

STAHA POLICES

Article I. PHILOSOPHY

SECTION 1.01 GENERAL PROVISIONS - The policies of STAHA are based upon the following philosophies;

- (a) We're in it for the kids and ***THEIR*** development & enjoyment,
- (b) The ***WHOLE*** is always greater than the sum of its parts,
- (c) Self serving agendas are ***CRIMES*** of passion,
- (d) ***SPORTSMANSHIP*** is the product of adult behavior,
- (e) ***LONGEVITY*** is a product of youth.
- (f) It takes a village...

Article II. DISCRIMINATION - Discrimination shall be defined as *the unfair or abusive treatment of one person or group, usually because of prejudice about race, ethnicity, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation or ability.*

SECTION 2.01 Discrimination in any form or fashion is unacceptable behavior and will not be tolerated. Any participant, whether adult or youth, discriminating will not only lose all program privileges but may be prosecuted by law enforcement officials to the fullest extent of the law.

Article III. MEMBERSHIPS

SECTION 3.01 In many cases it may be required for participating youths to enroll as a member in more than one association, which may result in increased costs to be borne by said member.

- (a) All Developmental Program participants as well as Recreational Program participants and those programs will be registered with Ice Skating Institute (ISI) who provide insurance coverage for its members.

- (b) Any Recreational Travel and Travel Hockey Teams participating in regional league, tournament or tier team endeavors and their respective rostered participants and coaches will be enrolled as members with USA Hockey (USAH) who provide insurance coverage for its members.

Article IV. INSURANCE

SECTION 4.01 The rink does not provide insurance for any participant, volunteer, coach, bystander or other person involved in ice hockey. Any person within the ice arena accepts their own risk and acknowledges the inherent risks associated with ice hockey for participants as well as viewers. Anyone desiring risk insurance coverage is encouraged to become a member of an association who can provide such insurance.

Article V. RISK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SECTION 5.01 Ice hockey is an event subjected to risks not usual in other sporting events, which could affect both participants and viewers alike. Therefore, anyone participating in or viewing hockey events assumes their own risk.

Article VI. GOOD STANDING AGREEMENT

SECTION 6.01 Any and all participants, coaches or volunteers agree to comply with all STAHA policies, rules & regulations and bylaws, including but not limited to STAHA's Pledge of Honor & Sportsmanship, and who stays financially current¹ in all program enrollment fees, dues and other such payments as may required for their participations shall be considered in "Good Standing".

ARTICLE VII. REGISTRATION PROCESS

¹ Financially current means that any payments owed to the Corporation are not more than 30 days late. Payments for programs including memberships fees and dues are due and payable upon registration into said program but most certainly BEFORE any participant "takes the ice".

SECTION 7.01 In order to gain access to programs each participant for any program offered by STAHA must complete and provide the following:

- (a) Registration Form,
- (b) Medical Release / Consent to Treat Form,
- (c) Pledge of Honor & Sportsmanship (hockey programs only),

(1) Both individual for participant and Family for parents and siblings shall be required.

- (d) Payment in full or a signed STAHA approved payment plan on file if available.

Article VIII. PROGRAMS

SECTION 8.01 DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM (progressional) - This program is progressional such that one program may be a prerequisite for another. Each program is established with its own objectives, which shall be focused on skill development. These programs are focused on developing those skills required for the participant to advance to the next program in the progression. Some programs may have overlap with other programs. Most programs will be on shared ice with other programs.

SECTION 8.02 RECREATIONAL PROGRAM - This program is a league based game oriented program with less focus on skill development than Developmental Program. Demonstration of sufficient skill level shall be required prior to entry into league. Players will be assigned to a team by Recreational Director or his assigned or through a draft. Depending on turn out there may be two leagues; Basic level & Intermediate level. Should there be one league with a mixture of Basic an Intermediate level players they ill be split up whereby each team will play intermediate players versus intermediate players and so forth. Certain rules shall apply that will assure no one player may take control of the outcome of the game. All games will end in "Bear Claw Shootout". Two points will

be awarded for each game; 1 point for regulation win and 1 point for Bear Claw Shootout. Rules will apply that assure fairness and equal opportunity.

SECTION 8.03 RECREATIONAL TRAVEL - From time to time the Recreational Program may schedule modified travel game versus other regional recreational (in-house) programs. These games are voluntary and are at additional cost (including home games). The costs for these recreational travel games versus other programs are not in any way included in any registration fee of any recreational program offered by STAHA. Unless otherwise announced any cost associated with home game including but not limited to ice time, officials, etc., versus another club will be borne by the STAHA participants participating in said home games. In order to assure honor, sportsmanship and fair play as well as to prevent blowouts for either team provisions will be established to prevent individuals from controlling the outcome of the game. All recreational games will conclude with a Bear Claw Shootout. Unless otherwise announced no STAHA participant currently rostered on a non-recreational Travel team (e.g. NORCAL, SWYHL, etc.) will be permitted to play in recreational travel games and tournaments. MVP of any home game or tournament shall be that player generating the most assists.

SECTION 8.04 TRAVEL HOCKEY - This program is designed for those participants desiring competitive play versus other league teams where winning is a priority although not at the sake of sportsmanship and who recognizes that personal sacrifices², at times, are required to ensure team success. Travel hockey teams will have unbiased and objective tryouts conducted by the Travel Hockey Director, the Coaching Director and the team's respective Head Coach who shall collectively select each team. Any dispute of players making the roster or not shall be solved by majority vote.

² Personal sacrifice in no way implies any participants would ever be expected to either put themselves in harms way, harm him or her or another.

Article IX. ON ICE ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 9.01 General Provisions - Only those participants who have completed the registration process and are in good standing are entitled to “take the ice” during any program, offered by STAHA.

ARTICLE X. COACHING

SECTION 10.01 Selection Process - Any adult interested in coaching any program shall submit to STAHA Coaching Director his/her request in writing via approved method of correspondence³. From those submitted entries the STAHA Coaching Director shall select the candidate he/she feels can best carry out the objectives of the program in the best interests of the participants.

SECTION 10.02 Objectives & Requirements - Each Head Coach selected by the Coaching Director accepts full responsibility for all team or program issues.

- (a) Head Coaches are responsible for understanding the objectives of their respective team or program and ensuring the policies and procedures of SLAHA and its program are adhered to even in their absence.
- (b) Each Head Coach is responsible to ensure his/her Assistant Coaches adhere to the policies and procedures of SLAHA and its programs.
- (c) Head coaches are responsible to ensure Assistant coaches effectively carry out practice plans in the event of their absence.
- (d) Each Head Coach shall submit their season practice plan to the Coaching Director for approval. Head Coaches shall faithfully execute their approved seasonal plan.

³ see STAHA Bylaws for approved method of communications

- (e) Each Head Coach shall be expected to regularly communicate to the participants and their respective families progress and concerns relative to the team and its mission.
- (1) Each participant is entitled to receive an evaluation authorized by his/her respective head coach no more than twice a season.
- (f) For travel teams each participant and rostered player shall be entitled to from the Head Coach a preseason evaluation as well as a follow up evaluation in January designed to illustrate strengths, weaknesses and improvements made during the course of the season.
- (g) All coaches, Heads and Assistants, are expected to direct the development of the participants and not to participate in drills and practices unless it is to demonstrate a skill or drill. Coaches are NEVER to practice their own skills during practices.
- (H) All coaches are required to be present at least eighty percent (80%) of team events including practices, games, etc. ces of STATA, its bylaws and other official printed material. Only the President of the Organization can reinstate any coach whose privileges have been suspended or expelled.

Article XI. PLAYING UP

SECTION 11.01 General Provisions - Playing up shall be discouraged in the best interests of the growth of STAHA hockey teams and their respective participants as SLAHA feels players benefit from an introductory year as well as a mastering year at each playing level. Only in rare cases will players be permitted to play up. Conditions to playing up shall be:

- (a) Player must be in the second year of his/her age designation (e.g. a first year bantam cannot play midget),
- (b) The player desiring to play up has to be not only able to compete at the advanced level but able to excel at the advanced level at the discretion of the Coaching Director.
- (c) Player must have the written consent of the Head Coach of the team for which they would otherwise be playing (proper age division) and provide a release from all of their parents or guardians.

ARTICLE XII. COST CONTROLS

SECTION 12.01 GENERAL PROVISIONS - Wherever possible STAHA shall strive to minimize costs and offset costs where possible. STAHA is committed to bring the cost of hockey down such that those who would not have had the opportunity to participate in hockey programs can enjoy the game.

SECTION 12.02 FUNDRAISING - Ice hockey can be a prohibitively expensive sport. These costs can be offset with prudent fundraising efforts. A portion of all dollars raised through fundraising as shall be determined by the Board each year shall go into the General Administrative account of STAHA whose proceeds will be used to help offset general corporate expenses including marketing as well as provide financial support for its sponsorship programs. STAHA will conduct its fundraising efforts through the following means:

- (a) Player/Jersey Sponsors for those playing on non recreational Travel Teams,
- (b) STAHA logo wear,
- (c) Crab/Ham Fundraiser during 4th quarter of each year,
- (d) Corporate Sponsors,

- (e) Non-Corporate Benefactors.

SECTION 12.03 UNIFORMS

- (a) All uniforms will be of sufficient grade to have a life expectancy of 2 years given proper care and maintenance. Jerseys for Developmental and Recreational Programs will be of “practice” quality. Travel and Recreational Travel will be of NHL replica quality. Logos and artwork will be printed rather than sewn where possible.
- (b) Uniforms for Travel & tournament teams will be provided at additional cost to the participants.