

PLSHA Travel Policy

Often PLSHA participation involves overnight travel for teams to games and tournaments. Youth players are most vulnerable to abuse or misconduct during travel, particularly overnight stays. This includes a high risk of player to player misconduct. During travel, players may be away from their families and support networks, and the setting – new locker rooms, automobiles, and hotel rooms – is less structured and less familiar. A travel policy provides guidelines so that care is taken to minimize one-on-one interactions between youths and adults while traveling. Further, the policy directs how youth players will be supervised between and during travel to and from practice and competitions. Adherence to travel policies helps to reduce the opportunities for misconduct.

- Local Travel
 - Teams, coaches, administrators and/or volunteers should avoid sponsoring, coordinating, or arranging for local travel, and the parents/guardians of a youth player should be responsible for making all local travel arrangements.
 - Teams, coaches, administrators and/or volunteers who are not also acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated player and should only drive with at least two other players or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the player's parent or guardian.
 - Where teams, coaches, administrators and/or volunteers are involved in the player's local travel, efforts should be made to ensure that they are not alone with an unrelated player, by e.g., picking the players up in groups.
 - Coaches, administrators and/or volunteers who are also a player's parent or guardian may provide shared or carpool travel arrangements.
- PLSHA or Team Travel
 - Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a youth player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player).
 - Because of the greater distances, coaches, volunteers, and chaperones will often travel with the players. No coach or volunteer will engage in a team travel without the proper safety requirements in place and on record, including valid drivers' licenses, proper insurance, well maintained vehicles, and compliance with all state laws. All chaperones shall have been screened in compliance with section III of the USA Hockey SafeSport Program Handbook and all team drivers shall have been screened and the screen shall include a check of appropriate Department of Motor Vehicle records.
 - PLSHA or team shall provide adequate supervision through coaches and other adult chaperones (e.g., a recommended number would include at least one coach or adult chaperone for each five to eight players). If a team is composed of both male and female players, then if at all possible, chaperones shall be arranged of the same gender.
 - Players should share rooms with other players of the same gender, with 2-4 players assigned per room depending on accommodations. Regular monitoring and curfew checks should be made of each room by at least two properly screened adults.
 - The team personnel shall ask hotels to block adult pay per view channels.

- Individual meetings between a player and coach may not occur in hotel rooms.
- All players shall be permitted to make regular check in phone calls to parents. Team personnel shall allow for any unscheduled check in phone calls initiated by either the player or parents/guardians.
- Family members who wish to stay in the team hotel shall be permitted and encouraged to do so.
- The Team shall comply with reasonable parental requests when a child is away from home without a parent/guardian.
- Specific travel itineraries will be distributed to parents when they are available and will include a detailed itinerary as well as contact information for all team personnel and chaperones.
- If disciplinary action against a player is required while the player is traveling without his/her parents, parents will be notified before taking any action.
- No coach or chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- In all cases involving travel, parents have the right to transport their youth player and have the youth player stay in their hotel room.