



**AS APPROVED JUNE 16, 2016**

**Declaration Rules:**

The purpose of this document is to establish, for the 2016-2017 CHC Hockey Season, rules, procedures, league configurations, and post season state tournaments.

Squirt (U10), PeeWee (U12), and Bantam (U14) teams will play all games as non-tiered and ranked periodically throughout the season by [www.CTHockeyRatings.com](http://www.CTHockeyRatings.com). The end of season rankings will determine team placement for CHC Tier 2, Tier 3, and Tier 4 State tournaments.

**I. Season Dates:**

- a. The CHC Squirt through Bantam regular season will begin on Friday, September 16, 2016, and end on Sunday, February 5, 2017.
- b. All CHC Squirt through Bantam games played prior to Friday, September 16, 2016 will not count towards rankings.
- c. All CHC Squirt through Bantam make-up games must be played by Sunday, February 12, 2017.
- d. The CHC Tier 1 & 2 Midget Regular Season will begin on Friday, September 2, 2016, and end on Sunday, October 30, 2016, (subject to change).

**II. Mites:**

The following structure of mite play is designed to further implement USA Hockey's American Development Model and is based on the revised rules and requirements as implemented by USA Hockey. The mite structure shall be as follows:

- a. All teams default to Tier 4 for the entire season.
- b. Teams are to declare either Full-Ice, or Cross-Ice.
- c. Players with a birth year of 2008 and 2009 are allowed to play Full-Ice.
- d. Players with a birth year of 2010 and younger are not allowed to play Full-Ice.
- e. **Beginning December 25, 2016**, full-ice declared teams are allowed a maximum of six full-ice games, and one full-ice tournament. No full-ice games are to be played prior to this date.
- f. Cross-Ice is defined as an ice surface no longer than 100 feet. This is the longest playing dimension allowed. There are no exceptions.
- g. USA Hockey has advised that if cross-ice declared teams choose to play on ice surfaces longer than 100 feet – insurance will not be in effect for **all parties** involved with this event.
- h. Teams have the choice of participating in their respective CHC's end of season full-ice tournaments, and cross-ice jamborees.
- i. ADM guidelines are to be utilized.
- j. Unless directed otherwise by the CHC, Cross-Ice will be used for all practices.

**Enforcement:**

1. Teams violating the cap on full ice games will be fined \$500.00, and suspension of the rostered coaches for one month from the date of the violation.
2. Cross-Ice teams choosing to play on ice surfaces longer than 100 feet, will be fined \$750.00, and suspension of the rostered coaches for one month from the date of the violation.
3. Further sanctions may be levied by the Board of Directors after a hearing before the Executive Committee.

### III. Squirt (U10), Pee Wee (U12), Bantam (U14):

Teams can schedule games with any team, ('A' through 'C' or color designation) of their choosing.

Knowing that many programs have multiple teams at a given level, team schedulers need to pay close attention and work with their coaches when formulating their schedules.

#### a. **Game Requirements:**

1. A minimum of 26 games vs. CHC teams are required.
2. All CHC Squirt & PeeWee games will utilize a max. differential of 6 goals.
3. Each **program** is required to play a minimum of one team at each age classification (age level) in each of the other 10 regions. **If a program has multiple teams at a specific age classification, those remaining teams are not required (but strongly encouraged) to play in those regions.**
4. Teams that schedule with outlining teams, (Kent, Pawling, Putnam, Salisbury, Griffin, Southeast, Enfield), are required to schedule home & home games, unless both teams agree in writing.
5. **Teams will be allowed two game cancellations during the season.** (When ice & referee costs are incurred due to last minute cancellations, those matters are to be resolved between the teams of record - typical to prior seasons).
6. **If a team cancels more than two games** – the team will be disqualified from all state tournament play. (Games in which both teams mutually agree to cancel do not count against their two game limit).
7. **Game cancellations are not allowed during the last three weeks of the season.**
8. The CHC strongly encourages teams to utilize all available means to **re-schedule** games in lieu of cancelling.
9. The CHC (when requested) will resolve all disputes resulting from game cancellations.
10. Scoresheets are to be emailed to the respective conference director within 48 hrs. (24 hrs. if assessed major or match penalties).
11. **Fulfillment of CHC game requirements is the top priority.** Any team that does not make the necessary schedule accommodations to play all required games will have failed to meet the requirements to be eligible for State Tournament play, and will therefore be excluded from consideration for the State Tournament. There will be no exceptions.

#### b. **Rankings:**

1. CHC will utilize [www.CThockeyRatings.com](http://www.CThockeyRatings.com) to rank all teams.
2. Rankings will be published on the following dates:
  - a. November 1, 2016.
  - b. December 1, 2016.
  - c. January 1, 2017.
  - d. January 22, 2017.
  - e. February 12, 2017.

#### c. **Tier Awards / Team Placement:**

At the end of the CHC regular season, rankings will be compiled and teams will be awarded the following for each age classification **in the following order:**

##### **Tier 2: (Squirt (U10), PeeWee (U12), Bantam (U14):**

The top eight ranked teams at each age classification will participate in their respective CHC Tier 2 State Tournament.

##### **Tier 3: (Squirt (U10), PeeWee (U12), Bantam (U14):**

The next twelve ranked teams at each age classification, will participate in their respective CHC Tier 3 State Tournament.

##### **Tier 4: (Squirt (U10), PeeWee (U12), Bantam (U14):**

1. The next twelve teams at each age classification will default to the CHC Tier 4 **State Championship.**
2. The remaining teams at each age classification default to CHC Tier 4 **Traditional Tournaments.**

### IV. Opt-Outs:

- a. Teams will be given the opportunity to decline participation in CHC State Tournaments.
- b. The deadline to opt-out is **December 10, 2016**, and must be forwarded to my attention via email by this date.

## **V. Tournaments (Misc.):**

- a. All teams MUST BE in Good Standing with CHC at the end of the CHC Season. Teams not in good standing at the end of the CHC Season will be excluded from tournament play in the 2016-2017 Tournament Season.
- b. In order to be eligible for Tournament play, each CHC Program must have paid, at a minimum, the required Tournament Deposit of \$500 per declared team. **Deposits need to be paid to the CHC by November 6, 2016.**
- c. If a program has not paid their deposit, no team from that program will be allowed to compete in any tournaments. There will be no exceptions.
- d. ***Out of state full-member programs (Pawling, Putnam) are eligible to participate if they qualify in all CHC tournaments. But Tier 2 and Tier 3 teams cannot advance beyond the state level due to residency. If teams from these programs qualify for advancement – the top Connecticut team from the State Tournament will replace them.***
- e. Teams that are approved by the CHC to roster any player from a higher age classification (playing down) will default to Tier 4.

## **VI. CHC STATE Tournaments & Dates (Subject to Change):**

- a. All CHC State tournament dates are in the process of being finalized.
- b. CHC Tier 2 post season tournaments will begin in February of 2017 and will continue through Sunday April 2, 2017.
- c. CHC Tier 3 post season tournaments will begin in February of 2017 and will continue through Sunday April 2, 2017.
- d. CHC Tier 4 post season tournaments will begin in February of 2017 and will continue through Sunday April 2, 2017.
- e. Although all dates are tentative and subject to change, teams can expect to play their tournament games anytime between those dates.

## **VII. USA HOCKEY REGIONAL / SECTIONAL / NATIONAL Tournaments & Dates (Subject to Change):**

### **USA Hockey Tier 2 Regionals: (March 17 – 19, 2017):**

Squirt (U10): (Rhode Island)

- The Winner and Runner-Up will be required to represent CT at the Tier 2 Regional Tournament.

Pee Wee (U12): (New Hampshire)

- The Winner and Runner-Up will be required to represent CT at the Tier 2 Regional Tournament.

### **USA Hockey Tier 3 Sectionals: (March 24 – 26, 2017):**

Squirt (U10): (Massachusetts)

- The Winner and Runner-Up will be required to represent CT at the Tier 3 Sectional Tournament.

Pee Wee (U12): (Vermont)

- The Winner and Runner-Up will be required to represent CT at the Tier 3 Sectional Tournament.

Bantam (U14): (New Hampshire)

- The Winner and Runner-Up will be required to represent CT at the Tier 3 Sectional Tournament.

### **USA Hockey Tier 2 Nationals: (April 6 – 10, 2017):**

Bantam (U14): (Florida)

- The Winner will be required to represent CT at the Tier 2 National Tournament.

**Regional Play Map:**

