

Coaching Certification Level – 23 August 2008

USA Hockey requires that all personnel on the bench during a game have the following level of certification.

- ◆ Level I - Mite and below, Girls/Women 10 & Under
- ◆ Level II – Squirt, Girls/Women U12
- ◆ Level III - Pee Wee, Bantam, Midget, High School, Junior C, Girls/Women above U12
- ◆ Level IV - Midget National Tournament, Junior A & B

All non-players on the bench must be a certified coach. Trainers or managers are not allowed unless they have their proper coaching certification and are considered part of the 4 coach maximum.

The proper procedure if a coach does not have the required level is for the on-ice official to make a note of that on the score sheet and the coaches affiliate organization (MWAHA in our case) is responsible for follow up regarding the penalty for not being at the appropriate level. It is the coaches' immediate governing body (Local Association) to enforce the penalty.

The Tri-State policy is that all coaches must be at their appropriate level with the following exceptions.

- Non-travel - It is expected that for non-travel teams the coach must have at least Level 1 and must advance at least one level each year by 31 December, to the required level.
- Travel teams - It is expected that for all travel teams requiring level 2 or greater the coach must have at least Level 2 and advance at least one level each year by 31 December, to the required level.
- Note: these exceptions do not apply if the team plans to participate in the MWAHA Championship with intention of competing towards the District and National Championships; in this case all coaches must be at the required CEP level.
- Intent - rather than forcing a coach through up to 3 levels in one year, we believe a coach will ultimately be a better coach by advancing only one or two levels in a particular year, spreading out the learning process.
- If a coach fails to advance at least one level (by 31 December) to the required level, then they will not be allowed to coach until they remedy the situation. Disregard for these procedures may be reason for not being allowed to participate in future MWAHA activities.

The local association ACE Director and Board members are responsible to enforce the requirement for proper coaching level. Associations failing to enforce the rule will be subject to a \$500 fine or disqualification from the MWL and MWAHA Championships.