

A team manager who is not registered as a coach may not participate in on-ice activities or be on the bench during games.

The team manager shall be the custodian of all documents necessary for credential review prior to participation in invitational tournaments and district, regional and national championships. See Section IX: District Playoffs and National Championships, Subsection P. for complete listing.

VII. PLAYING RULES

USA Hockey will publish two official playing rules books – one that will pertain to all teams and leagues registered in the Youth, Adult and Girls ice hockey classifications and one that will pertain to all teams and leagues registered in the Junior classifications. In addition, USA Hockey shall make available on the USA Hockey website, on or before August 1 of the current membership season, the Official Rules of Sled Hockey, which shall contain all sled hockey specific rules that are not covered in the Official Rules of Ice Hockey. All constituent members must abide by the appropriate rulebook. Constituent members include all teams registered with USA Hockey as well as the leagues in which these teams are playing. No other playing rules book will be allowed.

Any requested modifications to the playing rules by any Affiliate or local league must be submitted to the district referee-in-chief for their review. The district referee-in-chief will then submit their recommendation to the USA Hockey Playing Rules Committee who shall make the final decision.

For the Junior version of the USA Hockey playing rules, any requested modifications to the playing rules shall be submitted to the Junior Council for review and recommendation prior to final review and approval by the USA Hockey Playing Rules Committee.

These requests must be submitted in writing prior to the start of each season and no later than August 15.

Changes to the above policy can be made from time to time by the Executive Committee.

VIII. GAMES, EXHIBITION GAMES, INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS, SANCTIONED LEAGUES AND SANCTIONED EVENTS

In order to be eligible to be awarded USA Hockey district/affiliate tournaments, national tournaments or coaching/officiating clinics, the host facility must be a United States Ice Rink Association member and register all of its ice hockey programs/leagues with USA Hockey. Exceptions can be granted with the approval of the appropriate council.

- A. Definition of a Game:** An ice hockey game is a contest played against another team which is registered with USA Hockey or a member organization of the IIHF. USA Hockey playing rules or approved modification thereof shall apply.
- (1) The age appropriate standard playing surface at 8 & Under is cross-ice or half-ice.
 - (2) Subject to limited exceptions as are approved by the USA Hockey Player Development Committee, all games and scrimmages at the 8U age level

shall be played either cross-ice or half-ice, or on a surface that is equal to or less than the dimensions of cross-ice or half-ice. Each Affiliate shall enact applicable rules and regulations to address the governance, implementation and transition for this rule to become effective within the Affiliate. To the extent an Affiliate desires to seek exceptions for a limited number of full ice games or scrimmages for its teams at the 8U level, the Affiliate shall submit a plan by January 31 each year detailing such request to the USA Hockey Player Development Committee. The Affiliate's plan is subject to the annual approval of the Player Development Committee which will give final determination by March 31 of the same year.

- B.** Registered USA Hockey ice hockey teams shall not participate in games against non-registered teams without prior written approval of the appropriate registrar. The district risk manager and district referee-in-chief shall receive a copy of such written approval. Violation of this rule shall subject the team to suspension by the appropriate Affiliate.
- C. Definition of a Tournament:** Ice hockey competition, other than normally scheduled league or exhibition games, where three or more legally-registered teams compete within a specified time frame for the purpose of declaring a champion. This shall include gatherings consisting of more than three (3) teams, except Association Exchanges (limited to two (2) Associations), even though there are no winners declared.
- D.** All invitational ice hockey tournaments that involve USA Hockey registered teams and/or another amateur hockey federation or association must receive the sanction of the appropriate registrar for the district where the tournament will be held.
- E.** The conditions for sanction of an ice hockey tournament are as follows:
- (1) Written application on the official USA Hockey invitational tournament application form must be submitted to the appropriate registrar for the district where the tournament will be held.
 - (2) The appropriate registrar, with the approval of the applicant's Affiliate association, may issue a sanction where no exceptions to USA Hockey rules and regulations are involved.
 - (3) Applications must be accompanied by a copy of the full rules, regulations, and the complete procedures of the tournament. Where a tournament desires to use exceptions to the rules and regulations of USA Hockey, such exceptions must be approved in advance by the appropriate registrar and the host Affiliate association.
 - (4) Only USA Hockey-registered officials may officiate tournament games, unless specifically approved otherwise.
 - (5) Only USA Hockey playing rules and age divisions may be used in tournament play, unless specifically approved otherwise.
 - (6) The following sanction fees listed for invitational tournaments must be complied with.
 - USA Hockey teams only – \$250

- USA Hockey and another federation – \$250 (additional requirements for foreign team participation are in Section XIII of these Rules and Regulations)
- (7) Invitational tournaments shall be prohibited from being held within 100 miles of, and on the same weekend as a USA Hockey national championship.
 - (8) The Tournament Director, as identified on the Invitational Tournament Application, is required to verify that all participating teams are properly registered with USA Hockey. A USA Hockey player roster form (1-T) approved by the District or Associate Registrar shall be proof of proper registration and individual player age. Invitational Tournaments shall not require player birth certificates for review. Travel permits are required for all non-USA Hockey teams, and any team from an Affiliate requiring travel permits.
- F.** Any ice hockey tournament which is conducted for profit, by an organization whose primary purpose is not to support amateur hockey or an amateur hockey team, shall also, as a condition of sanction, provide a copy of a tournament budget, or accounting of the proceeds of the tournament; and the fact that the tournament is conducted “for profit” shall be prominently displayed on all literature distributed for promotion of said tournament. The USA Hockey sanction fee for such tournaments shall be set by the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.
 - G.** Permission for use of a tournament “title” that would imply that there is a “United States,” or “national” championship involved can only be granted by the appropriate USA Hockey council, and “International” or “World” by USA Hockey’s International Council.
 - H.** Violation of any of the above rules and procedures will be considered grounds for suspension from USA Hockey of the individuals and/or bodies responsible for such violations.
 - I.** USA Hockey ice hockey teams traveling to Canada to play games against Hockey Canada teams must obtain a Canadian/USA Hockey Travel Permit. This permit is available from your appropriate registrar or his/her designee.
 - J.** Except as stated in Section VIII: Games, Exhibition Games, Invitational Tournaments and Sanctioned Events., for an event to be sanctioned, all players, coaches, on-ice officials and team(s) must be properly registered with USA Hockey. All practices are sanctioned and all games and scrimmages are sanctioned provided both teams are properly registered. Early season clinics and tryouts leading toward team selection do not require rosters, however, all coaches and players must be individually registered.

Invitational tournament games are considered sanctioned events providing the tournament has received USA Hockey sanctioning. Other on-ice activities may be approved by the District Registrar or his/her designee as sanctioned events. Certain other activities conducted by teams/programs may be considered sanctioned events (for example, bingo games, pancake breakfasts, etc.). Contact your district risk manager or appropriate registrar for details.