



River Falls Youth Hockey Association

Constitution

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I. MISSION STATEMENT

Provide the opportunity for the youth of River Falls and the surrounding area to participate in an organized hockey program coordinated with High School program and other community resources.

II. CONSTITUTION

A. ARTICLE I: Name

1. The name of this organization shall be the River Falls Youth Hockey Association (RFYHA).

B. ARTICLE II: Purpose

1. The purpose of this organization shall be:
 - a. To actively promote youth hockey in River Falls and the surrounding area.
 - b. To work cooperatively with UWRF, and the school system, park board and community of River Falls.
 - c. To provide financial support for River Falls youth hockey program.
 - d. To provide the opportunity for River Falls youth to participate in an amateur hockey program.
 - e. To promote social development and peer interaction through team play.
 - f. To teach leadership, responsibility, good sportsmanship and the principles of fair play.
 - g. To provide for the physical and psychological development of each skater through proper coaching and training.
 - h. To promote safe play through the use of proper facilities and equipment.
 - i. To promote parental involvement and understanding of the principles of the game, good sportsmanship and fair play. To encourage parental support of the philosophies of the program.

C. **ARTICLE III: Membership**

1. Members shall consist of the parent(s) of legal guardian(s) of any player properly registered with the RFYHA. Each parent/legal guardian shall receive one vote. No child shall have more than two voting parents or legal guardians.
2. Membership shall be open to all those interested in hockey. This organization shall not discriminate against any person or organization on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or sexual preference.
3. Members must remain in good standing, and to do so are required to:
 - a. Remain current on all registration fees.
 - b. Participate in all required fund raisers
 - c. Work required association event including tournaments
 - d. Adhere to the “Code of Conduct” as defined in the Policy Handbook.
4. All coaches are considered members. Others may gain membership upon approval of the board.

D. **ARTICLE IV: Governing Body**

1. The primary governing body shall be the board of directors which shall:
 - a. Consist of at least 8 persons up to 12 persons elected from and by the membership for three year terms each. These terms are to be staggered, four positions open per year.
 - b. Have officers of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The board of directors will choose the officers of the board.
 - c. Be positions that are not paid are on a volunteer basis.
2. It is the responsibility of the board of directors to:
 - a. Transact all business and affairs of the association.
 - b. Establish its own procedures and rules of order for its meetings. It shall meet at the annual meeting and at other times as directed by the President.
 - c. Arrange of the annual meeting and publish a notice to the membership of it's time and place.
 - d. Maintain a set of policies, list of committees and their responsibilities, and codes of conduct for players, coaches and parents.
 - e. Set league membership for the association.
3. Elections:
 - a. The board shall annually appoint a nominating committee, sometime prior to the annual meeting, to consist of at least three people from the association. One member shall be from the board, and the other two from the membership. This committee shall prepare a slate of

- candidates for vacancies on the board to be voted on at the annual meeting.
- b. Only members in good standing in the RFYHA are eligible to be elected to the board.
 - c. Members will be elected at the annual meeting; a plurality of those present and voting shall be necessary for election.
 - d. Newly elected members shall take office at the next scheduled board meeting to take place within 30 days after the annual meeting.
4. Vacancies on the board caused by resignations:
- a. May be filled by appointment by the President upon approval of the board; such appointees are to hold office and finish out the term of the resigned.
 - b. May be left vacant until the next annual meeting if the board so elects.
5. Suspension and Expulsion from the Board of Directors
- a. Board members that fail to attend three successive board meetings without reason given to the president in writing or verbally are automatically removed from the board.
 - b. Board members that fail to attend meetings; don't participate in committee meetings for which they are responsible or miss three successive committee meetings without reason given to the committee chair in writing are automatically removed from the board.
 - c. Board members that knowingly violate the RFYHA constitution, policies and rules or fail to meet their board obligations are subject to suspension by a two-thirds majority vote of the board of directors at any regular or specially called board meeting.

E. ARTICLE V: Officer's Duties

1. The President:

- a. Oversees the operations of the association, preside over the board of directors, and has the power to call for special meeting as necessary.
- b. Serves as a liaison officer to community groups interested in hockey.
- c. Makes all appointments as provided by the Constitution and the policies.
- d. Signs the tax returns for the association.

2. The Vice-President

- a. Serves in place for the President in case of absence.
- b. Carries out any other assignments as given by the President.
- c. Oversees association committee chairs.

3. **The Secretary:**

- a. Takes minutes at all board meetings and distributes copies to all board members.
- b. Issues notices of the association, including the newsletter.
- c. Keeps a membership roster.
- d. Shall keep record of all association documents including board meeting minutes.

4. **The Treasurer:**

- a. Receives and deposits all money accruing to the association.
- b. Receives and pays all legitimate bills of the association
- c. Keeps an accurate set of financial records and makes them available for annual audit.
- d. Provides necessary documentation to the finance committee for review.
- e. Provides final reports to specific fund raising committee chairs for review.
- f. Produces a balance sheet and any other treasurer reports for each meeting.
- g. Is required to prepare the documentation necessary for the preparation of the tax returns of the association.
- h. Makes provisions for the preparation of the tax returns and the annual audit.
- i. Files the tax returns for the association.
- j. Serves as the chair of the finance committee
- k. Prepares and updates the association budget as needed.

F. **ARTICLE VI: Meetings**

1. Board meetings are held at the discretion of the board or upon request of the membership.
2. All meetings are open to the public.
3. There shall be at least one annual meeting of the membership each year, normally held in the spring.
4. A quorum will be defined as a majority of the board of directors at any regular, annual, or special meeting.
5. No alcohol or smoking is allowed during association meetings.

G. **ARTICLE VII: Adoption**

The original Constitution was adopted by majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting held in March 1973. This document was voted on at the annual meeting on May 4, 1997 and ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and eligible to vote at that meeting. The Constitution and bylaws (now called policies) were revised and accepted by members at the October 25, 1998 meeting. Article 8 was voted on and accepted by members at the April 9, 2000 annual meeting. Article 4, section 5 was voted on and accepted by the members at the April 22, 2007 annual meeting. Article IV change, was voted on and accepted by members at the April 7th, 2011 annual meeting.

H. **ARTICLE VIII: Authority to Enter Contracts**

At the direction of the River Falls Youth Hockey Board of Directors, any two (2) of the following officers jointly shall have the authority to enter binding legal contracts on behalf of the association: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Any such contract shall be in writing and subject to approval by the Board of Directors before the contract is entered. Contracts shall include, but not limited to, loan documents, rent and lease obligations, purchase contracts, and any other contractual commitments involving the financial interest of the Association.

I. **ARTICLE IX: Amendments**

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and eligible to vote at any association meeting provided the membership is given at least one week's notice of the proposed amendment changes.

All other issues not covered by this Constitution will be covered under RFYHA policies and may be changed by a majority vote of the board of directors at any meeting.

J. **ARTICLE X: General Association Provisions**

1. This association adheres to USA Hockey and WAHA Hockey rules and regulations and during the years that this association participates in MAHA Hockey will adhere to those rules also.
2. This organization is limited to the purpose of charitable and educational means as set forth in section 501 (c) (3) of the internal revenue code.
3. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall be passed on for benefit of, or be distributed to its members, directors, officers, or other private persons; except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable and legitimate compensation for services rendered.
4. In the event of dissolution, any remaining assets shall be distributed to other organizations that operate for charitable and educational purposes under section 501 (c) (3) of the internal revenue code.

