



# **NEW JERSEY YOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE**

## **ANNUAL GUIDEBOOK**

### **2021-2022**

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## SCHEDULE OF NJYHL FEES, FINES AND DUE DATES

Below is a consolidated list of potential fees, fines and due dates resulting from these Constitution and Bylaws and Rules and Regulations. Please refer to the related rule for specific information as other sanctions may also be applicable. This table is only meant as a guide to applicable fees, fines and due dates and does not contain the entire Bylaw or Rule.

<b>FEES</b>				
Type	Description	Rule Reference	Amount	Due Date
Fee	Escrow account contribution – new Associations only	Bylaw Article III	\$1,000	March NJYHL Board Meeting
Fee	Capital contribution – new Associations only	Bylaw Article III	\$550	March NJYHL Board Meeting
Fee	Annual League membership	Bylaw Article III	\$650	August 15 <sup>th</sup>
Fee	Annual per team fee	Bylaw Article III	\$375 or \$275	August 15 <sup>th</sup>
Fee	Squirt Jamboree Fee	Bylaw Article III	\$275/team	August 15 <sup>th</sup>
Fee	Request for appeal	Rule 56	\$25	No due date
Fee	Protest of ruling	Rule 57	\$25	No due date
<b>DUE DATES</b>				
Type	Description	Rule Reference	Amount	Due Date
Due Date	Application for membership to the NJYHL	Bylaw Article IV	\$0	February 1 <sup>st</sup>



Due Date	Presentation of name, logo, color, or home rink changes	Bylaw Article III	\$0	February 1 <sup>st</sup>
Due Date	Distribution of new membership application materials to Board	Bylaw Article VI	\$0	Ten days prior to March Meeting
Due Date	Proposed rule changes submitted to EVP	Bylaw Article X	\$0	February 15 <sup>th</sup>
Due Date	Ratification via vote of membership of name, logo, color, or home rink changes presented at February meeting	Bylaw Article III	\$0	March NJYHL Board Meeting
Due Date	Oral presentation from prospective new members and vote for admittance to NJYHL	Bylaw Article IV	\$0	March NJYHL Board Meeting
Due Date	Vote on probationary member advancement to full member	Bylaw Article IV	\$0	March NJYHL Board Meeting
Due Date	Nominations from the floor for election to the Executive Board	Bylaw Article V	\$0	March 25 <sup>th</sup>
Due Date	Substitution of Delegate at Annual Meeting (submitted by Association President)	Bylaw Article IX	\$0	7 days prior to Annual Meeting
Due Date	Team declarations due	Rule 8		May
Due Date	Team declarations final	Rule 8		May 15 <sup>th</sup>
Due Date	Naming of Association representatives	Bylaw Article III	\$0	June 1 <sup>st</sup>
Due Date	Organizational Questionnaire	Bylaw Article III	\$0	June 1 <sup>st</sup>
Due Date	Publishing of League NJYHL Board Meeting dates	Bylaw Article IX	\$0	June
Due Date	Announcement of League Playoff Dates	Rule 82	\$0	June
Due Date	USA Hockey Approved Rosters from Probationary teams	Rule 12	\$0	July 15 <sup>th</sup>



Due Date	Annual payments due (See Fees above)	Bylaw Article III	See above	August 15 <sup>th</sup>
Due Date	16U/18U League Season Commences No Later Than	Rule 25	\$0	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Due Date	Tier I player movement to Tier II deadline (U16/U18)	Rule 14	\$0	September 16 <sup>th</sup>
Due Date	Squirt Jamboree	Rule 3	\$0	September
Due Date	Playoff Eligibility Announcement	Rule 81	\$0	September
Due Date	12U/14U League Season Commences No Later Than	Rule 25	\$0	October 1 <sup>st</sup>
Due Date	10U League Season Commences No Later Than	Rule 25	\$0	October 15 <sup>th</sup>
Due Date	Tier I player movement to Tier II deadline (10U, 12U, 14U)	Rule 14	\$0	October 16 <sup>th</sup>
Due Date	16U/18U AA League Season Ends No Later Than	Rule 25	\$0	November 1 <sup>st</sup>
Due Date	16U/18U A League Season Ends No Later Than	Rule 25	\$0	November 15 <sup>th</sup>
Due Date	All team rosters are frozen	Rule 9	\$0	December 31 <sup>st</sup>
Due Date	All Coaching CEP requirements completed	Rule 80	\$0	December 31 <sup>st</sup>

### FINES, FORFEITS AND SUSPENSIONS

Type	Description	Rule Reference	Amount	Due Date
Fine	Absence from Board (Delegates) meeting – first offense	Bylaw Article IX	\$50	
Fine	Absence from Board (Delegates) meeting – second offense	Bylaw Article IX	\$100	
Fine	Absence from Board (Delegates) meeting – third offense	Bylaw Article IX	\$250 and probation	



Fine	Absence from Board (Delegates) meeting – fourth offense and higher	Bylaw Article IX	\$250 each	
Fine	Absence from Annual Meeting	Bylaw Article IX	\$200	
Fine	Absence from Annual Presidents’ meeting	Bylaw Article IX	\$200	
Fine	Withdrawn team after final declarations	Rule 8	\$1,000 per team	
Fine	Missing player or coach credential	Rule 11	Discretionary	
Fine and forfeit	Rosters not submitted to NJYHL Registrar before games are played	Rule 12	\$1,000/game and forfeit	
Forfeit	Using “A” goalie in “B” game and winning game	Rule 16	1-0 forfeit assessed	
Fine	Roster moves not performed in online system prior to game time	Rule 18	\$50/per occurrence	
Fine and forfeit	Using a non-rostered player in a game – first offense	Rule 22	\$1,000 and forfeit	
Fine/forfeit and suspension	Using a non-rostered player in a game –second offense	Rule 22	Suspension for season – all remaining games are forfeits/ \$1,000 fine per game forfeited	
Fine	Game schedules not entered into online system by deadline	Rule 27	\$200	
Fine	Online game schedules changed after deadline	Rule 27	\$100 to initiating team	
Fine and Forfeit	Change of League game with less than seven days’ notice	Rule 29	\$1,000 to home team	



			and game forfeit	
Fine and Suspension	Failure to complete League schedule	Rule 30	\$1,000/game and possible suspension	
Fine and Forfeit	Failure for team to appear to play (including insufficient number of players)	Rule 32	\$1,000 to offending team and forfeit	
Forfeit	Intentional game suspension before end of 2 <sup>nd</sup> period	Rule 36	Forfeit (per Commissioner)	
Fine	Abuse of official (match penalty)	Rule 51	\$100	
Fine	Failure to notify the Commissioner about match penalty or fighting major	Rule 53	\$500	
Fine and Forfeit	Playing an ineligible player	Rule 53	\$1,000/game and forfeit	
Fine	Late upload of game score sheet into the electronic scorekeeping system	Rule 59	\$100	
Fine and Forfeit of Fee	Official accepting game where related to team management	Rule 61	Forfeit of game fee plus equal amount in fine	
Fine	Spectator ejection	Rule 70	\$250 to offending team	
Fine	Failure to attend Hockey Director/Coaching and/or Team Manager annual meeting	Rule 73	\$100/team	
Fine and Forfeit	Use of ineligible player in playoff game	Rule 84	\$1,000 fine/forfeit	
Fine and Disciplinary Hearing	Failure to participate in a NJYHL playoff or Affiliate games	Rule 89	\$5,000 fine and	





			disciplinary hearing	
Fine	Forfeit of a playoff game	Rule 90	\$2,500	
Fine	All forfeits	Rule 96	\$1,000	
Fine	Commissioner fine assessment	Rule 97	\$1,000 maximum	

<b>Officiating Fees</b>	
Effective the 2020-2021 season through the 2023-2024 season	
8U (Mite)	\$30 per official
10U (Squirt)	\$45 per official
12U (Pee Wee)	\$60 per official
14U (Bantam) (including 13P)	\$75 per official
16U and 18U (Midget) (including 15P)	\$90 per official
If only one official appears, pay 1.5 times usual rate for 8U/10U, 2 times usual rate for 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U	



# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

## Article I: Name

The name of the corporation (hereinafter called the “Corporation” or the “League”) is New Jersey Youth Hockey League (NJYHL), a New Jersey nonprofit corporation.

## Article II: Purpose

The purpose of the Corporation is:

To be organized and to operate in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (“Code”); to operate an amateur ice hockey Association exclusively for the purpose of supporting and developing amateur ice hockey athletes by:

- A. Developing and encouraging sportsmanship between all players for the betterment of their physical and social well-being.
- B. Encouraging and improving the standard of amateur ice hockey.
- C. Conducting ice hockey competition in an organized setting to provide an avenue for member teams to advance to USA Hockey Affiliate and National Championships.
- D. Associating with other ice hockey associations.
- E. Any and all acts in furtherance of the foregoing purposes.
- F. To foster the support and development of ice hockey athletes for national and international competition.

Said Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to Associations that qualify as exempt Associations under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any federal future tax code.

## Article III: Membership

Any Association registered with USA Hockey shall be entitled to membership upon meeting the requirements as set forth in these Bylaws.

Membership shall entitle an Association to one voting delegate on the Board of Directors (hereinafter, the “Board”). One alternate delegate may be designated and attend meetings but



may vote only in the absence of the delegate. No individual serving in more than one capacity shall be entitled to more than one vote. The delegates and alternate delegates are responsible for all League activities for their respective Associations and are liaisons for keeping their clubs informed of all League procedures, rules and regulations, and other pertinent matters. Delegates and alternates must be designated by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

All member Associations shall be assessed appropriate fees necessary to operate the League. Each member Association shall maintain an escrow balance of \$1,000. Membership shall be automatically renewed each year. Any Association wishing to leave the League shall notify the League in writing. Upon receipt of the request, all remaining escrow funds will be refunded to the Association.

The following schedule of payments covers all fees due the League for the upcoming season (season is defined herein). Additional charges might be incurred for optional purchases of materials or fines/penalties incurred during the season. No additional fees will be assessed for playoffs or Affiliate Tournaments.

**Payments due August 15<sup>th</sup>:**

Annual League Membership Fee – all Associations - \$650

Team fees – for all teams 10U and higher - \$375 per team

Team fees – for all teams 8U - \$275 per team – effective 2020-2021 season

Squirt Jamboree fee - \$275 per team participating in the jamboree

Each member will submit an annual “Organizational Questionnaire” by June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall provide notice to the NJYHL Executive Board of the occurrence of any event constituting a change in control as promptly as practical.

Any Association having an outstanding balance (team fees, fines, etc.) for thirty (30) days or more following publication of the Treasurer’s report or who fails to have a representative at fifty percent (50%) or more of the League’s Board (otherwise known as Delegates) meetings will be considered on probation for the remainder of the current season. An Association placed on probation will result in the loss of eligibility for NJYHL playoffs, AAHA Affiliate Championships and USA Hockey National Championship for that year and is ineligible to vote at any NJYHL NJYHL



Board Meeting. This may be appealed to the Executive Board (defined herein) in accordance with USA Hockey rules governing Appeals.

A member Association may not change its name, logo, home rink and/or team colors unless it is approved by a simple majority vote of the Board at the March Meeting. Notice to make a change should be sent to the Executive Vice President in writing by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

There can be only one NJYHL member Association per home rink facility. Home rink facility is defined as the rink where a current NJYHL member Association plays a majority of its games. The only exception to this rule will be with the express written consent of the current NJYHL member Association playing at the facility in question agreeing to share the home rink facility with another NJYHL member Association. If a current NJYHL member is displaced by an applicant to the NJYHL, that applicant must wait three years from the date of displacement before applying for membership to the NJYHL. If one NJYHL member is displaced by another NJYHL member requesting to change its home rink affiliation, the NJYHL member displacing the other NJYHL member shall be suspended from the NJYHL for a period of no less than three years from the date of the displacement.

At the start of each playing season, the League shall publish the Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations of the League (otherwise known as the NJYHL Guidebook).

Each member Association must submit a USA Hockey roster for each of its teams in accordance with the Rules and Regulations. All teams within an Association must be USA Hockey registered, both league and non-league teams. The Executive Board will have the right to request evidence that any Association fielding a team(s) outside of the USA Hockey umbrella is in compliance with the requirements set forth in the USA Hockey Annual Guide.

Any existing member Association may, with prior Board approval, withdraw from active League play for one season. The Board may impose any qualifying conditions it deems appropriate.

Any member Association shall be subject to forfeiture of its membership for, but not limited to, the following:

- A. Failure to comply with the Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations of the League, USA Hockey or the USA Hockey affiliate having jurisdiction over the member Association.
- B. Failure to meet its League obligations.
- C. Actions deemed detrimental to hockey and/or the League.



Any officer or member Association may petition the Board to expel an alleged offending member Association at the Annual Meeting or at any regular meeting after the Annual Meeting, but prior to the commencement of the playing season. However, before the Board may take action on such petition, the alleged offending member shall be given written notification via email at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting at which the petition shall be acted upon. The alleged offending member Association shall have the right to be heard at such meeting and to present any evidence or information it deems pertinent. A two-thirds majority vote of the Board present at the NJYHL Board Meeting shall be required for the expulsion of a member Association under this provision.

At the start of each season, all member Associations and their coaches, managers, governing bodies, etc. must be in compliance with all USA Hockey requirements including background screening, Safe Sport certification, etc.

## **Article IV: New Membership**

Any new Association that wishes to apply for membership must apply in writing to the President and copy the Executive Vice President no later than February 1st and must supply the following information:

- A. Number of teams currently fielded
- B. Number of players in current Association
- C. Age of Association
- D. Origin of new players to Association (i.e., in house, clinics, etc.)
- E. Completed Organizational questionnaire

This information will be sent to existing member Associations ten days prior to the March meeting. At the March NJYHL Board Meeting, the previously submitted written application for membership is considered final and must be accompanied by an oral presentation to the Board petitioning for membership to the NJYHL.

The following are conditions for membership consideration:

- A. The Association must be registered with USA Hockey.
- B. The Association must enter the NJYHL with two or more teams competing in at least two or more age levels.
- C. Acceptance of a new member into probationary status shall occur by affirmative vote of a majority of the existing members present that are eligible to vote at the March NJYHL Board Meeting. Membership in the NJYHL shall commence on the date of



acceptance by the Board and upon receipt of the escrow account contribution and the capital contribution.

Payments due from new members to the NJYHL at March meeting.

Escrow account contribution - \$1,000

Capital contribution - \$550

- D. Once accepted as a member, the Association will continue as a probationary member until the following March NJYHL Board Meeting at which time a vote shall be taken to:
- (i) Accept the Association as a permanent member
  - (ii) continue the probationary status for another year
  - (iii) terminate the membership.
- E. A probationary member's association with the League may be terminated for cause by due process during the season. Termination requires a majority vote of the Associations present at a regularly scheduled NJYHL Board Meeting.
- F. While a probationary member, the club will have full voting rights, except on votes concerning membership status, and be subject to the same rules and regulations as regular members.
- G. A probationary member may roster no more than two (2) players per team who were rostered with other NJYHL teams the previous season and have a release if necessary. Failure to comply with the rostering and player movement rules as stated in the Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations may result in loss of eligibility for membership in the League.
- H. A probationary member will not be permitted to field National bound (14U, 16U 18U) AA teams while on probation. These levels are approved by the AAHA, and new members are not included in the review for the upcoming season.
- I. All probationary members cannot also retain independent Tier II status in the AAHA. By accepting membership in the NJYHL, the Association must withdraw its independent Tier II status in the AAHA.

## Article V: Officers

The officers of this Association shall be the Commissioner, President, Executive Vice President, Administrative Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Registrar. The officers shall comprise the Executive Board and shall be responsible to conduct the day-to-day operation of the League. Each officer shall have one vote, except the President, who shall only vote in the event of a tie.



If an officer serves as delegate of any member Association, that individual shall only be entitled to one vote. They shall be elected to office by the member Associations by a simple majority vote. The election shall take place at the annual meeting. Nominations from the floor are to be submitted no later than March 25<sup>th</sup> to the Nominating Committee Chairperson.

The positions of Commissioner, Vice-President(s) and Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years. The positions of President, Secretary and Registrar shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The term of office shall be for two years. All officers may serve successive terms, if elected by the majority of the members who are eligible to vote. In the event an officer is unable to complete a full two-year term, a replacement will be appointed by the President with the majority approval of the Executive Board.

In the event that the President is unable to complete a full two-year term, a replacement will be appointed with a simple majority approval of the Executive Board.

Any officer may be removed at any time by an affirmative vote of a three-quarters majority of the member Associations present at a regular NJYHL Board Meeting wherein notice of such is placed on the agenda three weeks in advance.

- A. Commissioner: The Commissioner shall have the full authority to conduct the on-ice activities of the League. The Commissioner shall have the power to suspend any member Association, team, player or team official for conduct detrimental to hockey, either on or off the ice. The Commissioner shall have the full authority to assign penalties/sanctions in accordance with violations of the Constitution and Bylaws or the Rules and Regulations of the League. The Commissioner shall rule on any unresolved conflicts, which prevent the completion of the League schedule.
- B. President: The President shall preside at all the meetings of the League. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Association. The President may vote on any matter in order to determine the outcome of any motion.
- C. Vice-Presidents:
  - (a) Executive Vice-President: The Executive Vice-President shall act as an assistant to the President. The Executive Vice-President shall be responsible for the interpretation of the League Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations, recommending any changes, additions and/or deletions as needed. The Executive Vice-President shall be responsible for publishing annual the Constitution and



Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and other pertinent League information. The Executive Vice President is responsible for the planning and conducting of an annual informational meeting of all League team representatives.

- (b) Administrative Vice-President: The Administrative Vice-President, as the master scheduler for the League, shall be responsible for all activities related to the scheduling of League games. The Administrative Vice President shall supervise changes to the league schedule and shall publish/distribute the master schedule and all changes to that schedule. The Administrative Vice President shall also act as the chairperson for the NJYHL Playoffs and is the ex-officio member of the Competition Committee.
- D. Secretary: The Secretary shall give or cause notice to be given of all meetings. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the meetings of this Association, maintain an attendance record for each meeting, distribute minutes of the meetings to the membership, and maintain an up-to-date directory of all members. The Secretary shall maintain a permanent file of the Association's correspondence and shall prepare outgoing correspondence as requested. The Secretary shall perform other duties as may be designated by the President.
- E. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have custody of the funds and securities of the Association and shall keep full and accurate accounts or receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the League. The Treasurer shall deposit all moneys and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the League in such depositories as may be designated by the Board. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Association as may be ordered by the Board or the President, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements. The Treasurer shall render a full accounting of the financial condition of the Association at all regular meetings or whenever requested to do so by the Board. At the Annual Meeting, the Treasurer shall present an Annual Report (income statement and balance sheet) of the financial condition of the League.
- F. Registrar: The Registrar shall maintain the official rosters of the member teams as required by the League Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations. The Registrar shall be responsible for year-end league trophies.





## Article VI: Board

The Board shall be comprised of the officers of the League and one voting delegate from each member Association. The officers of the League do not have voting rights with the exception of the President as stated under Article V-B.

The board shall be empowered to elect officers of the Association. The Board shall also be empowered to enact the Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations necessary for the accomplishment of the purposes of the Association and to enable the officers to conduct the activities of the League.

## Article VII: Appointed Positions

The President and the Commissioner shall appoint the following non-voting positions with the concurrence of a majority of the Executive Board members for a term of one year which is renewable annually with a majority concurrence of the Executive Board:

- A. Referee-in-Chief: The Director of Officials shall be directly responsible to the League Commissioner. The primary responsibilities of the Referee-in-Chief will be to supervise, assign and evaluate league officials. He may appoint assistants to aid him in carrying out his duties. These assistants will be directly responsible to the Referee-in-Chief. Prior to the start of the League season, the Referee-in-Chief shall participate in a meeting for team coaches for the purpose of reviewing League Rules and Regulations.
- B. League Statistician: The League Statistician shall receive the original copy of each game score sheet for the purpose of:
  - (a) Accumulating accurate and original copies of games sheets.
  - (b) Monitoring penalties which result in the suspension of players and/or coaches.
- C. Master Scheduler: Shall assist the Administrative vice president in creating the league schedule and running the playoffs. This position can be filled by the Administrative Vice President.
- D. Accident Report Liaison: Provide excess insurance information to the membership, communicate regularly with and acts as a liaison to the Atlantic Affiliate Risk Manager and passes on necessary information to the membership. The Accident Report Liaison will arrange for the Atlantic Affiliate Risk Manager to attend at least one league meeting (with the President's approval). This position can be filled by the Registrar.



- E. Coach-In-Chief: Handles all coaching/evaluating programs and is liaison to player development and to USA Hockey programs. The Coach in Chief handles all tasks relating to coaching as designated by the President and Commissioner. The Coach in Chief serves as the Chair of the Competition Committee.
- F. Professional Organizations Liaison: The Professional Organizations Liaison will interact with NHL and other professional teams in our area. They will improve relations with the teams and administer any outreach activities offered by the professional teams. They shall arrange and conduct programs to keep up contact between Association representatives and the media and community.
- G. Appointee-at-Large: The Appointee-at-Large shall assist the Executive Board with any special projects and assigned tournaments.
- H. Rink Ownership Representative: Is responsible to work with rink ownership and managers on implementing programs beneficial to ice rinks and convey their concerns to the Executive Board.
- I. SafeSport Coordinator: Serving as NJYHL initial contact for members reporting suspected abuse, misconduct, or other violations, compiling information on disciplinary issues within NJYHL and, when appropriate, reporting such information to USA Hockey.

## Article VIII: Committees

The President, with the advice of the Executive Board, shall appoint the following committees:

- A. Nominating
- B. Rules and Regulations
- C. Competition Committee
- D. and any other additional standing committees as are necessary for the purpose and programs of the Association.

The duties of such committees shall be set forth by the President.

Each standing committee shall submit a report at the Annual Meeting and may submit a report at a regular meeting to keep the Board informed of the activities related to the Association. The Secretary shall publish a membership list for each committee.



The Rules and Regulations Committee will do an annual review of the League Constitution and Bylaws and Rules and Regulations to determine if changes are needed. The committee will be headed by the Executive Vice President. The Executive Vice President will present all rule proposals to the Board at the scheduled league meeting in March. Rule changes will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

## Article IX: Meetings

The Secretary shall notify the membership in advance of all meetings. A quorum of a majority of the members must be present in order to conduct a meeting.

All voting at meetings must be done in person. Only the delegate may do voting (or in the delegate's absence, the alternate delegate). Only members in good standing shall be entitled to vote. To be in good standing, a member Association shall not be indebted to the League, on Probation (other than new probationary members) or be under suspension by the League at the time of the meeting. The Secretary shall maintain a list of those eligible to vote at each meeting.

- A. NJYHL Board Meeting: Regularly scheduled meetings of the League shall be held at a time and place designated by the Executive Board. A calendar of dates of meetings for the year shall be published in June prior to each playing season.

Failure to have a delegate or alternate at a regularly scheduled meeting will result in the following penalties:

First Offense	\$ 50.00 fine
Second Offense	\$100.00 fine
Third Offense	\$250.00 fine and the offending Association is ineligible to vote for the remainder of the season
Fourth Offense and higher	\$250 fine for each additional offense

With the approval of the Executive Board, under extreme circumstances, an Association may have someone other than a delegate or alternate represent that club at a regular NJYHL Board Meeting.

- B. Annual Meeting: The annual meeting of the League shall be held after the end of the playing season at a time and place designated by the President and/or Secretary and approved by the Executive Board.



Each Association's president must submit their designated voting representative to the Secretary seven days prior to the annual meeting unless that voting representative is their delegate or alternate delegate due to the impact rule changes may have on an Association. It is strongly recommended that an Association's voting representative be the president or a sitting board member who is empowered to make financial decisions on behalf of the Association.

There will be a fine of \$200 assessed against any member Association failing to have a voting representative in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to:

- (a) Vote on any proposed amendments, additions and/or deletions to the Constitution and Bylaws and/or Rules and Regulations.
- (b) Conduct the election of the officers of the NJYHL and Zone Directors for the AAHA Board of Directors
- (c) Receive and review the annual reports of the Treasurer and the standing committees.
- (d) Conduct any other business of the Association as needed.

C. Special Meetings/Seminars: The President and/or Secretary may call special meetings as deemed necessary. Notice as to the purpose of the meeting shall be given to the membership in advance.

There will be a fine, to be announced in advance, assessed against any member Association failing to have a delegate or alternate in attendance at a special meeting.

D. Presidents Meeting: An annual Presidents' meeting only meeting will be held on a Saturday in January each season. The date, time, and venue will be published at the beginning of the playing season. Failure to have an Association president or board member attend this meeting will result in a \$200 fine to the offending Association.

## Article X: Rules and Regulations

The rules and regulations of USA Hockey and the USA Hockey affiliate having jurisdiction over a member Association shall apply to the League except as specifically amended by the League.

The Rules and Regulations governing the on-ice and off-ice activities of its members are published in an attachment to the Constitution and Bylaws.



All rules and regulations adopted by the League shall have the same force and effect as the Constitution and Bylaws of the League and shall be enforced by League and game officials where applicable.

Additions, deletions or amendments to the Rules and Regulations must be made at the Annual NJYHL Board Meeting. A simple majority vote of the eligible member Associations in attendance is required to effect changes in the Rules and Regulations. For a rule to be considered at the Annual NJYHL Board Meeting, it shall be proposed to the Executive board (to the attention of the Executive Vice President) in writing by February 15th. Under special circumstances, an addition, deletion or amendment to the Rules and Regulations may be proposed at any other meeting. The Executive Board has final say if the special circumstances warrant a vote by the Board on the proposed special circumstance. If it does, a two-thirds majority vote of the eligible member Associations in attendance is required to effect the change.

## **Article XI: Tampering and Player Movement Between Member Associations**

The League, as a matter of policy, frowns upon the direct solicitation and/or contact of players, especially those solicitations carrying tangible and intangible inducements to change Associations. All officers and individuals associated with the League or one of its member Associations shall respect the integrity and role of each other member Association and shall not perform any activity that would demean and be injurious to another member Association, thereby weakening the entire League. The League will follow the Tampering Rules set forth by the Atlantic Amateur Hockey Association and USA Hockey and notwithstanding the foregoing no player may change Associations after being added to the Approved USA Hockey roster and playing one League game without the mutual consent of both Associations involved.

## **Article XII: Parliamentary Authority**

The rules as contained in “Robert’s Rules of Order -- Revised” shall govern the League and the Board in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

## **Article XIII: Dissolution of the League**

The method of distribution of assets upon dissolution will be set forth in the by-laws of the Corporation. On dissolution, after payments of all debts, no part of the remaining assets may be distributed to any trustee, member or officer of the Corporation. Upon the dissolution, assets



shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or top state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal officer of the Association is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such Association or Associations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.



# RULES AND REGULATIONS

## Team Classification

1. Classification is determined by the birth year of the player in which the team is registered. Age classifications for each division are as follows:

8U	2013 & younger
10U	2011 & 2012
12U	2009 & 2010
13P	2008
14U	2007 & 2008
15P	2006
16U	2005 & 2006
18U	2003 & 2004

2. A 10U-18U player is permitted to play 'up' in the next age division if he/she starts the season there in accordance with AAHA rules. 8U players are not permitted to pay up at any time unless in accordance with AAHA rules. However, once he plays more than three (3) League games in that classification, he cannot be moved down to his correct age classification. If a player is playing in the correct age classification, he/she can be moved 'up' to the next age classification only after being evaluated by the Association's Hockey/Coaching Director and obtaining subsequent approval from the NJYHL Coach-in Chief. Additional information regarding player movement is listed herein under Team Registration and Rostering.
3. The League will operate Tier II playing divisions at the 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, 13P, 14U, 16U and 18U levels. The "AA", "A" and "B" divisions will be competitive with teams able to qualify for NJYHL Playoffs, Affiliate Playoffs, and National Championships as appropriate. At the 10U and 12U levels the League may conduct a jamboree or pre-season schedule and place teams



in appropriate divisions based on skill and geography and will compete in a League Playoff. At the 8U level, the AAHA may conduct a jamboree or pre-season schedule and place teams in appropriate divisions managed based on skill and geography. The 8U division season will be supervised by the NJYHL including the posting of schedules, rosters, etc.

4. There must be a minimum of four teams in a division for league competition.
5. Any Association may field teams in the “AA”, “A” or “B” divisions of an age classification. Any Association that declares three (3) or more teams in the NJYHL at any one (1) age classification level must declare one of those teams at the “AA” or “A” level and the remaining teams should be placed at their level of competitiveness - either “AA”, “A” or “B”.
6. Upon request, an Association shall provide team rosters and a detailed explanation for their team(s) declaration based on the program’s history and the success or lack of success in NJYHL League competition. Upon review of the given information, the Executive Board will strongly recommend the given team play at the suggested level based on the Board’s findings.
7. Each coach and Association is responsible to check the age of each player on his team to confirm they are not over-aged.

## Team Registration and Rostering

8. Member Associations must make team commitments electronically in May. Declarations will be considered final on May 15th. Any team withdrawing on or after July 1<sup>st</sup> will be subject to a fine of \$1,000.
  - A. The Executive Board reserves the right to question the viability of any team once the final declarations have been made. Upon request, Associations may need to submit one or more of the following: rosters, signed player contracts, executed ice contracts, or any





other documentation which provides proof of viability/sustainability. Should the documentation fail to provide sufficient evidence of viability, the Executive Board has the right to deny the declaration.

9. All teams must submit a USA Hockey Team roster to the Affiliate Registrar for approval before playing any games. All youth and girl's teams, league, or non-league, within any Association must be registered with USA Hockey. Any changes made in the USA Hockey roster before the December 31 cut-off date must be sent to the Affiliate Registrar as a supplemental roster. That supplemental roster must also be sent to the League Registrar. That includes additions, deletions, and moves within the Association. The USA Hockey roster plus all changes made will be considered the final roster as of December 31. No player changes may be made to the rosters after December 31 of the current playing season for any reason whatsoever.
10. All players and coaches and volunteers must be properly registered with USA Hockey for the current season including a valid a Safe Sport certification, background screening and current CEP level (for coaches).
11. All player, coach and team official registration requirements must be completed and submitted to USA Hockey, AAHA and the NJYHL as appropriate for the team to be able to compete in the League. Appropriate fines shall be assessed at the discretion of the NJYHL Commissioner for any missing or incomplete documentation.
12. Each Association must submit to the League Registrar a copy of each team's approved USA Hockey roster before each team's first League game. If the Association fails to submit a copy of the team's approved USA Hockey roster to the League Registrar, each game played by that team will be declared a forfeit until such roster is received by the League Registrar. In addition, there shall be a fine of \$1,000 assessed for each game forfeited.
  - A. A maximum of twenty (20) players (with a maximum of 18 skaters) are permitted on each team roster in accordance with USA Hockey registration rules.
  - B. USA Hockey Roster for all teams must show a minimum of ten (10) players per team. This may be waived by written appeal to the Commissioner.



- C. Rosters for teams of probationary Associations must be received by the Registrar by July 15 of the current playing season. Rosters must comply with the guidelines under By-Law IV, Section G.
13. The NJYHL recommends that all member Associations have each player and his/her parent, or guardian sign an agreement when a player contract is signed which clearly states that the parent or guardian is aware of and understands the specific obligation of that player to the Association.
14. A player cannot compete in the league if he is also rostered on a Tier I youth team.
- A. Special circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis by the Commissioner.
  - B. An Association may move one player per age level who is rostered on a Tier I youth team prior to October 16th (10U, 12U, 14U) or September 16th (16U, 18U) to a Tier II youth team. If an Association wishes to move more than one player per level or a player at any level after the above dates requires approval of the Commissioner before the player can be moved. At no point can a player be rostered on a Tier I roster and an NJYHL roster at the same time. If a NJYHL rostered player plays more than four (4) games in a season at Tier 1, that player is no longer eligible for NJYHL games.
  - C. An Association may move one player per age level within their Association who is rostered on a Tier II youth “AA” team prior to October 16th (10U, 12U, 14U) or September 16th (16U, 18U) to a Tier II youth “A” team. If an Association wishes to move more than one player per level or a player at any level after the above dates requires approval of the Commissioner before the player can be moved. Same rule shall apply to move an “A” level player to a “B” level team.
  - D. A 16U or 18U player may be rostered on a Tier I or Junior team at the conclusion of their NJYHL team’s season and will be ineligible for post-season participation with their NJYHL team once released and rostered with a Tier I or Junior team. In accordance with Rule 26, a 16U or 18U player may play on a Junior team for a maximum of four (4) games in a season and will be considered a member of the team for post-season play where they are rostered as of 12/31. If a NJYHL rostered player plays more than four (4) games in a season at Tier 1 or Junior, that player loses eligibility for NJYHL post season play.
  - E. A player may not be rostered on more than one team in the NJYHL.



15. A player may not skate on more than one level (AA, A, B) within his rostered Association except for goaltenders as covered herein.
  
16. If an Association fields an “AA”, “A” and “B” team in a division (i.e. 10U, 12U, etc.) the following rules shall apply to goaltenders:
  - A. If there are four goaltenders, two per team, they may play only for the team on which they are rostered, and their movement is governed by the player movement rule herein.
  - B. If there are three goaltenders, one must be designated as the “A” goaltender and play the bulk of the “A” games. This goalie is to be designated on the team’s NJYHL roster. The other goalie on the “A” roster is eligible to play on the “B” team if needed. The designated “A” goalie, however, may not play in any “B” game or be dropped to the “B” level without the express consent of the Commissioner. It is the team’s responsibility to ensure that each goaltender plays in sufficient games at his/her rostered level to qualify for Affiliate tournament participation.
  - C. If there are only two goaltenders, one “A” and one “B”, each goalie may play for both teams in the same division of a member Association but if the game is won when the “A” goalie plays, it is considered a 1-0 forfeit with no fine. If the game is a loss when the “A” goalie plays, the game is scored as played.
  - D. “AA” goaltender shall not be able to play at “A” and “B” level.
  - E. Specifically, for the 13P level, a substitute goaltender may be used from a 14U A or B team if the goaltender is from the 13P birth year. At no time may a 14U AA goaltender serve as a substitute for a 13P team goaltender. If there is no age-appropriate goaltender available, the substitute must come from the 12U level.
  - F. All goaltending moves must be submitted on the Goaltending Coverage form found on the NJYHL website and must also be sent via email to the Commissioner and Registrar prior to the game being played.
  
17. If an Association fields only one team in a division and there is only one goaltender, if that goaltender is unable to play due to sickness, a substitute goaltender may be used as follows:



- A. A goaltender may be used from the age division immediately below in the same Association.
  - B. A goaltender may be used from any other NJYHL team, including the opposing team, at the same level or the age group immediately below. However, an “A” goaltender may not be used for a “B” team on the same level. In same respect, “AA” goaltender may not be used for “A” team or “B” team on the same level.
  - C. In both cases, that goaltender must be a rostered NJYHL player. The Commissioner must be informed of this condition in advance.
18. Each Association is permitted a total of eight (8) moves between its “AA”, “A” and “B” teams in each age level. For example, if a player is moved from the “B” team to the “A” team, that is one move. If he is later moved back to the “B” team, that is a second move. In no case are any moves permitted after December 31 of the playing season. Goaltenders are exempt from this rule.
- A. All player roster moves must be made in the electronic scoring system PRIOR to the game being played and must also be submitted in advance on the NJYHL Player Substitution form found on the website. An email must also be sent to the NJYHL Registrar and the Commissioner. Failure to do so will result in a fine of \$50 to the offending team for each offense.
19. All players are free to try out for any team or Association 48 hours after either the AAHA Affiliate Tournament (for players at the 8U, 10U and 12U levels) or USA Hockey’s National Youth Tournament (for players at the 14U, 16U and 18U levels) in accordance with AAHA posted tryout dates. After a player commitment contract is signed, there will be no player movement without a written release from that Association. Any player who signs an Association registration form and/or makes a financial commitment to an Association will remain the property of that Association for the balance of the season, unless released by that Association in writing. The League Registrar must verify the release. No release will be considered granted until after the League Registrar verifies it.



20. If after playing one League game and obtaining a release from the originally contracted Association, a player may participate in League games thereafter. Should a player not be able to obtain a release, he shall have the right to appeal to the Executive Board, whose decision shall be binding. The NJYHL cannot alter the financial obligations stated in a player contract.
21. The USA Hockey roster plus all changes made will be considered the final roster as of December 31. No player changes may be made to the rosters after December 31 of the current playing season for any reason whatsoever.
22. Only players whose names appear on a USA Hockey Approved roster that has been provided to the League Registrar, including any official roster changes, may participate in League games. The first offense of this rule shall result in the game being forfeited and a fine of \$1,000 being assessed the offending team. A second offense of this rule shall result in the immediate suspension of that team from league play for the remainder of the season. All games scheduled with that team, played or unplayed, shall be declared forfeits. Other teams in the division will have the option of whether or not to honor any remaining scheduled games with the offending team. Each forfeit carries a fine of \$1,000.
23. There shall be no appeal of forfeitures, which are awarded as a result of registration and/or rostering violations.
24. Any player who is rostered on a Junior team in the current season cannot be moved to an NJYHL roster without written permission from the Commissioner. The Association must submit in writing to the Commissioner explaining the reason for the move prior to permission being granted. At no point can a player be on a Junior roster and an NJYHL roster at the same time. A NJYHL Rostered player may play on a Junior team for a maximum of four (4) games in a season. The player should be dropped from the NJYHL team's approved USA Hockey roster in order to be added to the junior team roster. If the NJYHL rostered player plays more than four (4) games in a season that player becomes ineligible and must be removed from the NJYHL roster and the player loses eligibility for post season play.



## League Schedule

25. The regular season will begin at the discretion of the Administrative Vice President with the approval of the Executive Board. The League schedule for 16U and 18U will start no later than September 1<sup>st</sup>. The League schedule for, 12U, and 14U will start no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>. The League schedule for 8U will start no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>. The League schedule for 10U will start no later than October 15<sup>th</sup>. Official League games may be played earlier than the official start of the League season between mutually consenting teams, provided that these teams have been properly registered and rostered according to League rules and are in compliance with AAHA 6U/8U Guidelines for the 8U level.
26. It will be mandatory for all 16U and 18U USA Hockey National bound (AA) teams to complete their League games prior to November 1. All 16U and 18U AA teams will be required to participate in any festival (if necessary) where all games completed will count toward league standings; play downs (if necessary) and playoffs. 16UAA and 18UAA playoffs will be held before the start of the New Jersey High School season where the USA Hockey National Championship representatives will be chosen whenever possible. It is the League's strong recommendation that 16UA and 18UA League games be completed by November 15. For league scheduling purposes: All 16U and 18U short season teams shall not be permitted to black out any weekends between September 1 and October 21 to facilitate scheduling of League games.
- A. The completion date for the regular League season will be determined by the Administrative Vice President and will comply with Affiliate tournament constraints.
- B. The League will host a jamboree in September for the placement of 10U teams. Every Association must send a qualified coach or coaching director to assist in the evaluating



process. The League Coach in Chief along with the designated Association representative will evaluate each team to determine placement. The League will place teams deemed to be competitive with each other in divisions.

- C. The AAHA will host a jamboree in late September/early October for the placement of 6U/8U teams. Every Association must send a qualified coach or coaching director to assist in the evaluating process. The AAHA ADM Coordinator along with the designated Association representative will evaluate each team to determine placement. The AAHA will place teams deemed to be competitive with each other in divisions.

- 27. Scheduling of League games shall be done under the supervision of the Administrative Vice President. The method of scheduling and the number of League games to be played in each division will be determined by the Executive Board.

The following shall be performed under the supervision of the Administrative Vice President:

- i. Scheduling of League Games
- ii. The method of scheduling and the number of league games to be played in each division.
- iii. The setting up of divisions for scheduling purposes.

All League games (including 8U games) must be scheduled (and/or subsequently rescheduled) by the Association's designated master scheduler. Once games are scheduled, Associations are responsible for entering their home games and rosters into the online database. The Administrative Vice President will provide appropriate usernames and passwords.

- A. Schedules and rosters not input into the system prior to the established deadlines will be subject to a \$200 fine.
- B. As a matter of policy, once the schedules are uploaded, League games should be honored as scheduled and changes limited to unusual or extraordinary circumstances.
- C. Any changes after the date published by the Administrative Vice President will result in a \$100 administrative fine to the initiating team.

- 28. Associations must be prepared with adequate ice times to accommodate the League scheduling. Games must be played at reasonable hours of the day and are subject to the



approval of the Administrative Vice President. Games shall not start prior to 7:00 a.m. with the following exception: each team is permitted to schedule up to two (2) games earlier than 7:00 a.m., but no earlier than 6:30 a.m. This may be waived if both teams mutually consent.

29. Any team wishing to change a scheduled game may do so only with the consent of the scheduled opponent and Administrative Vice President.
- A. All changes must be made at least seven (7) days prior to the scheduled game except in the event of extraordinary circumstances. Any game being changed must be rescheduled at the time of the change. The home team shall notify the Administrative Vice President of this change, allowing sufficient time for the rescheduling of officials and to avoid undue financial losses or unnecessary travel on the part of the other team.
    - 1. If the home team fails to properly notify the Administrative Vice President prior to the date the game was originally scheduled, the game shall be considered a forfeit for the home team.
    - 2. In addition, a fine of \$1,000 will be assessed to the home team.
  - B. Extraordinary circumstances are considered automobile accidents, hazardous road conditions, loss of ice due to equipment failure at the rink, etc. In this case, the game may be postponed at any time up to game time. (Failure to appear at the appropriate time as shown on the League Master Schedule is not an extraordinary circumstance.) Any arbitration in last minute cancellations will be done by the Commissioner. Games canceled due to extraordinary circumstances must be rescheduled within one week. All rescheduled games due to extraordinary circumstances need to be rescheduled by the respective Association's master scheduler.
30. It is the policy of the League that the entire schedule be played.
- A. If in the opinion of the Administrative Vice President, final League standings may be severely affected by unplayed games, the AVP may decide what additional course of action will be taken to allow for an equitable determination of League winners or playoff





contenders. The Administrative Vice President may seek opinion from the Competition Committee.

- B. Any team refusing to complete the official League schedule as maintained by the Administrative Vice President will forfeit its right to represent the NJYHL in Affiliate Tournament play.
  - 1. The team will be fined \$1,000 for each game involved, in addition to any other fines which may be imposed. There shall be no appeal of this rule.
  - 2. The team and the member Association it represents will be suspended from League play for one year. This suspension may be appealed to the Board for review.

31. Any team acting as a NJYHL representative to Affiliate and/or USA Hockey tournaments must have completed its full schedule of League games. The Commissioner, under extenuating circumstances may waive this rule. If a Affiliate bound team is involved in a forfeit and is not the offending team, the forfeit stands.

32. When any team, home or away, fails to appear for a scheduled League game (or appears with fewer than the minimum number of players as set forth herein) and where there are no extraordinary circumstances (defined herein), a forfeit win shall be awarded the non-offending team and the offending team shall be subject to a fine of \$1,000. Money from this fine may be used to cover expenses incurred by the non-offending team at the discretion of the Commissioner.

- A. If the non-offending team prefers to play the game, it may be rescheduled at the convenience of the non-offending team and at the expense (ice time and officials) of the offending team. This amount must be received by the non-offending team prior to the start of the game. If it is not, the game will remain a forfeit and the non-offending team shall no longer be responsible to play the game.



- B. Games awarded to a team by forfeit may be appealed by the penalized team to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will adjudge the matter within seven (7) days and its decision shall be final. There is no fee for this appeal.

33. The team in first place in each division at the end of the regular League season shall receive a team trophy at all levels.

## Regular League Games

34. The home team is responsible for providing sufficient ice time and the necessary facilities for playing the game. The home team shall provide the visiting team a minimum of one dozen pucks for warm up.

Ice time shall be assigned as follows per division:

8U – Refer to annual AAHA Guidelines

10U – 15 minute periods – stop time – ice slot – 1 hour 15 minutes

12U – 15 minute periods – stop time – ice slot – 1 hour 30 minutes

14U – 16 minute periods – stop time – ice slot – 1 hour 30 minutes

16U – 17 minute\* periods – stop time – ice slot – 1 hour 30 minutes

18U – 17 minute\* periods – stop time – ice slot – 1 hour 30 minutes

\*Updated to align with USA Hockey rule change

35. No League game may be played on an undersized rink.



36. To be an official League game, two full periods must be played. The third period may be shortened, if necessary; however, all time played must be stop time. Running time is not allowed under any circumstances. The reason for shortening the game must be beyond the control of the team involved.
- A. The official shall determine the time of the shortened period. As a rule of thumb, the time in the period shall be one half the time remaining in the ice slot. Once the period has begun, the time cannot be changed.
  - B. If, in the opinion of the Commissioner, based on the official's report, a player, coach or other team official intentionally causes a game to be suspended prior to the completion of the second period, he may declare the game a forfeit to the opposing team. There is no fine involved.
  - C. If, in the opinion of the Commissioner, based on the official's report, a player, coach or other team official intentionally causes a game not to be completed, he may declare the game a forfeit to the opposing team. There is no fine involved.
  - D. If at the end of the second period, or at any time in the third period, one team shall reach a ten (10) goal advantage in score, the game shall be considered ended.
  - E. If a game is suspended for any reason and must be resumed to be considered a complete game, it is resumed from the point it was left off (i.e., Period 2 – 10:15 on the clock) with the same roster.
37. To expedite the game, there must be a 5-minute warm-up period before the game and a one-minute rest between each period.



38. At the 12U, 13P, 14U, 16U and 18U levels if a NJYHL game is tied at the end of regulation unless the game has been shortened by the NJYHL rule, the teams will play one 3-minute 3v3 sudden death overtime, winning team will receive 1 additional point for 2 points total for an OT win and losing team receives 1 point for OT loss. Players take a one minute rest and do not switch ends. This format is also recommended for non-league games.

39. All players must wear matching uniforms properly numbered. Uniform numbers must match the list on the scoresheet and in the Scorekeeper system.

It is the responsibility of the home team to avoid conflict in jersey color.

All players must wear all equipment as specified by USA Hockey. Note: Any player on the team bench or penalty box areas must wear a helmet at all times.

40. A team must start a game with a minimum of six (6) players. Any time a that a team has been reduced to less than four players, the game shall be declared a forfeit.

a. A maximum of 20 players, in which not more than 18 are skaters, shall be permitted to play in a game.

b. Each team shall designate on the score sheet a Head Coach prior to the start of the game. The Head Coach shall be in control of and responsible for the actions of all team personnel, including players.

c. A team may have up to four coaches on the bench. Only players in uniform and properly rostered coaches may occupy the bench.

d. If at any time during the game, through penalties, illness or any other reason, there are no coaches on the bench to be in control of and responsible for the team, the game shall continue provided there is adult supervision on the bench. If no adult supervision is available, the referee shall suspend the game and submit a report.

e. This rule mirrors USAH Rule 201.



f. The forfeit may be appealed to the Commissioner in the event of extraordinary circumstances (defined herein).

41. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide knowledgeable timekeepers and scorekeepers. The visiting team is entitled to have a representative at the scorer's table.

42. It is recommended that all non-league games played between NJYHL teams follow the same rules and regulations as agreed in League games.

## Penalties

43. The following are the penalty times in minutes for each type of infraction according to division:

**6U/8U** – please see the annual AAHA Guideline for details

<b>PENALTY TYPE</b>	<b>10U/12U/14U</b>	<b>16U/18U</b>	
Minor Penalty	1:30 min.	2:00 min.	
Major Penalty	4:00 min.	5:00 min.	
Misconduct Penalty	8:00 min.	10:00 min.	Not posted on game clock
Game Misconduct	8:00 min.	10:00 min.	Removal from game
Match Penalty	8:00 min.	10:00 min.	Removal from game*

USA Hockey Progressive Penalty rule also applies as applicable

Any head coach whose team incurs 12 penalties or a player who receives 4 penalties in any game will result in the head coach/player being suspended from the next scheduled game. If your next scheduled game is not an NJYHL game the coach/player will be required to sit two games. The first non-league game played serves as your obligation to USA Hockey, the second game played serves as your obligation to the NJYHL.

The head coach does not receive a Game Misconduct on the scoresheet and does not leave the bench. A player who receives 4 penalties receives a Game Misconduct penalty and must leave the bench.



Should a player on a team receive a Match Penalty, the team manager must email the NJYHL Commissioner at: commissioner@njyhl.org with a copy to statistician@njyhl.org.

\*Players receiving a Match Penalty are suspended from all USA Hockey activities for 30 days or until the appropriate authority has made a ruling.

44. The penalties listed in the USA Hockey Rules shall apply except as specifically amended by the League in these rules.

45. Any player receiving a fighting penalty (automatic game misconduct) shall receive the following suspension:

**6U/8U:**

To be reviewed and ruled upon by Commissioner

**10U, 12U:**

First Infraction	1 game suspension
Second Infraction	3 game suspension and automatic review by Commissioner
Third Infraction	Suspension for the balance of the season

**14U, 16U, 18U:**

First Infraction	2 game suspension
Second Infraction	5 game suspension and automatic review by Commissioner
Third Infraction	Suspension for the balance of the season

USA Hockey Progressive penalty rule also applies as applicable

The penalty for a “third” (3<sup>rd</sup>) man in” is the same as a fight and has the same progressive penalties as the fighting penalties. A prior 3<sup>rd</sup> man in penalty will enhance a subsequent fighting penalty. The penalty will be the same as a second or third or subsequent fighting penalty.



46. The Head coach of a team receiving 12 or more penalties in a single game during the season:

First and Second Infraction 1 game suspension

Third infraction Additional 3 game suspension

After the third infraction, if the team receives 12 penalties in a game the Commissioner will review for further disciplinary action.

47. Any player, coach or other team official who uses racial, ethnic or gender related slurs on the ice or anywhere in the rink before, during or after the game shall receive a minimum automatic three (3) game suspension. The penalty will be reviewed by the Commissioner for any further action.

48. Any player, coach or other team official receiving a match penalty shall receive a minimum automatic three (3) game suspension.

49. During a game, any coach or other team official who leaves the bench and goes on the ice for any reason, except in the case of an injured player, shall be ejected from the game and shall receive a three (3) game suspension.

50. Any coach or other team official who, in the opinion of the official, is detected encouraging his players to violent action or condoning such actions shall be ejected from the game and shall be suspended for a minimum of five (5) games.

51. Any coach, player or other team official placing his hands on or otherwise touching an official shall receive a minimum of five (5) game suspension for the first infraction and expulsion from the League for the period of one calendar year commencing with the date of the incident for a second infraction.



52. Any team official receiving a match penalty under USA Hockey Rule 601 (Abuse of the Official) shall be assessed a fine of \$100 in addition to the suspension requisite with the penalty.

53. When a player, coach or other team official receives a game misconduct, or match penalty in a NJYHL game, that suspension must be served in the immediate subsequent League game(s). This is independent of any USA Hockey suspension incurred, although they may be served concurrently.

Note: If the next scheduled game is non-league, the USA Hockey penalty must be served in that game with the League suspension being served in the next League game.

If the penalty is assessed at the end of the playing season, the suspension shall follow the player, coach or other team official into the start of the next season in the event the player, coach or other team official joins another NJYHL Association the following season. It is the Associations and the player's responsibility to be transparent about serving this suspension. Rules regarding the playing an ineligible player will apply if the player participates in a game in the following season without properly serving the suspension.

A. The Commissioner must be contacted immediately in the event of a fighting major or match penalty to determine the length of the suspension. It is the offending team's responsibility to notify the Commissioner. Failure to notify the Commissioner will result in a (30) day suspension from play for the player and a \$500.00 fine for the Association.

B. The League Statistician and the USA Hockey electronic Officiating system will monitor all penalties requiring suspensions. All penalties accrued in non-league games which require suspension must be reported to the Commissioner. Penalties accrued in non-league games which require a suspension in excess of three (3) games must also be reported to the Commissioner.

C. Any coach using an ineligible player (one who is not properly rostered, over-aged or under suspension) in a game will result in the following maximum additional penalties being assessed:

Coach - ten (10) game suspension





Player - five (5) game suspension

The offending Association will be fined \$1,000 per game.

The offending team will forfeit each game where the ineligible player participated.

- D. Any player serving a suspension must not be in the playing area (Bench, Penalty Box, and Scorekeeper Area).
- E. Any coach or team official who is ejected from a game or who is serving a suspension may not be in the area of the player's locker room or bench or in any way coach the team during a game while under the suspension or ejection.
- F. A coach receiving a second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Game Misconduct in a League or non-League game in a season will be suspended for three (3) League games. A coach who receives a third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Game Misconduct in a League or non-League game in a season will be suspended for five (5) league games. Any coach that receives three (3) or more game misconducts in a season, for whatever reason, is also subject to supplemental discipline assessed by the commissioner. The Commissioner has the discretion to modify suspensions under these rules.

54. The Commissioner shall have the power to suspend any member Association, team, player or team official for conduct detrimental to hockey, either on or off the ice. The president of a hockey club should be notified immediately by the league of suspensions that involve any player or coach in their Association. Written notice of such suspension shall be sent to the delegate of the Association involved.

55. No game official or anyone other than the Commissioner can reduce or increase a suspension.

56. The right of appeal is granted to any player, coach or team official who receives a suspension involving more than three (3) games. The right of appeal is also granted to any Association or



individual who is suspended under the Rule regarding Conduct detrimental to hockey. This appeal must be submitted in writing to the Commissioner and President within seventy-two (72) hours of notification of suspension. A copy of the score sheet must be included with the appeal if a game was involved. A review by the Executive Board will be performed within five (5) calendar days after receipt of the appeal.

The decision of the Executive Board shall be final. No decision of the Commissioner shall be overturned except by a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board members. All appeals must be accompanied by a \$25 fee, which shall be refunded, if the appeal is successful.

## Protests

57. To make a protest, written notice of such protest must be sent to the Commissioner and President within seventy-two (72) hours of the game or incident being protested. The protest must be accompanied by a \$25 fee, which shall be refunded if the protest is upheld. Protests regarding the use of an ineligible player may be made upon discovery and are not subject to the 72-hour rule.

## Score Sheets

58. It is the responsibility of the home team to maintain an official record of each game. Teams should use the score sheet provided by the League at the beginning of the season. The score sheet will be the official record and must be signed by the referees. The game must also be uploaded to the online scoring system within 24 hours of the game or before the next League game for the teams on the scoresheet, whichever is sooner, using the username and password provided by the League.

59. Any game not uploaded within 24 hours will be subject to a \$100 fine. Any team consistently delinquent in sending in a game score sheet may receive an additional penalty at the discretion of the Commissioner.



60. It is the home team's responsibility to see that the scorekeeper writes firmly and clearly so that all copies of the score sheet are legible. The game identifying information including level, game number, date and location are required to be filled in where designated on the score sheet.

## Officials

61. The Referee in Chief or his designees shall assign on ice game officials for all League games using the following guidelines.

- A. No game official may be assigned to a game in which said official is related to a coach, player or manager of either team.
- B. No official shall accept any assignment to officiate a game in which he is related to a coach, player or manager on either team. Any official who accepts such an assignment shall forfeit his fee for the game and in addition shall be fined the amount he would have earned.
- C. This rule shall not apply to the situation in which an assigned official fails to appear and both teams agree to allow a person present at the rink to act as an official. Where there are no officials available who are acceptable to both teams involved, the game shall be replayed.
- D. If an official does not report for an assigned game, the Referee in Chief and/or his appointees must be notified within 24 hours of game time. The Referee in Chief is authorized at his discretion to withhold further officiating assignments from said official.



E. No official under the age of 21 may be assigned to officiate a 16U or 18U level game unless approved by the League Referee in Chief.

F. It is strongly recommended that officials be at least 14 years of age or older to officiate in the NJYHL, unless approved by the Referee in Chief and/or his appointees.

G. It is strongly recommended that officials be at least 2 age levels higher than the level he or she is officiating (e.g., 14U official may officiate 10U games).

H. If only one official is available for a game, the official is to be paid at the following rate assuming the game is played:

8U, 10U: 1.5 times the usual rate

12U, 14U, 16U, 18U: 2 times the usual rate

62. All officials must be completely registered by USA Hockey and must complete all credentialing requirements including Safe Sport training and background screening.

63. A two-man official system shall be used for all age levels.

64. It shall be the official's decision at the rink if the ice or conditions are not suitable to play the game. No game shall be played when any portion of the ice surface has been compromised and the concrete base has been exposed, or when significant rutting, gouges or depressions exist. No game shall be played on a rink with loose or missing boards or glass. In the event that the ice surface or rink is not suitable to play a League game, the Association shall notify the NJYHL and reschedule the game. If these conditions are discovered during the course of a game, the game shall be stopped to attempt to repair the problem. If the problem cannot be repaired at that time, the game will be stopped and finished at a later date upon



rescheduling with the League. It is the official's responsibility to determine that the ice surface and rink are safe and suitable for game play both before and during each game.

65. The official must print their names and then sign the game score sheet at the end of each game. If a computer is used to score the game the referees should type their name in the referee box to attest that statistics are entered properly. No changes may be made in the score sheet once it is signed.
- A. Before signing the score sheet, the official shall review all penalties to ensure that they have been recorded correctly and any penalty requiring suspension is clearly indicated as such.
  - B. If it is necessary to submit an incident report, it must be submitted electronically using the USA Hockey Officiating Incident report system. Do not write on the back of the score sheet. The report must be completed by both game officials and submitted in accordance with USA Hockey rules and requirements. The report should clearly state the facts.
  - C. The score sheet is given to the home team for distribution. The official does not receive a copy of the score sheet.
66. The home team shall pay officials for regular season games.
67. The Administrative Vice President shall pay officials for the Playoffs. It is expected that the local Officiating Assignor at the rink where NJYHL playoffs are held provide supervising assistance during the event.
68. Association Delegates shall report to the Referee in Chief if any game official fails to fulfill their duties properly.



69. All officials must attend a meeting conducted by the Referee in Chief before the start of the League season each year. Policies and rules of the League shall be reviewed at this meeting.
70. Spectators at all League games are expected to act with decorum and show good sportsmanship. While crowd control is the responsibility of the home team, if an official feels that the actions of the spectators are having a disruptive influence on the progress of the game, he shall advise the home team to warn the spectators involved to discontinue their disruptive behavior or they will be cleared from the rink. If, in the judgment of the game officials, the spectators have not responded positively to the warning, the officials may then order the rink cleared of any fans they so designate. The official is required to record the name of any spectator on the score sheet. The official will not continue the game until the spectator has been identified by the offending team's coach. The Commissioner will assess a \$250 fine to the offending team for each spectator ejection. The Commissioner also has the right to suspend the related player for a parent/guardian ejection.
71. All NJYHL Officiating Assignors are required to use the league designated online scheduling tool to schedule league games. Failure to do so may result in the assignor being replaced by the NJYHL Referee in Chief. Officiating Assignors are required to attend a meeting before the start of the League season if the NJYHL chooses to schedule one in order to be eligible to assign games for the NJYHL. The NJYHL Referee in Chief and the Executive Board will establish policies to address conflicts of interest.
- A. Any Officiating Assignor who also coaches in the NJYHL cannot assign any NJYHL games for the team and level he/she coaches unless approved by the Referee in Chief.
  - B. Officiating Assignors must perform a minimum of three evaluations each month of new Level 1 and Level 2 officials.
  - C. An Officiating Assignor who coaches for a different Association than he assigns for, cannot assign officials for games on the level he coaches.



## Coaches, Managers and Other Team Officials

72. All coaches, managers and other team officials (including penalty box and locker room attendants) must adhere to the USA Hockey Coaching Education program requirements, Safe Sport certification requirements and background screening requirements as appropriate to be added to a USA Hockey team roster.
73. All Association hockey/coaching directors, coaches and managers are required to attend a meeting before the start of the League season if the NJYHL chooses to schedule one.
- A. Hockey Director and/or Coaches: The purpose of this meeting, conducted by the Coach in Chief, is to review League policies and Rules and Regulations. The League will also use this meeting as an opportunity to have the Referee in Chief update coaches on any rule changes and how those changes will be called on the ice. Failure of an Association/team to be represented at the Hockey Director Meeting will result in an automatic fine of \$100.
  - B. Team Managers: The purpose of this meeting, conducted by the Executive Vice President with the Executive Board, is to review League policies and Rules and Regulations. The League will also use this meeting to train new team managers on the use of the electronic scorekeeping system. Failure of an Association/team to be represented at the Manager's meeting will result in an automatic fine of \$100 per team.
74. Coaches and Managers should be knowledgeable of the League's Bylaws and Rules and Regulations. Coaches are directly responsible for the implementation of all policies and procedures of the League with their respective teams. If there are any questions or problems, it is the coach's responsibility to contact his Association's League delegate who, in turn, will contact the appropriate League officer if clarification is needed.



75. Coaches should make every effort to develop and expand their knowledge of the game and their roles as coaches. All coaches are required to attend the USA Hockey coaching education clinics and complete the age-appropriate module at the level they are rostered to coach before December 31st.
76. All coaches, managers and their representatives are expected to act courteously at all times and encourage their players to do likewise.
77. It is recommended that each coach/manager hold a parent's meeting for their team at the start of the season for the purpose of reviewing the League policies and Rules and Regulations so that parents have an understanding of them.
78. Before the start of the game, all coaches must provide their USA Hockey coaching Education Program (CEP) number, level, and the year that level was attained.
- A. Prior to the start of the game, the Official Scorer shall obtain on the scoresheet the signatures of the Head Coach along with the CEP card number, CEP level and the year the CEP level was attained for each coach.
  - B. Upon the immediate conclusion of the game, the Official Scorer shall also prepare the Official Scoresheet for signature by the Referee and initial by both head coaches and forward it to the proper authorities.
79. Any NJYHL coach who may also coach a non-NJYHL team (Tier I, high school or junior) who would do anything to keep their players from participating with their NJYHL teams, when a reasonable conflict does not exist, would be considered committing "actions deemed detrimental to hockey and/or the league" and would be subject to suspension from coaching in NJYHL.
80. If a coach fails to meet the USA Hockey Coaching Education Program requirements for the current season by December 31, the coach will be ineligible to coach in NJYHL for a minimum





of 45 days and a maximum of one year, starting at the beginning of the following season. That coach will not be permitted to return until all CEP requirements are met, with final approval from League Commissioner and Coach-in-Chief.

## Method of Determining a Winner

81. The following method is used for determining the winner of a League Division

Championship:

A. The team in each division accruing the greatest number of points will be declared the champions. Points are awarded as follows:

Win 2 points      Tie 1 point      Loss 0 points

B. If two or more teams are tied in total points, the standings will be determined using the following criteria:

1. Team having the most wins in all league games.
2. Team having accrued the most points among the tied teams (head-to-head).
3. Team having the most wins among the tied teams.
4. Team with the fewest goals against among the tied teams.
5. Team having the fewest goals against in all league games.

C. If one tiebreaker establishes a position for one or more teams, each team is placed in their applicable positions. Once a team or teams are placed, any remaining tied teams shall start the tie-breaking process at step 1.

## NJYHL Playoffs



82. The dates for NJYHL Playoffs for each age classification will be announced in June. The method of determining playoff teams will be announced in September.
83. Only players on the USA Hockey roster, including any official roster changes, may participate in the playoffs. It is the Association's responsibility to confirm that all players and coaches on their team(s) advancing to NJYHL Playoffs and/or AAHA Affiliate tournaments meet all rostering requirements, including SafeSport, background screening, CEP completion, the USA Hockey 10/20 eligibility rule, etc. as published by the NJYHL, the AAHA and USA Hockey. It is also the Association's responsibility to confirm that their Approved USA Hockey roster matches the NJYHL on-line scorekeeping roster prior to advancement into Playoffs or AAHA Affiliate Tournaments. Any deviations discovered at time of advancement may cause the team to be declared ineligible to advance and may be subject to possible fines at the discretion of the Commissioner.
84. To be eligible to participate in NJYHL Playoffs at the 14U, 16U and 18U levels, each player must participate in a minimum of 50% of the League games scheduled for the team. Any player rostered after the end of League play is ineligible for post season play. In the event of an injury or other extraordinary circumstances, the Executive Board reserves the right to waive this rule. It is the responsibility for the individual teams to ensure that all their players are eligible. If a team uses an ineligible player in a playoff game, that game will be declared a forfeit and a fine of \$1,000 will be assessed.
85. All teams participating in the League must not schedule other games during the period designated for the Playoffs.
86. All teams participating in Playoffs are permitted to have two goaltenders on the bench. If the team only has one goaltender rostered, the team may, with prior approval from the Commissioner, designate an "emergency back-up" goaltender, that will be on the bench and can only play in the event the rostered goaltender is sick or injured. That "emergency back-up" goaltender must be from an equal level or lower-level team. A goaltender from a higher-level team cannot play down.



87. Each team participating in the NJYHL Playoffs will play under a format set up by the Administrative Vice President.

A. All games will be played to a winner. If the game is tied following regulation play, the tied teams shall receive a one-minute rest period. Teams will change ends at the end of regulation time and after each overtime period. There will be a first goal wins overtime under the following format:

- 1) The teams will play a five (5) minute period at 3-on-3. If at the end of the overtime period a tie still exists, the two teams will continue playing five (5) minute 3-on-3 overtime periods until there is a winner.
- 2) Any skater on the team may be used. Changing on the fly is permitted. There will be a one-minute break at the end of every third overtime period.
- 3) Any unexpired penalty incurred in the third period will carry over into the overtime period as a 4-on-3 (5-on-3 if there is more than one penalty carrying over).
- 4) If a penalty is assessed in the overtime periods, the non-offending team will add a player (4-on-3). If a second penalty is assessed before the first has expired than the non-offending team will add a fifth player (5-on-3).
- 5) If the non-offending team does not score during the power play – then the on-ice strength will continue at 4-on-4 (5-on-5 if two penalties had been assessed) until a stoppage of play when the teams will resume play at 3-on-3.



- 6) If coincidental penalties are called – the teams will continue to skate at 3-on-3.
88. Playoffs are the responsibility of the Administrative Vice-President and designees. This includes, but is not limited to, the planning, contracting for the necessary ice requirements, coordinating all aspects of the Playoffs and soliciting volunteers to help in their operation.
89. Failure of a team to participate in the NJYHL Playoffs and/or Affiliates in the current season will result in a \$5,000 fine and will be subject to a disciplinary hearing with the Executive Board to assess if additional penalties should be applied. The Executive Board, in extenuating circumstances may waive this suspension.
90. Any team which forfeits a Playoff game shall be assessed a fine of \$2,500.
91. The Playoffs will be subsidized by the League through a fee charged to each team as part of its League expenses.
92. Team trophies will be presented for first (gold), second (silver) and third (bronze) place finishes in divisions with three or more levels and first (gold) and second (silver) place for finished in divisions with two levels.
93. Each player participating in the Playoffs will receive a souvenir remembrance.

## **AAHA Affiliate Tournament and USA Hockey National Championship**



94. The following criteria are used for determining the League representatives to the USA Hockey Affiliate Tournaments:

- A. The representatives must be registered in the Atlantic Affiliate (AAHA).
- B. Each year, the AAHA designates the number of teams at each level that will compete in the Affiliate tournament. The NJYHL uses its playoff final standings to designate those teams that are eligible to advance to the Affiliate Tournament based on the tournament brackets provided by the AAHA.
- C. The Executive Board, at its sole discretion, has the right to advance or remove any NJYHL team from eligibility for the Affiliate Tournament or Nationals if extraordinary or extenuating circumstances exist.
- D. Affiliate/National Tournament representatives must submit their team credentials to the Affiliate Registrar for review to be declared eligible to compete. In the case where a team is declared ineligible, the next team in the standings will act as the representative. Team credentials shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a) Approved USA Hockey roster which has all player birth dates verified.
  - b) All non-US citizen transfer forms approved by USA Hockey and reflected on the Approved USA Hockey roster.
  - c) Sufficient score sheets to verify that the team has played twenty (20) USA Hockey games.



- d) Sufficient score sheets to verify that each player has participated in a minimum of ten (10) games.
- e) Each coach and manager must have the appropriate completed certifications, including current CEP, Safe Sport and background screening.
- f) Each coach, manager and player must have completed USA Hockey Consent to Treat forms completed and ready for presentation.
- g) Completed AAHA Affiliate Credentialing form (to be provided by the Affiliate Registrar)

## **Payment and Assessment of Fines**

- 95. Each Association shall have a standing escrow account of \$1,000 against which all fines incurred shall be assessed.
- 96. The League Treasurer at each League NJYHL Board Meeting shall announce fines incurred.
  - A. A fine of \$1,000 shall be assessed for any forfeit incurred unless another amount is specifically stated, or it is stated that no fine shall apply.
  - B. Any Association not submitting funds by the designated date will be considered suspended until funds are received and any games scheduled during that period will be considered forfeits.



C. The escrow balance must be maintained at \$1,000. All moneys used for payments must be replaced prior to the next NJYHL Board Meeting to maintain voting rights.

97. The Commissioner, at his discretion, may assess fines as appropriate for all instances not covered in these Rules and Regulations up to a \$1,000 maximum per fine.

## Code of Ethics

98. All Associations are responsible for the actions of their team members, team officials and their fans.

99. All individuals associated with the NJYHL or one of its member Associations shall conduct themselves in a proper manner at all times.

A. Improper conduct is defined as behavior deemed detrimental to the philosophy and objectives of the League, as well as any action which produces results detrimental to any team or individual players in the League.

B. Repeated instances of improper conduct shall be dealt with by the Executive Board, which may include suspension of the player from the next game as a result of parental behavior.

100. All parents / guardians of NJYHL players are subject to the Zero Tolerance Physical Abuse Policy.

A. Any parent / guardian that attempts to cause physical injury, or makes the threat thereof, to any individual associated with the NJYHL or its member Associations shall be subject, and his/her child (children) shall be subject, to immediate suspension from NJYHL play



and/or other League involvement for up to one year at the discretion of the Commissioner.

- B. A second instance of an attempt to threaten or cause physical injury shall result in up to a three-year suspension for the player(s) and the parent / guardian from any involvement with the NJYHL.

101. In order to create an atmosphere demonstrative of proper spectatorship, good sportsmanship, proper conduct, it is the policy of the NJYHL to ban all noise making devices at League games. This includes, but not limited to, cowbells, whistles and clickers. This policy would also include the banning of any sound music system during a team's called time out, after a goal is scored or after a stoppage of play. The use of any music system during warm-ups or between periods is at the discretion of the officials.

102. All individuals associated with the NJYHL or one of its member Associations are expected to uphold the value of honesty, good sportsmanship and have respect for the integrity and role of the other member Associations as well as their own Association.