

## LEAGUE RESOURCE MATERIAL

USA Hockey's Adult Ice Hockey Program Resource Guidebook was created for adult league directors and arena operators after requests for a more detailed information on operating adult hockey programs. This guidebook addresses the most commonly asked questions from administrators with regard to adult hockey. Items addressed in the guidebook include tournament operations, league administration, online registration and player rating systems. For more information, or to obtain a copy, please email [adulthockey@usahockey.org](mailto:adulthockey@usahockey.org).

## AMERICAN COLLEGIATE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (ACHA)

USA Hockey has worked closely with the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) since 1997 to assist with the growth and playing opportunities available at the non-varsity college hockey level. The ACHA is an organizing body that helps to foster the growth of hockey at the non-varsity college level. There are currently 415 registered men's and women's non-varsity college hockey teams playing in five total divisions (Men's D1, Men's D2, Men's D3 and Women's D1, Women's D2) at arenas throughout the country. Players from the ACHA have represented USA Hockey and the United States at the Winter World University Games since 2001 and the men's and women's teams recorded their best finish in the 2014 games when the women's national university team earned a bronze medal. If you are interested in helping to start a non-varsity college hockey team please contact the adult hockey department at (719) 576-8724.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR ADULT HOCKEY PROGRAM:

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## THIS IS USA HOCKEY

USA Hockey provides the foundation for the sport of ice hockey in America; helps young people become leaders, even Olympic heroes; and connects the game at every level while promoting a lifelong love of the sport.

USA Hockey's primary emphasis is on the support and development of grassroots hockey programs. Its cutting-edge American Development Model, which was launched in January 2009, provides associations nationwide with a blueprint for age-appropriate athlete development. Always a leader in safety, USA Hockey furthered the enhancement of those efforts by advancing the USA Hockey SafeSport Program in June 2012.

While youth hockey is a main focus, USA Hockey also has vibrant junior and adult hockey programs that provide opportunities for players of all ability levels. The organization also supports a growing disabled hockey program.

Beyond serving those who play the game at the amateur level, USA Hockey has certification programs for coaches and officials, inclusive of industry-leading online education modules, to ensure standards are met that coincide with the level of play. Furthermore, a large focus is put on parent education with equipment needs, rules of the game and parental roles in youth sports among common topics.

Members of the organization are entitled to many benefits, including a subscription to *USA Hockey Magazine*, the most widely circulated hockey publication in the world; excess accident, general liability and catastrophic insurance coverage; access to USAHockey.com; and opportunities to participate in USA Hockey National Championships, as well as player development camps.

As the National Governing Body for the sport of ice hockey in the United States, USA Hockey is the official representative to the United States Olympic Committee and the International Ice Hockey Federation. In this role, USA Hockey is responsible for organizing and training men's and women's teams for international tournaments, including the IIHF World Championships and the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. USA Hockey also works closely with the National Hockey League and the National Collegiate Athletic Association on matters of mutual interest.

USA Hockey is divided into 12 geographical districts throughout the United States. Each district has a registrar to register teams; a referee-in-chief to register officials and organize clinics; a coach-in-chief to administer education programs for coaches; a risk manager to oversee liability and safety programs; and a skill development program administrator to facilitate learn-to-play programs. Within USA Hockey's 12 districts, a total of 34 affiliates provide the formal governance for the sport.



# ADULT HOCKEY PROGRAMS

*Benefits of Membership for Adult-Level Players (Ages 18 and Older)*



## BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

USA Hockey is often asked to explain the advantages associated with registering adult hockey teams and leagues with our organization. It is not one benefit that is the most important, but it is the total package. Consider the following:

### ONLINE MEMBERSHIP

Online registration is available to all adult ice hockey players and all adult leagues. This is a streamlined process that allows a player to become a member through usahockeyregistration.com. Online membership with USA Hockey can also be integrated into your existing website.

### NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY

An intangible benefit of membership is belonging to a growing National Governing Body which trains and selects Men's and Women's National Teams at various levels, including the squads that compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. In addition, you become united with more than a million total members, including 160,000-plus adult players alone.

### UNIFORM PLAYING RULES

When registering with USA Hockey, a league makes the decision to follow the Official Playing Rules of USA Hockey. In an unregistered league, the rules could be drastically more or less stringent, and they might be changed in mid-season. Less stringent rules and selective enforcement could add up to be a disaster waiting to happen. Members tend to play safer when they have balanced rules and qualified referee enforcement. USA Hockey has councils, committees and staff members that focus their efforts on creating safer playing conditions.

### LOCAL BODIES – SANCTION & DISCIPLINE

If a player, coach, team official, referee or other person receives a suspension for playing-rules violations, the rink/league can have confidence that the state or affiliate is in place to sanction and uphold such appropriate disciplinary actions.

### ADULT PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES

USA Hockey provides many different playing opportunities for adult men and women including: Adult Classics, National Championships, Pond Hockey and our newest opportunity, the NHL Pro Series. All players and teams must be USA Hockey-registered members to compete in these tournaments. Additionally, USA Hockey is committed to growing the game for adult men and women by continuing to add new programs such as the Adult First Goal Program.

### ADULT FIRST GOAL PROGRAM

The Adult First Goal Program is a joint-effort between USA Hockey and its registered leagues to help introduce adults to the sport of hockey. It provides free Adult First Goal Starter Equipment that can be used in existing or new learn to play programs for adults.

### REFEREE TRAINING PROGRAM

The officiating program at USA Hockey includes more than 26,000 trained, certified officials. Each year, every official must attend a seminar and pass a rules exam. Each district's referee-in-chief utilizes regional instructors to conduct seminars. The officiating program has developed a full line of instructional materials for on-ice officials and most recently, a manual for off-ice officials such as timekeepers and scorekeepers.

### COACHING EDUCATION PROGRAM

USA Hockey's Coaching Education Program includes five levels of certification for coaches, from beginners to highly skilled experts. A registered coach's membership fee for playing is waived.

### USA HOCKEY MAGAZINE/USAHOCKEY.COM

Published throughout the year, *USA Hockey Magazine* is one of the primary communication vehicles of USA Hockey and the world's most widely distributed hockey publication. The organization's official web site, usahockey.com, also provides up-to-the-minute coverage of news and events specifically related to adult hockey in the United States as well as countless member services, including online registration.

### INSURANCE COVERAGES

There are three insurance coverages that are designed to protect registered members of USA Hockey while participating as a member of a registered team during a USA Hockey-sanctioned game, a USA Hockey-sanctioned tournament game, controlled scrimmage or practice session involving ice hockey. These coverages include:

#### General Liability

Provides broad legal liability protection for USA Hockey and USA Hockey affiliated organizations, their officers, directors, coaches, managers, officials, players, sponsors and volunteers against lawsuits arising due to accidental bodily injury that results from a claim of negligence being brought against them while acting within the scope of their responsibilities on behalf of USA Hockey.

The policy is written on an occurrence form with a limit of \$2,000,000 per occurrence and without a general aggregate limit. Products-Completed Operations does, however, have a \$2,000,000 aggregate.

All sanctioned activities necessary or incidental to the conduct of practice, exhibition, post season and scheduled games including, but not limited to, fundraising, meetings and award banquets are covered by this basic legal liability policy.

#### Sports Accident

Coverage for excess medical expenses for medical and dental expenses, with no deductible for each covered accident, if there is other valid and collectible insurance in force at the time of the accident. A deductible will apply if no other valid and collectible insurance is in force at the time of the accident. The deductible

portion up to \$1,000 of any primary insurance is neither covered nor eligible for reimbursement. The company will pay up to a \$50,000 maximum for covered expenses; includes \$2,000 of dental coverage.

The first covered expenses must be incurred within 30 days of the accidental bodily injury. There are limited dental and physical therapy benefits.

#### Catastrophic Medical

This is coverage provided to protect participants in USA Hockey sanctioned events from serious "catastrophic" injury, which may include major surgery, internal injury or even permanent paralysis cases. The coverage provides up to \$2,000,000 of lifetime benefits per catastrophic injury. The plan has a \$25,000 deductible which may be met by other insurance either through an employer's, or our sports accident (excess medical) coverage.

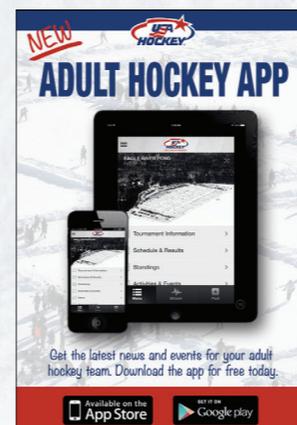
As with any policy, there are other exclusions and limitations specific to this coverage that appear in the master policy. For more information, contact USA Hockey, Inc. at (719) 576-8724.

## USA HOCKEY ADULT EVENTS

### EVENTS APP

The Adult Hockey Events App is the best way to stay informed, navigate and connect with fans & participants at the USA Hockey Adult events. The app is available on Apple Store and Google Play.

- Follow real-time scores, standings and results of games from every venue during the tournament.
- View upcoming schedules for your team or any team that you are interested in following.
- Receive push notifications with important updates for athletes and fans.
- Upload photos, videos and posts while at the tournament to share experiences with other participants and fans.



### ONLINE EVENT REGISTRATION

Registration is even easier with online event registration for all adult hockey events.

### HOCKEY CLASSICS

USA Hockey sponsors an annual series of recreational, non-checking tournaments for adult players. These tournaments are open to registered teams in Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Over-30, Over-40 and Women's divisions, and all are held in destination locations, such as Lake Placid, Ft. Lauderdale, Las Vegas and Dallas.

### LABATT BLUE/USA HOCKEY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

USA Hockey conducts eight different levels of Labatt Blue/USA Hockey National Championship tournaments. There are seven non-check divisions (Novice, 60-and-Over, 50-and-Over, 40-and-Over, 30-and-Over and 30-, 40- and 50-and-Over Women's). All teams competing are state champions, Adult Classic champions or sanctioned qualifiers.

### LABATT BLUE/USA HOCKEY POND HOCKEY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

USA Hockey will return to Eagle River, Wisconsin, for the 10th year to offer the 2015 Labatt Blue/USA Hockey Pond Hockey National Championships. The event has grown from 40 teams in 2006 to 341 in 2014. This unique playing opportunity features 18 men's and women's divisions with boards made of snow banks and over 280 teams. The 2015 Labatt Blue/USA Hockey Pond Hockey National Championships will take place February 6-8 on Dollar Lake.



### ADULT SKILLS CLINICS

USA Hockey invites you to participate in our adult hockey skills clinic because you are never too old to improve your hockey skills! The purpose of these clinics is to provide adults 21 years of age and older a fun, relaxed atmosphere to further develop the basic skills of hockey such as skating, shooting and passing. Beginners to intermediate level players are welcome and our clinics are first-come, first-served.

### NHL ADULT EVENTS

USA Hockey's adult hockey department has teamed up with the NHL's Anaheim Ducks, Detroit Red Wings, Los Angeles Kings, Columbus Blue Jackets, Florida Panthers, Nashville Predators and others to present adult hockey specific events such as adult skills clinics, adult try hockey for free and adult tournaments.