (6) goals or greater over its opponent during the third period of the game, the game officials, either the referee or the Tournament Manager, must invoke a running/non-stop clock. The clock will be stopped only by the referee. If during the period the goal spread becomes four (4) goals; the stop clock will be resumed.
10. Tie Tournament Games

If the ice-sheet has been played on for one (1) period the following procedures will take place:

 1. A five (5) minute rest period will be allowed.
 2. The teams shall not change ends.
 3. A ten (10) minute period shall be played. The game shall be terminated upon a goal being scored.
 4. If no goal is scored, the ice shall be resurfaced and teams will not change ends.
 5. Teams will repeat ten (10) minute periods until the tie is broken. Ice will be resurfaced every two (2) periods.
11. Parent/Spectator Tournament Behavior – Any parent/spectator identified by a game official to be removed from the building will be treated the same as a game misconduct. The

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parent/spectator will be out of the facility for the rest of that game, and the next scheduled game. Violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body (Tournament Chair, Arena Manager, Affiliate Organization).

12. Player/Coach/Spectator Tournament Behavior - Any player/coach/spectator removed from the ice/arena by a game official due to a penalty or penalties during a game shall not be allowed back on the ice/arena after the game has been concluded.

G. CITY LEAGUES

Where a league exists within a city the team representing the city may be formed of players from any of the league teams, providing all the teams and players are registered properly by the required dates and the twenty (20) player squad to represent the city in regional and state play is declared by January 20th of the tournament year.

H. INVITATIONAL PLAY

USA Hockey, Inc. must sanction invitational tournaments in North Dakota. A completed application with the dates of the tournament for each age group must be submitted to the NDAHA Associate Registrar at least sixty (60) days prior to the start of the tournament.

I. TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS AND PLAYOFF FORMAT

1. Formats:

- “A” Division – Tournament shall be no larger than eight (8) teams with the top four (4) teams from each region in the “A1” and the remainder in the “A2”.
- “B1” Division – Shall be a twelve (12) team tournament, three (3) from each district (if possible – if not Tournament Committee will place teams as needed), or an 8 team as directed.
- “B2” Division – The tournament play structure will be based on the total number of teams registered in the “B” classification, such that:
 - If twenty-four (24) or fewer teams register, then an eight (8) team “B1” tournament, with the remaining teams to play in a “B2” tournament and “B3” tournament.
 - If twenty-five (25) to twenty-nine (29) teams register, then a twelve (12) team “B1” tournament, with the remaining teams to be in a “B2” and or a “B3” tournament as directed by the Tournament Committee.
 - If thirty (30) or more teams are registered, then a twelve (12) team “B1” tournament, a twelve (12) team “B2” tournament, with the remaining teams to a “B3” tournament. Highest seeded East team plays the lowest seeded West team (and vice versa) in standard tournament format (“A” Tournament). Teams from the same district will not meet until the semi-final round of the tournament.
- Parity in strength between North and South leagues is assumed. North-South teams (assuming equal strength between North-South) are paired in the first round in such fashion that they should not play a second time in a row, but are paired also on a strength basis.

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J. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Each participating team shall be responsible for recommending one official to work games in the state tournament. Host district may furnish up to two-thirds (2/3's) of the officials needed. The remainder of the officials must come from outside the host district.

An on ice official is limited to working three (3) games in any tournament day. Not more than two (2) consecutive games may be officiated in a row.

K. COMPENSATION FOR STATE TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS (paid by host)

1. GAME FEES:

- Pee Wee, Girls 12U and 14/16U: \$30.00 per game for each referee. Linesmen are not to be used.
- Bantam "B" and Girls High School: \$35.00 per game for each referee. \$20.00 paid per game for each linesman.
- Bantam "A": \$55.00 per game for each referee, \$40.00 per game for each linesman.
- High School: \$55.00 per game for each referee, \$40.00 per game for each linesman

2. EXPENSES:

- Travel no more than current year IRS established rate per mile one way will be paid for travel for all NDAHA personnel. Out of town is defined as more than 20 miles from the arena.
- Lodging will be provided for ½ room per day for out of town officials provided by the host community. (i.e. two (2) officials per room or if family along ½ of room rate paid.)
- Per Diem of \$20.00 per day for out of town officials, \$10.00 per day for in town officials that live less than 20 miles from the arena(s). No per diem for in town resident officials. The Supervisor of Officials will submit the referee expenses to the Tournament Manager. Fees for the officials must be paid before they leave the arena after their last game.