

# MINNESOTA HOCKEY DISTRICT 2

## 2011 - 2012 GOVERNING RULES

Minnesota Hockey District 2 is an administrative area of Minnesota Hockey and is charged with the responsibility for administering and operating youth and girls hockey leagues within its boundaries. As such, it is obligated to follow the rules and regulations of USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey (an affiliate of USA Hockey). District 2 may modify USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey rules to be stricter. The rules and regulations are in place for specific reasons. They are to help administer the league and playoffs, to control play of the game, and to ensure that all participants during all events are covered by USA Hockey insurance.

### 1. SECTION 1.00 REGISTRATION

#### 1.1 USA Hockey and MINNESOTA HOCKEY Requirements

Refer to Minnesota Hockey handbook for registration requirements. Players are not covered by USA hockey insurance until the registration process is complete.

#### 1.2 District Requirements

1.2.1 All District 2 teams registered as traveling will participate in approved District 2 leagues.

1. Association registrars are required to attend the annual mandatory Registrar meeting (typically held in July or August). Association registrars receive information regarding the specific requirements for player registration, software training and other pertinent information at the annual meeting. Any specific instructions given by the USA Hockey Associate Registrar at the yearly instructional meeting, but not covered specifically in these District 2 rules, must be adhered to.

1.2.2 Any association registering two or more teams at any one playing level will select those teams on a competitive basis (players equally drafted). The District Director reserves the right to evaluate those team's make-up, selection and/or ratings upon request.

1.2.3 Screening forms for all Association Board of Director members are due at the July District 2 board meeting. Adults listed on the roster (coaches and managers) must be submitted with the roster. Screening forms must also be submitted for adults working with the association, but not directly affiliated with a team.

1. All first year coaches and coaches new to an association must have the screening process completed before they are allowed to participate on ice within their association.

#### 1.2.4 Initiation/8U

Minnesota Hockey strongly encourages the skill level development of all players, especially at the entry level. Therefore, Minnesota Hockey does not permit Mite or 8U Girls Tournaments.

1. Level I & II Initiation and Mini-Mite teams are not allowed to participate outside their home association.
2. Level III & IV Initiation, Mite and Girls 8U teams are allowed to play up to 15 events with other District 2 teams starting no earlier than December 15.
3. There is to be no travel or play outside the District unless prior approval from the District Director is received. The first violation will result in a 2 week suspension to the Head coach and a \$500 fine to the association. Any subsequent violations will result in the suspension of the right of that association to participate with any team outside their home association pending a hearing of the District 2 discipline committee.

#### 1.2.5 Game Event Definition

In accordance with USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey, a game event is defined as any time two teams play against each other. Game events include regular season games, tournament games, scrimmages and controlled scrimmages, regardless of the timeframe or length of the event. For example if two teams share

practice, and scrimmage for the last 5 minutes of the hour, it is still considered a game event and would count against your limit at the Mite/8U and Squirt/10U levels.

At any sanctioned game event, no more than three (4) coaches are allowed on the bench.

### 1.2.6 Squirts/10U

In keeping with the Minnesota Hockey player development goals, as stated in subsection 1.2.3 above, District 2 will enforce the Minnesota Hockey rule that limits the number of events at the Squirt/10U level to 35 events per season.

## 2. SECTION 2.00 LEAGUE RULES

### 2.1 Player Release / Waiver Policy

A request for a waiver will be considered upon completion of their association's traveling team tryouts and where the player has been cut from the traveling team(s) offered by the home association. Once a waiver has been initiated, it will be forwarded to the District 2 Director. Other District 2 Board members will be consulted, as needed.

- a. If the player's home association does not offer an appropriate level of play in their traveling program, each player's request will be individually evaluated. Waiver forms may be obtained from your associations District 2 Representative. Waivers must contain age, date of birth, and desired level of play.
- b. District 2 teams must be filled before a District 2 player will be waived to another district within Minnesota Hockey. The agenda is to fill District 2 teams first, and then place players on non-District 2 teams, if needed. The initiation of a waiver request does not guarantee approval.

**2.1.2** Youth hockey players must play within the natural hockey community as defined by MN Hockey. If a player desires to play on a team outside of the player's natural hockey community, the player must obtain written permission (waiver) from the president of the governing body of both the releasing and receiving organization and receive the approval of the district director(s).

**2.1.3** The Minnesota Hockey Waiver form shall be filled out and signed by:

- a. The releasing association's president
- b. The president of the association for which the player will skate
- c. The District 2 Director; and the District Director of another MINNESOTA HOCKEY District, if more than one district is involved.

**2.1.4** A copy of the signed waiver will become a part of the team roster. Any USA Hockey team roster, listing a skater from another association will not be signed by the District 2 Director, unless there is a properly completed waiver form attached to the roster.

### 2.2 Coach Certification

**2.2.1** In accordance with USA Hockey rules, all coaches must have completed appropriate CEP (Coaching Education Program) training and be able to produce proof of their CEP level when their teams is rostered, and upon request during the season. If a coach, required above, cannot produce the CEP card at a sanctioned event upon request, they will leave the bench. (Coaches can only request that a card be checked before a game starts). If a coach cannot produce a CEP card, upon request, it should be so noted on a District 2 Game Report, and forwarded to the District President for possible disciplinary measures.

**2.2.2** All coaches are required to carry proof of their CEP level present at USA Hockey sanctioned events. Coaches must write their CEP number on the score sheet and sign before the start each game.

### 2.3 Inclement Weather

**2.3.1** All games will be played if the arena at which the game was scheduled is not closed. *Call the arena directly if you are in doubt if it is open.*

**2.3.2** If an arena has not been closed, but both teams request to cancel the game because of inclement weather then: The League's Level Coordinator must give verbal approval to cancel and notify the League's Supervisor of Officials of the cancellation.

- a. Each team is still responsible for referee payment – refunds for cancelled games are not available.

- b. The teams canceling the game must agree to a date, time and location, and provide the ice and play the game within fourteen (14) days of the cancellation. The District 2 Re-Scheduling request is located on the District website and should be completed as directed on the site.
- c. The date, time, and location must be approved by with the League Coordinator and the League's Supervisor of Officials.

**2.4** Team Designations

**2.4.1** The Home Team and Visiting Team will be designated on the master schedule.

- a. The Home Team will wear their White or light colored jerseys.
- b. Managers are expected to contact opposing team managers regarding upcoming events including league games, particularly when re-scheduling games. District 2 shall not be responsible for any additional rescheduling costs associated with un-played games unless the District was negligent in not informing teams of the date, time and place of a game or the referees were negligent in not reporting for a District 2 scheduled game.

**2.5** Referee Fees

Referee Fees (per Official) for league games thru the 2011 - 2012 Season:

| <b>60 Minute Game Format</b> | Referee | Linesman |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Initiation                   | \$18.00 | N/A      |
| Squirt                       | \$26.00 | N/A      |
| 10U                          | \$26.00 | N/A      |
| Pewee A/B/C                  | \$30.00 | N/A      |
| 12U A/B                      | \$30.00 | N/A      |
| Bantam (2 officials)         | \$34.00 | N/A      |
| Bantam (3 officials)         | \$37.00 | \$30.00  |
| 14U                          | \$34.00 | N/A      |
| Junior Gold B/U16 *          | \$42.00 | \$35.00  |

| <b>90 Minute Game Format</b> | Referee | Linesman |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Bantam A (3 officials)       | \$55.00 | \$44.00  |
| Bantam B1 (2 officials)      | \$51.00 | \$N/A    |
| Junior Gold A/B/U16 *        | \$65.00 | \$50.00  |
| 14U-A                        | \$51.00 | N/A      |

**2.6** Game Minor Officials

**2.6.1** There shall be four (4) game minor officials consisting of Scorekeeper, Timekeeper, and two Penalty Box Assistants.

- a. *No other persons will be allowed in the penalty box area.*
- b. *No minor (under age 18) will be allowed in the penalty box area.*

**2.6.2** The game minor officials shall:

- a. Remain impartial while conducting their duties.
- b. Make no derogatory remarks to the referees, coaches, or players.
- c. If a minor official is deemed abusive/distracting from the game, the official will contact the home team Head Coach, and ask that the minor official be removed.

*Refer to section 2.10.3 for inappropriate conduct by minor officials.*

**2.6.3** The visiting team will provide the score book and one (1) adult who shall be the game Official Scorekeeper. The Official Scorekeeper will be located in the penalty bench area. Both teams will supply one (1) adult to be the Penalty Box Assistants. The home team will provide one (1) adult to operate the clock. Minor officials shall:

- a. Verify that the **Official Score Sheet** is filled out properly prior to the game. This will include the name and number of each player and the CEP card number and signature of coaches.
- b. Before the start of the game, the coaches for each team must be designated on the **Official Score Sheet**. Signatures verifying the roster and CEP #s are to be provided as required by the Official Score Sheet.
- c. Keep a record of the players that score goals and assists.
- d. Keep a record of penalties that are assessed before, during, and after the game. Including penalty "in" and "out" times.
- e. The referees will sign the **Score Sheet after the game**, using their assigned referee number.

- f. Distribute the completed **Official Score Sheet** after the game to:
 

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Winning Team Mail to Level Coordinator | White copy     |
| Referee                                | Yellow copy    |
| Home Team                              | Pink copy      |
| Visiting Team                          | Goldenrod copy |

**\*Note: In case of a penalty requiring the referee to file a game report, the referee shall retain the top copy and visiting team will mail copy 2 to the level coordinator.**

- g. Carry out other duties as requested by referee(s).

## 2.7 Scrimmage and/or Practice Games

**2.7.1 Scrimmage (Controlled)** – Coaches-On-Ice Scrimmages or “controlled scrimmages” are allowed as a coaching tool for teaching position play and to address various game situations. The following criteria identify minimum requirements for Coaches-On-Ice Scrimmages.

1. At least one coach from each team must be on the ice for the purpose of instruction.
2. No scorekeeper, timekeeper or “game clock” can be used. Use of the horn is permitted.
3. Teams can switch ends at some point, if desired.
4. Coaches stop play from time to time to make observations and provide instruction on player positioning, etc.

All of the above criteria must be met for the event to be considered a Coaches-On-Ice Scrimmage.

Scrimmages not meeting the above criteria are “Scrimmage Games” and must be officiated using USA Hockey certified officials. (This rule is restated from Minnesota Hockey Rule VIII, Section M.)

In the event that the above rule 2.7.1 is violated, the association(s) involved will be fined \$200 per incident. In addition, the head coach will be suspended for three (3) games. If a coach receives a second violation, that coach will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

**2.7.2 Scrimmage (Games)** - A meeting of two teams under normal game conditions with the following required criteria: the scorebook and clock are maintained as described in section 2.6 and USA Hockey registered officials, (certified to officiate at the applicable level of competition) are used.

**2.7.3** All scrimmage games hosted by District 2 teams shall be officiated by District 2 officials only. Referees will be scheduled based on availability. Teams must complete the on-line form to request scrimmage game referees. It is available via the District 2 website. No phone or mailed requests will be accepted.

- a. Failure of a coach to follow rule 2.7.3 above will result in the home team head coach receiving a game misconduct penalty and suspension from that team’s next two (2) regularly scheduled games.
- b. A second offense of Rule 2.7.3 will result in a second game misconduct penalty to the head coach and suspension of the head coach pending a hearing of the District 2 disciplinary committee.
- c. When referees are scheduled for a scrimmage with less than seven (7) days notice, an additional \$25.00 fee will be charged.

## 2.8 Tournament Games

Teams wishing to play in tournaments outside Minnesota Hockey’s jurisdiction, (i.e. out-of-state, etc.), **MUST** submit a travel permit to the District Director. For any teams not securing a travel permit, the head coach will receive a suspension from having contact with his team for two weeks. Forms are available via the District 2 website.

**2.8.1** No District 2 association will host a tournament during District 2 playoffs, Regional and State Tournaments unless prior approval is received by the District Tournament Director and Supervisor of Officials.

**2.8.2** No District 2 team will play in an invitational tournament during District 2 playoffs in which they qualify to attend.

**2.8.3** District 2 associations that host invitational tournaments must receive prior approval. A tournament Request form, copy of the game time formats (e.g. brackets) and tournament rules must be submitted to the District 2 Tournament coordinator within the timeframe noted in the Minnesota Hockey Handbook. See the Tournament section of the Minnesota Hockey Handbook for further details.

## **2.9** Arena Locker Rooms

- 2.9.1** The use of team rooms in all arenas shall be in accordance with the rules set forth by the arena management and USA Hockey.
- 2.9.2** Each District 2 team shall be individually responsible for any damage done by that team to the arena property.
- 2.9.3** Cell phone usage is not allowed in the locker room.

## **2.10** Conduct

- 2.10.1** Each District 2 team is responsible for the conduct of its spectators. Coaches should advise their parents and other fans of the District 2 conduct rules.
- 2.10.2** No artificial noisemakers or laser lights shall be allowed at District 2 events.
  - a. Noisemakers include drums, air horns, bull horns, bells, whistles and/or any other artificial noise making device that in the opinion of the referee is detrimental to the game.
  - b. Persons with laser lights will be dealt with through the local law enforcement agency, per MINNESOTA HOCKEY statute.
- 2.10.3** If spectator conduct becomes so abusive that in the opinion of the referee, it is distracting from the game or inciting the players, the referees may stop play and:
  - a. Ask the coach (es) to control their spectators.
  - b. Ask the coach (es) to require specified individuals to leave the arena.
- 2.10.4** Failure of a coach to cooperate with a referee's request within two (2) minutes will result in a bench minor penalty and a warning from the referee. After an additional two (2) minutes, the game will be suspended and the District 2 Discipline Committee Chair will call a hearing within five (5) days.
- 2.10.5** Spectators standing by the boards behind the goalkeeper may not deliberately distract the goalkeeper.
  - a. The referee may request anyone in violation of this rule to move or leave the arena.
  - b. In appropriate cases, the referee may declare the game to be suspended.
- 2.10.6** Coaches, managers, or minor officials smelling of alcohol, or if using any tobacco products, shall not be allowed within the player's bench area or the penalty box area.
- 2.10.7** Coaches, players, managers or spectators (fans) may not enter the Referees' room without an invitation before, during, or after a game.

The following minimum penalties will be assessed for violation of this rule:

- a. *Coach or Player* - game misconduct penalty. The incident will be reported for possible additional league action and/or suspension.
  - b. *Manager or Spectator* - the referee(s) will report the circumstances to the League's Supervisor of Officials who will notify the League's Level Coordinator. A mandatory hearing will be held with the team coach and a representative of their association's governing board to discuss possible disciplinary action.
- 2.10.8** District 2 emphasizes Minnesota Hockey's rule that Racial and/or harassing conduct of any kind will not be tolerated.

## **2.11** Mood Altering Drugs

### **2.11.1** Philosophy and Purpose

Minnesota Hockey/District 2 recognizes the use of drugs and alcohol as a significant health problem for many adolescents with resulting negative effects on behavior, and learning and total development of each individual. The use of any drugs and alcohol for adolescents affects extracurricular participation and development of related skills. Others are affected by the misuse and abuse by family, team members and/or significant persons in their lives.

The close contact in Minnesota Hockey activities of advisors and coaches provides them with the unique opportunity to observe, confront, and assist young people. Minnesota Hockey therefore supports education

and awareness training in adolescent chemical use problems, special issues affecting league activities for administrators, athletic directors, coaches, advisors, participants, and their families.

### **2.11.2 Substance Abuse/Use**

Regardless of the quantity, a player shall not use a beverage containing alcohol, use tobacco or use or consume or have in possession, buy and/or sell or give away, marijuana or any substance defined by law as a drug. It is not a violation for a player to be in possession of a legally defined over-the-counter drug, or a specifically prescribed drug for a player's use by their doctor.

### **2.11.3 Penalties**

It is mandatory that the proper local authorities take at least the following action.

- a. First Violation: Penalty - After confirmation of the first violation, the player shall lose eligibility for the next two (2) consecutive events, or two (2) weeks of a season in which the player is an active participant, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted for a player who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
- b. Second Violation: Penalty - After confirmation of the second violation, the player shall lose eligibility for the next six (6) consecutive events in which the player would be an active participant. No exception is permitted for a player who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
- c. Third Violation: Penalty - After confirmation of the third or subsequent violation, the player shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive events in which the player would be an active participant.

If after the third or subsequent violation, the player, on his/her own volition, becomes a participant in a chemical dependency program or a treatment program, the player may be certified for reinstatement in Minnesota Hockey activities after a minimum period of six (6) weeks.

Verification must be issued by a director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center.

## **3. Section 3.00 PLAYING RULES**

### **3.1 District 2 League Games**

- 3.1.1** All games will be played under USA Hockey rules as modified by Minnesota Hockey and as modified by District 2.
- 3.1.2** League games will not be scheduled to start after 9:05 pm Sunday through Thursday and 9:30pm Friday and Saturday. Due to various arena time schedules, slight variations may occur with the approval of the District President.
- 3.1.3** League games will not be scheduled to start before 8:00am on Saturday and Sunday.
- 3.1.4** Blackout weekends requested by teams are not guaranteed. The district will make every attempt to honor requested Blackout Weekends.
  - 3.1.4.1** A Blackout Weekend is defined as a three consecutive day (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) tournament weekend scheduled in advance by a team in which the team requests no scheduling of District 2 League Play.
  - 3.1.4.2** Each District 2 team is allowed to request Blackout Weekends to the District 2 Ice Scheduling committee. Blackout Weekends should be submitted in order of priority.
  - 3.1.4.3** In order to be considered, Blackout Weekends must be submitted to the District Ice Scheduling Committee no later than September 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year.
- 3.1.5** All Bantam A and Jr Gold games on district 2 home ice will utilize the three-man referee system.(1 referee and 2 linesmen) The supervisor of officials may authorize the use of 2 man referee system for scrimmage games, depending on availability.
- 3.1.6** All games played during one (1) hour of ice time, will use the following time formats.
  - a. A five (5) minute warm-up period.
  - b. Three eleven minute stop time periods (Pee Wee, Bantam,).
  - c. Three twelve minute stop time periods for Squirts.
  - d. Three thirteen minute stop time periods for 14U, 12U, and 10U.
  - e. If a five (5) goal differential exists in the third period, running time will begin. If the differential becomes less than five (5) goals, stop time will resume.

- f. The game will be over when the third period has been completed, the arena manager declares that the ice time is over, or when 60 minutes have elapsed from the beginning of the warm up, whichever occurs first.
  - g. There will be no overtime periods during regular season league play.
  - h. There will be no time-outs during regular season league play.
  - i. If an injury occurs during the course of a game and the 60 minute time limit is reached, the game is over.
- 3.1.7** All games played during a 90 minute block of ice will be used as follows:
- a. A five (5) minute warm-up period.
  - b. Three fifteen minute stop time periods.
  - c. The game will be over when the third period has been completed, the arena manager declares that the ice time is over or when 90 minutes have elapsed from the beginning of the warm-up, which ever occurs first.
  - d. There will be no overtime periods during regular season league play.
  - e. There will be no time-outs during regular season league play.
  - f. If an injury occurs during the course of a game and the 90-minute time limit is reached, the game is over.
  - g. If a resurface is allowed during a game, play will be resumed promptly after the resurface. The goalie and starting skating players for each team will report to their positions for a face-off. Coaches and remaining players will report directly to the bench. There will be no warm-up. Failure to comply will draw a Delay of Game penalty.
  - h. Where two 90-minute games are played back-to-back, there will be an ice resurfacing after the second period of the first game, and after the first period of the second game. It is the responsibility of the home team's manager to coordinate this with the officials and the rink management.
- 3.1.8** No more than twenty (20) uniformed players and not more than Four (4) non-uniformed adults representing the Coach, and Assistant Coaches may occupy each team's bench area at any time. Coaches on the bench must be registered on the team's USA roster for the current hockey season. Persons registered as managers are not properly registered coaches and are not allowed on the players' bench.
- 3.1.9** All players on the bench, whether uniformed or not, must wear a helmet and their team jersey.
- 3.1.10** The team closest to the exit will leave the ice first.

## **3.2** League Standings

- 3.2.1** The Winning Team shall mail the original scoresheet of the game to the appropriate League's Level Coordinator within 72 hours of the game otherwise the game will be recorded as a loss for both teams. In case of a tie, the Visiting Team shall mail the score sheet.
- 3.2.2** The League's Level Coordinator will keep an up-to-date league standings record of their respective divisions.
- a. All unreported game scores may be recorded as a loss for BOTH teams for league standing purposes.
  - b. Final League Standings tiebreaker:
    1. Head to head competition among tied teams including Fair Play points.
    2. Most wins in league play.
    3. Fewest losses in league play.
    4. Most Fair Play points earned in league play.
    5. Largest goal differential among tied teams. (six max. per game)
    6. Greatest quotient; goals for divided by goals against among tied teams.
    7. Largest goal differential for all league play. (six max. per game)
    8. Greatest quotient; goals for divided by goals against for all league play.
    9. Flip of a coin by a league official in the presence of the District Director.
- 3.2.3** League standings ARE NOT kept at the Squirt or 10 U Levels, however, Fair Play point standings may be kept and published. An individual Minnesota Hockey Fair Play Sportsmanship award is available for teams earning 90% of their Fair Play points during league play.
- 3.2.4** Final league standing and playoff schedules will be posted on the district web site (d2hockey.org).

### 3.3 Game Misconduct and Game Disqualification

For all District 2 games (league and scrimmage) referees will be allowed to call a game disqualification on any player or coach at any time during the game. The player or coach will only be removed from the game being played when receiving this penalty.

**3.3.1 Game Misconduct:** A player or coach receiving a game misconduct penalty will receive a one game suspension for the **next** regularly scheduled league or District 2 playoff or tournament game.

**3.3.2** Any player receiving a **Fighting** Game Misconduct Penalty will receive an automatic three (3) game suspension.

### 3.4 Player Penalty Time

**3.4.1** Penalty time shall be as follows during playing periods:

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Minor Penalty:      | 2 Minutes  |
| Major Penalty:      | 5 Minutes  |
| Misconduct Penalty: | 10 Minutes |

**3.4.2** Penalty time shall begin at the drop of the puck following the penalty assessment.

- Only minor or major penalty time shall be displayed on arena clock.
- The Official Scorekeeper shall keep a record of the penalty time and notify the Timekeeper and/or the Penalty Box Assistant.
- This penalty time record shall be maintained separately from the arena clock and shall include “in” and “out” time.

**3.4.3** All minor officials shall have a thorough understanding of the penalty time(s) and expiration procedures.

### 3.5 Player Equipment

**3.5.1** All player equipment used in District 2 league games must conform to USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey rules.

**3.5.2** All helmets and facemasks must be H.E.C.C. approved.

**3.5.3** An internal colored (non-clear) mouthpiece, covering all the teeth in the upper jaw is mandatory for all players (including the goalkeepers) in all age classifications. This mouthpiece must be an unaltered one-piece unit, and attached to the facemask. (i.e. no string, etc.)

- Penalty - Misconduct (10 minutes)

**3.5.4** Jewelry shall not be worn by any player.

- Religious or medical medals must be taped to the body so as to remain covered by the uniform at all times. Players having exposed jewelry shall not be permitted to participate in the game. No exposed piercings are permitted.
- Penalty (*First Offense*) - Warning (article must be removed or taped to the body).
- Penalty (*Second Offense*) - Game Misconduct.

**3.5.5** All District 2 players, playing league games or scrimmages, must have a Minnesota Hockey approved STOP sign, or its equivalent to remain on the ice. If a player is removed because they have no STOP sign affixed to their jersey, they may return once the STOP sign has been affixed. Tournaments hosted by District 2 associations should note this in their Tournament Rules for Minnesota registered teams.

### 3.6 Inter-level Play

**3.6.1** In addition to MN Hockey rules (MN Hockey Youth Rules and Regulations Article VII Para. D.) regarding interlevel play (games or scrimmages) between classifications there shall be no interplay (games or scrimmages) between any Tier I and Tier II District 2 teams. (All District 2 teams are classified as Tier II.)

- For the first offense the Head Coach will be suspended for two (2) games.
- For the second offense the Head Coach will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

- 3.6.2** No District 2 association shall accept Tier I teams to play in any invitational tournaments they are hosting. Violation of this rule will be cause for the following penalties;
- a. For the first offense, the host association will not be allowed to host invitational tournaments at the division/classification (Bantam A, Peewee B, etc.) at which the violation occurred for the balance of the current season and the following season.
  - b. For the second offense within a three (3) year period, the association will not be allowed to host invitational tournaments at any level for the balance of the current season and the following season.

#### **4. SECTION 4.00 DISCIPLINE GUIDE**

##### **4.1 Reporting Procedure**

- 4.1.1** All parties involved in a conflict must wait until the next day after an incident and/or a problem occurs before they contact any District 2 Administrator. This policy is to allow for a “cooling off” period so that logical thinking can take place.
- 4.1.2** The first point of contact after an incident has occurred is with the Level Coordinator for that age classification or the Supervisor of Officials. The Level Coordinator/Supervisor of Officials will gather all pertinent details of the incident and then report to the District 2 Discipline Committee Chair.
- a. The District 2 Discipline Committee Chair will review all the details and take the appropriate action
  - b. The District 2 Discipline Committee Chair will then call a hearing, if warranted.
- 4.1.3** It is the responsibility of the coach to report any Game Misconduct or Match Penalties assessed in a game outside of District 2 to the League’s Level Coordinator of District 2 within 72 hours. This includes Game Misconduct or Match Penalties assessed during scrimmage games. Failure to report the penalties as outlined will result in a two (2) game suspension for the head coach.
- 4.1.4** Coaches, managers, players, parents, and others shall not contact the District 2 Director regarding any issue unless, first, the League’s Level Coordinator has been contacted regarding the issue, and second, the District President and Vice President have been contacted as well. This procedure clearly establishes a chain of command.

##### **4.2 Grievance/Disciplinary Hearings**

- 4.2.1** When a Match Penalty has been assessed (requiring the suspension of the player, coach, or manager), a hearing will be held. A maximum of three (3) persons will be heard from pertaining to the incident.
- a. Penalties Assessed to Individual Players
    1. Hearings will be held on a bi-weekly basis, if needed.
    2. Penalties will be served at the next regularly scheduled games (league game - not scrimmages) for penalties acquired during a scrimmage, a league game or the final game of a tournament.
  - b. Penalties Assessed to Entire Teams
    1. Special hearings for team penalties that require the suspension of a team will be held within seven (7) days of the incident.
    2. No participation of the team shall be allowed until the hearing is held.
    3. A maximum of three (3) persons will be heard from for each team at the hearing.
    4. Any games missed during the suspension period may be made up if so decided by the hearing committee.
- 4.2.2** Any suspension assessed during scrimmage/league games, must be served during the next regularly schedule league games.
- 4.2.3** The Hearing Committee will consist of the following persons:
- Voting Members: District 2 President (Chairperson), League’s Level Coordinator, and a District 2 Representative from a non-offending association.  
Nonvoting Members: District 2 Supervisor of Officials, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer, and the offending association’s District 2 Representative.

##### **4.3 League Suspensions**

- 4.3.1** The Hearing Committee will have the latitude to impose additional consequences when warranted.

- 4.3.2** A player, coach, or manager assessed a second Game Misconduct Penalty in the same hockey season, in any game, shall be reported to the District 2 Discipline Committee Chair. In addition to the normal suspension imposed by the second misconduct, the player, coach, or manager is required to attend a hearing.
- a. A player incurring a second suspension penalty shall be restricted from participating in any games or practices until the case has been dealt with by the proper authorities.
  - b. At the time of this hearing, additional consequences may be assessed and/or the situation resolved.
- 4.3.3** A player, coach, or manager assessed a second Match Penalty, during the current hockey season, in any game, shall automatically be suspended for the remainder of the current season, unless a special hearing reinstates the individual.

#### **4.4** Appeals

- 4.4.1** Players, team or league officials and others: The power to suspend any person shall be with the local governing body in accordance with their rules and regulations. Whoever is vested with this authority shall conduct a hearing. All parties involved in the incident and witnesses shall be given the opportunity to give their version of the facts.

Any person, team, league or local associations may appeal a grievable decision, in writing, to the District director for a period of ten (10) calendar days, after a decision was rendered or a hearing refused within its own league or association.

The District Director shall make a written determination within twelve (12) calendar days of receipt of a valid appeal. The decision of the District Director may be appealed, in writing, for a period of ten (10) calendar days to the cognizant Maroon Vice President, who will issue a written ruling within twelve (12) calendar days. Any decision of the Divisional Vice president may be appealed for a period of ten(10) calendar days to the MH Grievance Committee which must make a written determination within twelve (12) calendar days of receipt of a written appeal.

The decision of the Grievance Committee shall be final except as noted in MN Hockey By-Laws Article 6 Para. G.

- a. The Grievance/Disciplinary Committee shall, at its discretion, use any of the following procedures in making its determination, to wit:
  1. Hold preliminary fact finding meetings involving two or more members of the Grievance/Disciplinary Committee.
  2. Use the mail or conference calls as procedures, involving the full committee, or render either preliminary or final determinations of the grievance.
- b. Only 2 representatives for each person, team, league or local association making the appeal, in addition to two league officials, if any, shall be permitted to appear before the District Director at a Grievance/Disciplinary Committee fact finding meeting or Grievance/Disciplinary Committee meeting. Said representative(s) may, without a personal appearance, appear before the Grievance/Disciplinary Committee, or any subdivision thereof, through written statements and letters only.
- c. Appeals of protests involving league games must be submitted to the District Director or Grievance/Disciplinary Committee prior to the start of the District, Regional, or State tournaments.
- d. Protests involving league games and or problems must first be handled on the local level, or, in the case of a dispute in women's competition, by the Women's Hockey Association according to their grievance procedure (Woman's Hockey By-Laws, Article 6.)
- e. Any recourse to the courts of any jurisdiction by any member or individual before all of the rights and remedies available under the Articles and By-Laws of this association have been exhausted shall be deemed conduct detrimental to the best interests of hockey and a violation of the Articles and By-Laws of this association and create grounds for suspension and/or expulsion pursuant to the provisions of this Article.

## **5. SECTION 5.00 PLANNING**

### **5.1 District 2 Planning Schedule**

- 5.1.1** The following tasks are scheduled to take place:
- a. May/June Referee Fee Schedule Submitted
  - b. July Rule Revisions and Preliminary Budget
  - c. August All District 2 Member Associations shall finalize the number of traveling teams that

- d. September will participate in the league game schedule. Registration Coordinator's Training. All Member Associations shall turn in the ice hours they will be providing for league games. Each traveling team shall turn in their one (1) request for an "open" league schedule date. This "open" date is provided for entry into a tournament of their choosing.

**5.1.2** The following dates will also be "open" on the league schedule to allow teams to schedule tournaments and observe holidays:

- a. Thanksgiving Weekend
- b. Christmas Eve through New Year's Day

**5.1.3** District 2 "A" and "B" Bantam, PeeWee, Squirt Level Coaches' Meeting will be held in October. The league game schedule is distributed. Attendance by head coaches and team managers is mandatory and it is strongly recommended that assistant coaches attend as well. Head coaches not attending this meeting will be suspended from their first two league games.

- a. All questions regarding the schedule are to be directed to the Level Coordinators.
  1. NO COACHES OR MANAGERS ARE TO CALL THE ICE SCHEDULER.

**5.1.4** District 2 "C" & All Girls Level Coaches Meeting will be held in November. Attendance by head coaches and team managers is mandatory. It is strongly recommended that assistant coaches attend as well. Head coaches not attending this meeting will be suspended from their first two league games.

- a. All questions regarding the schedule are to be directed to the Level Coordinators.
  1. NO COACHES OR MANAGERS ARE TO CALL THE ICE SCHEDULER.

**5.1.5** District 2 Mite Level Coaches Meeting will be held in December. Attendance by head coaches and team managers is mandatory. It is strongly recommended that assistant coaches attend as well. Head coaches not attending this meeting will be suspended from their first two league games.

**5.1.6** Team Registration (A and B Level) - Date/Time and location varies per level. See D2website for information. (See Section 1.2.1)

All A and B team rosters will be presented for league verification to District 2 Administrators. All team league fees are due at this time. Each association will submit a check made out to District 2 for the total team league fees (or team league fees may be paid by each team). Each association will be assigned a specific registration time and date to assist with this process.

**5.1.7** All rosters must be filled out in the manner stated in Section 1.2.2, and submitted.

**5.1.8** Teams, belonging to associations with outstanding fines, will not be considered. Others will go through the verification process as follows:

1. The District 2 Administrators will verify every roster.
2. The roster will go to the District Director for signing. The appropriate copy will then be returned to each coach.
3. A check made out to Minnesota Hockey – District 2 will be submitted for league fees as noted.
4. A screening form will be submitted for each adult on a roster. Where an adult is rostered on multiple teams, a copy of the original will be submitted for subsequent teams.
5. Copies of CEP Education cards will be verified, according to Section 2.2. Those without verification will be noted. If a copy of the CEP card is not submitted to the Secretary by December 31, the team manager and association's Registrar will be directed to strike the coach from the roster.

## **5.2** Schedule Changes

**5.2.1** If a schedule change is necessary, the following procedure must be adhered to:

- a. The team requiring the schedule change will contact the opposing team's coach and/or manager to mutually agree on a date the game may be rescheduled to and receive written confirmation of the new game date.
- b. Submit a game rescheduling request form via the District 2 website. (See 5.2.3 below)
- c. Notification to ice scheduling committee chair and supervisor of officials in writing.
- d. The game must be played prior to one (1) week before the end of the season.

- 5.2.2** The team requiring the schedule change is required to supply the ice time for the rescheduled game and shall submit the rescheduling form for the requested change to the District in accordance to the Rescheduling form, **fourteen (14) days prior** to this originally scheduled date.

The following must be included:

1. Date and time of the rescheduled game.
  2. Location (arena) of the rescheduled game.
  3. Name and telephone number of coaches and/or manager of the teams playing the rescheduled game.
  4. Game change fee for the originally scheduled game - 1 check payable to "District 2" sent to the Vice President – address info on [d2hockey.org](http://d2hockey.org). Reschedule fee for all levels is \$100. Submission of rescheduling check must include all data pertaining to originally scheduled game.
- 5.2.4** In the event that none of the requested Blackout Weekends can be honored by the District 2 Ice Scheduling Committee and provided that said Blackout Weekend was originally requested by the required date presented in 3.1.4.3, the rescheduling fee for one weekend will be waived. (Example, if a team requests three Blackout Weekends and one is honored, the team is responsible for rescheduling fees for the other two weekends).
- 5.2.5** If rescheduling that game cannot be mutually agreed to, the team requesting the schedule change will forfeit the game. Forfeits will be recorded as a 3-0 score and any penalties in effect for forfeiting a game will be enforced.
- 5.2.6** The use of ice for the originally scheduled game will be the responsibility of the Home Team.
- 5.2.7** Forms - Forms for game rescheduling are available to be filled out and submitted on the District 2 website ([www.d2hockey.org](http://www.d2hockey.org) click on the "Forms" tab). No mailed in forms will be accepted.
- 5.2.8** Any team forfeiting a game will result in the head coach of that team being assessed a game misconduct penalty.
- 5.2.9** Games that are canceled within 48 hours of scheduled game time will be considered forfeits. Head coach(es) of forfeiting team(s) are subject to rule 5.2.8

### **5.3 District Administration**

- 5.3.1** District meetings are typically held on the third Sunday of each month. Check the district web site, [www.d2hockey.org](http://www.d2hockey.org) for complete information.
- 5.3.2** District meetings are needed to conduct business and a quorum is needed to be able to vote on matters. Due to the urgency of having a quorum, any association not represented at the monthly meeting will be assessed a \$100.00 fine.

## **6. SECTION 6.00 PLAY-OFFS**

- 6.1** District 2 League Playoffs will follow a 'tournament bracketing' format. Where there are an odd number of teams, and a knockout round is required, the losing team will have the costs associated with playoffs returned to them, upon request.
- 6.2** District 2 does not recognize host team status when District 2 hosts a regional or state tournament.
- 6.3** District 2 League Champions: District 2 league champions are not guaranteed a seed in the regional tournaments. All regional seeds will be filled by district playoffs. There is no format for B2 teams to advance to a regional tournament.
- 6.4** District 2 Play-Off Rules
- 6.4.1** All teams must have the following information available for the tournament officials (District Officer and League's Level coordinator):
- a. USA Hockey Roster Forms
  - b. Birth Certificates
  - c. Proof of Supplemental medical insurance.
  - d. CEP Cards for all coaches listed on the roster.

- 6.4.2** Coaches or managers must have their line-ups in the scorebook that the tournament official provides fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the game. **Home team throughout the playoffs is the higher seeded team.**
- 6.4.3** One and One-Half Hour (1.5 hours) Game Format Knock-out Rounds
- a. There will be three fifteen minute stop time periods. If a five (5) goal differential exists in the third period, running time will begin. If the differential becomes less than five (5) goals, stop time will resume.
  - b. Ice will be resurfaced after each game.
  - c. If the game is still tied at the end of the overtime period, team that is seeded higher will advance to the next round
- 6.4.4** One and One Half Hour (1.5 hours) game Format Final Eight Teams
- a. There will be three (3) fifteen minute stop time periods. If a five (5) goal differential exists in the third period, running time will begin. If the differential becomes less than five (5) goals, stop time will resume.
  - b. Ice will be resurfaced every two periods.
  - c. If a tie occurs at the end of regulation time, one (1) ten minute stop period, resurface, three (3) ten minute stop periods resurface, will be played until a winner is determined. A three-minute rest will occur between the end of the third period and the start of overtime. There will be a one (1) minute rest between any further overtime periods played. Ice resurfacing will take place after the equivalent of 3 complete periods is played unless otherwise decided by the D2 Tournament Director.
  - d. Each team will be permitted to take one (1) time-out of one (1) minute duration.
  - e. The start of the game listed is approximate. Each team will be at the arena forty-five (45) minutes before the scheduled game time and will be ready to start the game immediately after the conclusion of the preceding game. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
  - f. Medical technician will be present.
- 6.4.5** Admission Fees - Admission fees will be charged on the last day of play-offs (championship day) for Bantam, Pee wee, 14U and 12U games as follows:
- a. Adults: \$5.00
  - b. Minors (ages 12-18): \$2.00
  - c. Seniors: \$2.00
  - d. No Charge for children under the age of 12.

## **7. SECTION 7.00 PLAY-OFFS (C LEAGUE PEEWEE/BANTAM)**

- 7.1** A mandatory two game guarantee format playoff will be held for all C LEAGUE Pee wee and Bantam teams.
- 7.2** All teams must have the following information available for the tournament officials:
- a. USA Hockey Roster Forms
  - b. Birth Certificates
  - c. Proof of Supplemental medical insurance
  - d. CEP cards for coaches
- 7.3** Coaches or managers must have their line-ups in the scorebook that the tournament official provides fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the game. Home team throughout the playoffs is the higher seeded team.
- 7.4** Overtime will consist of one 5 minute running time period. If still tied after over time period, there will be a 5 player shootout. If still tied after 5 player shootout, the shootout will continue in sudden win format. No player shall repeat in shoot out until entire team (excluding goaltender) has shot.

## **8. SECTION 8.00 PLAYOFF PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS**

All District Regional and State Tournaments are staffed by District 2 association volunteers. It is the responsibility of each District 2 association to provide the personnel necessary to run the tournaments. In the event a position is not covered by the assigned volunteers during any of the above referenced tournaments, District 2 will assess a \$150 per person fine to the association whose worker or workers did not show up. **If a fine is incurred, no teams for the offending association will be registered until the fine has been paid.**