

MAINE AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION SCREENING POLICY

A. General: MEAHA has implemented a new online background-screening with Protect Youth Sports starting in October 2010. All coaches (head and assistants), officials, managers and other individuals who have routine access to children (anyone under the age of majority) must consent to be screened through MeAHA and complete the Protect Youth Sports screening process.

Further, it is MEAHA's policy that all member associations affiliated with MEAHA adopt this Screening Policy as a condition of their affiliation.

B. Deadlines: All coaches, managers and other individuals required to be screened must complete the MeAHA screening process before any interactions with players and teams. All officials must complete the MeAHA screening process by December 31 of the playing season. Any individual who begins an activity after the applicable playing season deadline that would require the individual to be subject to the MEAHA Screening Policy must complete the screening process within thirty (30) days after beginning such activity.

C. Disqualifying Events: An individual may be disqualified and prohibited from serving as a coach, official, manager or any other position of MEAHA or its member associations if the person has:

- (i) Conviction of (including crimes of which have been expunged and pleas of no contest) of a crime of child abuse, sexual abuse of a minor, physical abuse, causing a child's death, neglect of a child, murder, manslaughter, felony assault, any assault against a minor, kidnapping, arson, criminal sexual conduct, prostitution related crimes or controlled substances;
- (ii) Adjudged liable for civil penalties or damages involving sexual or physical abuse of children;
- (iii) Subjected to a court order involving any sexual abuse or physical abuse of a minor including, but not limited to, domestic orders or protections of a minor;
- (iv) Termination of parental rights;
- (v) Any history with another organization (whether volunteer, employment, or independent contractor) of complaints of sexual or physical abuse of minors;
- (vi) Resignation or termination or a request to resign from any position, paid or unpaid, due to complaints of sexual or physical abuse of minors;
- (vii) A conviction or plea of no contest to any alcohol-related offense in the previous seven (7) years or any drug-related offense.

In addition, MEAHA reserves the right to disqualify from participation in any of its sanctioned activities any individual who has a history of other behavior that they may be a danger to children associated with MEAHA.

Any individual, who is subject to the provisions of this Screening Policy, will be summarily suspended if arraigned by a Municipal, State or Federal Court of Law on charges, which fall into the categories, covered by the policy. The person shall remain suspended until the MEAHA Disciplinary / Dispute Resolution Committee, in accordance with Section 51 of the MEAHA Bylaws, convenes a hearing.

D. Screening Results and Appeal Procedure: Each screened individual will be advised of any adverse information as a result of the screening process ("Pre-Adverse Action Notice") and will be notified of any adverse decision by MEAHA ("Adverse Action Notice"). All notifications shall be in writing and shall be sent by certified mail. Individuals may appeal adverse decisions to the MEAHA Disciplinary.

Dispute Resolution Committee. Such appeals must be filed within 10 days of receipt of notification of decision. For purposes of the MEAHA Screening Policy, receipt of all notices shall be presumed to occur the third (3) calendar day after mailing of the notice by certified mail. If the adverse action is upheld by the MEAHA Disciplinary / Dispute Resolution Committee or upon the expiration of the appeal period if the adverse action is not appealed, MEAHA shall notify USA Hockey, the New England District and the applicable club, league and/or organization that, pursuant to MEAHA's Screening Policy, the individual does not meet the qualifications to participate in MEAHA or USA Hockey activities. No details of the nature of the disqualification will be disclosed except as otherwise required by law.

E. Compliance: Each member association, coach, official, manager or other individual required to be screened shall comply with MEAHA Screening Policy.

E. Screening Procedure and Instructions: The MEAHA Online Background Screening Program Instructions for completing the online screening process can be accessed from the MEAHA website. After an individual completes the process, The MeAHA screening committee (the President of MeAHA, MeAHA Risk Manager and Administrator) shall order the background screening weekly and all reports

from Protect Youth Sports shall be return to said committee.

MeAHA may prepare and distribute additional rules and procedures to implement this Screening Policy.

F. Refusal to Be Screened: Any individual required to be screened who does not consent to be screened and complete the Axiom screening process as required shall not be allowed to participate in any MEAHA, New England District or USA Hockey sanctioned activities, including but not limited to all team activities and any other “on ice” or “off ice” hockey activities.

G. Non-Compliance: Any member association and/or coach, manager or other individual required to be screened not complying with the MEAHA Screening Policy will be referred to the MEAHA Disciplinary/ Dispute Resolution Committee for appropriate action.

H. Re-Screening Cycle: Screening checks will be completed on a 3-year cycle. MEAHA may adjust this period on an association-by-association basis to balance the renewal cycle.

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Adopted from CAHA.