



I. PURPOSE

- a. The BAHA Adult Hockey Leagues are designed to promote an enjoyable recreational hockey experience. Since BAHA is a family based organization and we are all adults, all hockey should be played for fun and within a friendly atmosphere. We have a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY – *we are a non-checking league with absolutely no fighting.*** Checking, fighting, and any other harmful intentional acts to other players will not be tolerated and will result in suspension from the BAHA program.

II. ELIGIBILITY

- a. All players must be registered BAHA members & wear a helmet with membership sticker visible at all games.
- b. All players become eligible to play on a league team 5 days after they are registered, placed on a team roster, registrar is given all required forms and payments and is approved by the Director.
- c. Any player caught poaching (playing in a game unregistered and/or failure to make payment in advance will be ejected and banned from the league for the season). Any player caught transferring a membership sticker (loaning, selling or otherwise facilitating a non registered player) will be banned from the play for one calendar year, or longer, depending on the circumstances.
- d. Team captains and fellow teammates are responsible for their benches and locker rooms. Any unregistered player that is allowed to skate may result in penalties and or suspensions for captains or other associated player knowing, allowing or assisting a poacher.
- e. On site rink staff, club board members and game referees have complete authority to eject players and/or spectators from the facility and enforce all rules.

III. GENERAL TEAM AND GAME RULES

- a. Two levels of play are planned for the Hoktober Fall Scramble: D3/VHW (Lower Intermediate/ Intermediate – No Novices) & Rec/Power. Four levels of play are planned for the regular season: Adult D3 (Novice), Adult VHW (Intermediate), Adult Recreational League (Rec) and Adult Power League (Power). Pick Up / Shinny sessions are also offered as ice time is available and subject to general rules and suspensions for inappropriate play.
- b. All leagues are non-checking.
- c. Cross-Rostering: No multiple memberships (cross rostering) accepted with initial sign-up. Cross rostering may be evaluated and posted after initial sign-ups if offered.
- d. **D3 (Novice) League** teams and games:
 - i. D3 League hockey is for new and less skilled players who are out to have a good time, regardless of the final score. All D3 League players will recognize that this league has a variety of player abilities; that this league is offered for adults who want to start playing

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hockey and improve their skills; that games will be conducted in the spirit of having fun; that excessive domination by any one player or team is not appropriate for this league.

- ii. Skaters rated 1 & 2 form entry level teams for league play with a 22 game schedule with referees. Minimum of 13 skaters per roster and a maximum of 15 skaters per roster plus goalie.
- iii. 3-goal limit per player per game; all goals after the third goal do not count.
- iv. All rules regarding Penalties and Suspensions apply (section VII below)

e. VHW (Intermediate) League teams and games:

- i. VHW League hockey is for players who are out to have a good time, regardless of the final score. All VHW League players will recognize that this league has a variety of intermediate player abilities; that this league is offered for adults who want to play recreational hockey and improve their skills; that games will be conducted in the spirit of having fun; that excessive domination by any one player or team is not appropriate for this league.
- ii. Skaters rated 2 & 3 form teams for league play with a 26 game schedule with referees. No team can have a combined player average higher than 2.7 and lower than 2.3. Minimum of 15 skaters per roster and a maximum of 18 skaters per roster plus goalie.
- iii. 3-goal limit per player per game; all goals after the third goal do not count.
- iv. All rules regarding Penalties and Suspensions apply (section VII below)

f. Rec League teams and games:

- i. Rec League hockey is for players who are out to have a good time, regardless of the final score. All Rec-League players will recognize that this league has a variety of player abilities; that games will be conducted in the spirit of having fun; that excessive domination by any one player or team is not appropriate for this league.
- ii. Skaters rated 3 & 4 form competitive teams with a 26 game schedule with referees.
- iii. No team can have a combined player average higher than 3.6 or lower than 3.2, with a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 20 skaters per roster per roster plus goalie.
- iv. 3-goal limit per player per game; all goals after the third goal do not count.
- v. All rules regarding Penalties and Suspensions apply (section VII below).

g. Power League teams and games:

- i. Power League hockey is for players who enjoy a more competitive game of hockey at a higher ability level than is played at the Rec League.
- ii. Skaters rated 4 and 5 to form competitive power teams with a 26 game schedule with referees.
- iii. Minimum of 16 skaters and a maximum of 20 per roster plus goalie

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- iv. Players are allowed to dominate the Power League games (i.e. no need to tone it down relative to the opponent's ability).
- v. Teams will not be required to balance player ability among the teams in the Power League, although parity is desirable amongst all teams.
- vi. No limits on the number of goals each player may score per game.
- vii. All rules regarding Penalties and Suspensions apply (section VII below).
- h. Game Substitutions: Teams that are short players (less than 10 skaters not including goalie) for a game are allowed substitutes. Substitute players must be from within the league they are rostered – i.e. Power level players may **not** substitute for Rec level games and visa-versa unless otherwise posted. Substitute goalie's are allowed for any game but must be registered members of BAHA and rostered on a BAHA team. Inter-league goalies are preferred for parity and efforts should be made to find a sub within the specific (D3/ VHW/Rec/Power) league.
- i. Players are not allowed to roster on two teams simultaneously within the same league.
- j. Changes made to rosters after the league has started require a 5 day notification period with our registrar before any player can play on that team.

IV. EQUIPMENT

- a. All players must wear an unaltered hockey helmet, securely fastened at all times with snapping or permanently attached straps. String or tape for straps is unacceptable.
- b. Goalies must wear a USA Hockey/HECC approved face mask and helmet, along with an approved and separate, throat protector during all games and warm-ups. No waiver may be signed regarding mask, helmet and separate throat protection.
- c. Mouth guards and neck protection is strongly encouraged.

V. FORFEITS

- a. Any team not fielding at least six (6) players including a goalie by ten (10) minutes after posted game time or ten (10) minutes after the ice is ready, whichever is later, will lose by forfeit. A lack of attendance may result in game suspensions and/or elimination of team if pattern persists.
- b. If a player is suspect of not being registered with BAHA and is playing without a helmet sticker, any league game or pickup hockey will be stopped and that player removed from the ice by referees or captains. If it can be determined that player is registered the game will continue. If a player cannot prove registration that team will forfeit the immediate game. Unregistered players will be not allowed to play in any further BAHA Hockey for the season.
- c. Teams that win by forfeit have the right to use the balance of the ice time.

VI. PROTESTS

- a. Protests will be accepted only for: Violation of player eligibility. Judgment calls by referees may not be protested.
- b. Unregistered players without helmet stickers can be identified by any player in a game. A player should notify his captain. Captains are required to bring this to the attention of the referee and or any BAHA Board member present. The captain of the unregistered player must address this

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situation, help remove said player from the ice and provide that player's name to the BAHA Director of Adult Hockey within twenty four (24) hours.

VII. PENALTIES AND SUSPENSIONS

- a. The conduct of all adult members is expected to set an example for good sportsmanship in our community. This includes respecting and adhering to all calls made by referee's during officiated games. Players violating our friendly membership policy will be penalized appropriately and asked to adjust their behavior immediately on the ice. Repeated and habitual offenses will lead to expulsion from the BAHA program.
- b. Fighting, slashing, unrestricted roughing, malicious contact and vulgar language is strictly prohibited.
- c. All games will be governed by USA Hockey rules and regulations, unless noted here-in. Rules are non checking rules and will be strictly enforced. See rules for additional important rink, league and USAH policies. Also note *current standard* USAH policies that will be strictly enforced. Rules are available online:
http://www.usahockey.com/uploadedFiles/USAHockey/Menu_Officials/Menu_RulesEquipment/2011%20-%202013%20Rulebook.pdf
- d. Any player assessed three penalties of any type in one game will be immediately ejected from that game. Persisting in the same behavior after the ejection could lead to further penalties and further suspensions.
- e. Any player receiving a major penalty (with the exception of a Fighting major or determined as malicious intent - see Section VII - f. below) the following will apply (can carry over to following season):
 - i. First offense - Results in expulsion from the game, plus a two game suspension.
 - ii. Second Offense - Results in expulsion from the game, plus a 4 game suspension.
 - iii. Third Offense - Results in immediate expulsion from the BAHA program for a period of time to be determined by League Director (no refunds).
 - iv. Any serious violation as determined by the League Director and or BAHA Board of Directors, or match penalty, may result in suspensions or expulsion from the BAHA program, regardless of how many previous penalties.
- f. Fighting: For any player involved in a fight as determined by game referees:
 - i. First Offense - Results in an automatic 21 day or 5 game suspension (whichever is longer) from all skating in BAHA programs and entering the facility, including games, pickup hockey and all other types of on or off ice activities. Infractions occurring at the end of the year will carry over to the following season. Players involved in fight may be required to go before a hearing committee of league captains that will determine the possibility of further actions that may be taken which may include expulsion from the BAHA program.
 - ii. Second Offense - Results in immediate expulsion from the BAHA program (as determined by Adult League Director - minimum 1 full season).
 - iii. Subsequent Offenses – as determined by Adult Director and Captains Committee.

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- iv. The league Director reserves the right to adjust penalties based on scheduling irregularities and other factors.
- g. Substance Abuse Policy: Alcohol, drugs and tobacco products are not allowed on the ice. There is also no smoking or other tobacco products allowed to be used in the locker rooms at any time.
- h. Any player or team that is suspended from the BAHA program will not be given any refund of fees.

VIII. ADULT PICKUP HOCKEY ICE TIMES

- a. All the preceding applicable rules will also apply for all BAHA Adult Pickup Hockey Games. In the event that any severe violations of these rules should occur during any pickup hockey games, all members on the ice during a pickup game must consider themselves in part responsible to remedy and report these violations to the BAHA Adult Director or an appropriate BAHA Board member. In particular, severe violations involving fighting, uncharacteristic roughness and the intentional harming of other players, vandalism, and players that are not registered must be reported immediately. All BAHA members are expected to take responsible action on and off the ice.
- b. USA Hockey insurance is NOT in effect for pick-up, shinny hockey, public skating and other non-sanctioned events and is at the risk of the individual skater. Participate at your own risk.

IX. OTHER NOTES

All participants must read and follow all rules of the league and as posted at the rink. Captains of each league will form a committee to review all rosters and skater rankings prior to the start of league play. League and rosters are closed once desired teams and roster numbers have been met for each league. All additions to rosters during the season are subject to approval by Adult Director.

All skaters/teams must have a light and dark jersey available to wear at each game. Captains can mutually decide who wears light and dark before each game – with a tie breaker going to the team schedule in the North Locker Rooms (C or D).

All teams must designate a Captain and at least 1-2 Assistants. Captains and Assistants must be identified with a “C” and “A” respectively on their jerseys during all games. If the Captain and Assistant are not in attendance of a game, referees may ask for team to designate a responsible player.

Most games will be (3) 20 min. run-time periods with certified referees. All teams may be required to designate a minimum of two players who will coordinate team volunteer efforts. Home team on schedule is responsible for volunteer issues related to game IF rink staff is not available.

Initial ice times and major holidays will have all or most adult slots designated as pick-up or public skating, subject to posted fees. The 11th Annual Winter Classic Adult Tournament will be Feb 16-19, 2012. No league games will be scheduled during this period. Team tourney fees are not included in membership rates. Season ends with League Play-offs in a double elimination or TBD format. Team will be seeded by a blind draw. Team season W/L records have no bearing in the play-offs.

These policies and any rule changes and amendments are at the sole discretion of the League Director(s) and BAHA Board of Directors and are subject to change at any time.

Thanks you for your participation and support.