

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Table of Contents

Code of Ethics: Coaches2
 Officials3
 Parents4
 Players5
 Disciplinary Policy.....6

House League Teams.....9
Traveling Teams.....12
Season Outline.....16
FFHA Board Members & Significant Others.....17

Purpose

The purpose of the Fergus Falls Hockey Association, as stated in the Board of Directors Minutes as of its 7/8/93 meeting, is as follows:

- A. To help youth who participate become better citizens, better sports persons, and more educated in the sport of hockey and the art of skating.
- B. To provide our youth with a set of safe and enjoyable experiences.
- C. To aid participating youth in their physical, social, and mental development.
- D. To provide an opportunity for our youth to develop a set of values, such as self-control, patience and courage.

(Revised September 2017 approved September 2017 for the 2017-2018 season).

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

COACHES CODE OF ETHICS

- A. All coaches will:
1. Keep in mind that the player is the most important part of the program. Also, learning and developing are more important than winning.
 2. Understand the rules of the game and share that understanding with the players.
 3. Treat players fairly.
 4. Be prompt.
 5. Display kindness, consideration, and understanding towards the players.
 6. Share ideas and techniques with other coaches for the betterment of the program.
 7. Be considerate of other teams.
 8. Be well prepared for practices.
 9. Have a positive attitude at all times.
 10. Have knowledge of First Aid.
 11. Teach players to respect officials' decisions.
 12. Attend a USA coach's clinic each fall as required for coaching level and complete all USA coaching requirements by deadline.
 13. Inform players not to shoot pucks at the bleacher area in any arena during a warm up as recommended by USA for insurance purposes.
 14. Each traveling team coach will have a policy of how he/she will determine an unexcused absence to players and parents at their first team meeting. Expectations, consequences, etc., will be laid out at that time. Players and parents will sign this policy stating that they understand it and will accept it.
 15. Hold all team gatherings at a public place (i.e. arena board room, pizza parlor, etc.)
- B. Coaches will not:
1. Offer players rewards for performance.
 2. Use offensive language.
 3. Solicit players for their own team.
- C. Any unlawful behavior by a player must be reported to the Player Discipline Committee for consideration of disciplinary action.
- D. Any disciplinary action involving suspension of a player must be reported by the coach to the Player Disciplinary Committee.
- E. Non-compliance with this code of ethics will result in a review of the coach by the Hockey Director to determine disciplinary action.

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- F. Coaches will follow procedure for absenteeism (in all cases) of a player according to the procedure under PLAYERS CODE OF ETHICS.

- G. In the event of questions or concerns, the procedure to follow is:
 - 1. Take the concern directly to the party - parent, team manager, coach, official, etc.
 - 2. Take the concern to the Hockey Director.
 - 3. Take the concern to the FFHA Grievance Committee.
 - 4. The Grievance Committee will submit a written report of action(s) taken to the Board of Directors and the interested parties.

- H. Coaching Applications will be posted on the FFYHA Website.

OFFICIALS CODE OF ETHICS

- A. Officials are expected to:
 - 1. Know the rules of the game.
 - 2. Be professional.
 - 3. Be on time.
 - 4. Be courteous.
 - 5. Be consistent and impartial.
 - 6. Refrain from abusive or offensive language.
 - 7. Refrain from the use of tobacco or alcohol prior to and/or during games.
 - 8. Be properly attired as governed by the USA rules.
 - 9. Attend a referee clinic each fall.

- B. In the event of questions or concerns, the procedure to follow is:
 - 1. Take the concern directly to the party - coach, parent, official, etc.
 - 2. Take the concern to the Head Official and the President of the FFHA.
 - 3. Take the concern to the FFHA Grievance Committee.
 - 4. The Grievance Committee will submit a written report of action(s) taken to the Board of Directors and the interested parties.

OFFICIALS COMPENSATION

Officials' compensation shall be: Level 3/Youth: \$40.00/game.....Adult: \$50.00/game
 Level 2/Youth: \$30.00/game..... Adult: \$45.00/game
 Level 1/Youth: \$25.00/game..... Adult: \$40.00/game

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

PARENTS/SPECTATORS CODE OF ETHICS

- A. Parents should:
1. Remember that youth are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment, not yours. (Make this a positive experience for all participants).
 2. Encourage players to abide by the rules.
 3. Teach their children that honest effort is as important as winning.
 4. Try to turn defeat into victory by helping your child work towards skill development and good sportsmanship. Remember that learning and development as a person and a player are more important than winning.
 5. Recognize the value and importance of our coaches.
 6. Let the coaches' coach.
- B. Parents should not:
1. Force an unwilling child to participate in sports.
 2. Publicly question an official's judgment or honesty.
 3. Ridicule or criticize a player.
 4. Condone physical or verbal abuse of players.
 5. Criticize coaches.
 6. Engage in verbal or physical altercations with players, coaches, officials, or other spectators whether at our arena or that of another community's.
- C. Spectators:
- Using profanity towards a player coach, official or another spectator will be removed from the premises. An official or arena personnel will give the direct removal. Police action will be solicited if necessary. The President or Tournament Director designee will review the situation and inform the party of their decision in writing as to the length of their suspension from the premises.
- D. If any parent/guardian verbally or physically threatens a coach, player, other spectator or official, that person may be banned from the arena for the remainder of the season, and/or other action may be taken. This decision will be made by the Board of Director(s) after reviewing the situation. This includes situations that arise at another community's arena.
- E. In the event of questions or concerns, the procedure to follow is:
1. Wait 24 hours.
 2. Contact the Coach, Parent, or official to arrange a face to face meeting time and place to discuss the issue. A neutral party must be present during the meeting. (Ex. Hockey Director, Board President, or Discipline/ Grievance Committee Chairperson.)
 3. Take the concern to the President of the FFHA by filling out a complaint form.

FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

4. This concern will be brought to the FFHA Complaint Committee.
5. The appropriate committee will investigate this issue and make a recommendation for resolution to the Board President for approval. There will also be a written report kept by the Discipline/ Grievance Committee Chairperson. The FFHA Board of Directors will be notified of the resolution.
6. The Decision of the Discipline/ Grievance Committee and Board President will be final.

PLAYERS CODE OF ETHICS

- A. Realizing that they are representatives of the City of Fergus Falls and the Fergus Falls Youth Hockey Association, all players will:
1. Follow USA Hockey rules.
 2. Follow Fergus Falls Youth Hockey Association Rules and Regulations.
 3. Learn the rules and regulations of the game.
 4. Demonstrate a good work ethic and sportsmanship
 5. Conduct themselves in a positive manner.
 6. Respect other players, coaches, officials, and facilities.
 7. Be a team player.
 8. Recognize that coaches, **not parents**, are the primary source of instruction in the game.
 9. Be prompt at all practices and games. No unexcused absences from team functions will be tolerated. If circumstances arise that make attendance impossible, notify the coach beforehand. There are definitely legitimate reasons for missing a practice, or even a game. Injury, illness, academic situations and religion are a few examples that may be excused at the coach's discretion.
 10. Be properly equipped. The following equipment is required for Mites, 8U, Squirts, 10U, PeeWees, 12U and Bantams. This equipment is strongly suggested for Otter/ Gopher Mites. (As recommended by USA Hockey).
 - a. Shin/Knee pads.
 - b. Helmet with approved mask.
 - c. Colored mouth/teeth guard
 - d. Elbow pads.
 - e. Breezers or girdle.
 - f. Cup supporter.
 - g. Shoulder pads.
 - h. Throat protector collar (required for goalies; recommended for others).
 - i. All standard goalie equipment when practicing or playing in the goal (except Mites).
 11. Wear uniforms for game purposes only. Violators of this will result in loss of these

FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

items as stated in the Board of Directors policy.

12. New Jersey instructions (Nov. 2015 Meeting Minutes)-
 1. Must have a garment bag
 2. No alterations are allowed
 3. If jerseys are damaged parents are responsible for replacing

- B. Playing or practicing without proper equipment may result in suspension for that game or practice by the coach.

- C. The use or possession of tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs will result in an immediate suspension. **USA Hockey rules will be followed**, and additional penalties may be added by the FFHA Board of Directors.

- D. Unlawful behavior by a player may result in immediate suspension of the player and must be reported to the Player Discipline Committee for review and consideration of disciplinary action.

- E. Any player removed from a game for fighting will be suspended. A coach may suspend a player for fighting during practice or travel. Length will be determined between the Player Discipline Committee and the coach. USA rules will be used as guidelines.

- F. Chronic discipline problems will be brought before the Hockey Board of Directors for consideration of suspension for the remainder of the season.

- G. In the event of questions or concerns, the procedure to follow is:
 1. Wait 24 hours.
 2. Contact the Coach, Parent, or official to arrange a face to face meeting time and place to discuss the issue. A neutral party must be present during the meeting. (Ex. Hockey Director, Board President, or Discipline/ Grievance Committee Chairperson.)
 3. Take the concern to the President of the FFHA by filling out a complaint form.
 4. This concern will be brought to the FFHA Complaint Committee.
 5. The appropriate committee will investigate this issue and make a recommendation for resolution to the Board President for approval. There will also be a written report kept by the Discipline/ Grievance Committee Chairperson. The FFHA Board of Directors will be notified of the resolution.
 6. The Decision of the Discipline/ Grievance Committee and Board President will be final.

DISCIPLINARY POLICY

- A. Authority: Disciplinary Actions- Suspensions
 1. The Fergus Falls Hockey Association, along with its' directors, board members, and

FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

- coaches have the authority to manage their programs and issue discipline to any party within its program. This includes suspension, probation, censure, financial penalty or other forms of discipline, as stated in Minnesota Hockey Bylaw Article 6.
2. In cases where such discipline leads to a suspension of the party, a Hearing as outlined below and in USA Hockey Bylaw 10 is required.
 3. Exclusions – Hearings are not required for automatic playing rule suspensions, suspensions of officials per MHOA Bylaws, or situations as outlined in USA Hockey Bylaws Article 10, "Exclusions From Unified Procedure".
- B. Administrative Action: An action or decision by an Authority having jurisdiction that affects any party's membership or their eligibility to participate.
- C. Disputes:
1. The Fergus Falls Hockey Association is required to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of disputes (grievances), including notice and opportunity for a Hearing if applicable.
 2. A party contesting an Administrative Action shall be afforded a Hearing.
- D. Hearings: USA Hockey has developed a unified process on how to conduct Hearings (USAH Bylaw 10). When conducting a hearing, the Fergus Falls Hockey Association must closely follow this process to resolve disputes.
1. The Fergus Falls Hockey Association must hear disputes within thirty (30) days, provide a minimum of seven days' notice of the Hearing date and location, and make reasonable efforts to convene the hearing in a location accessible to all parties. The Hearing Notice must include the process and rules that will be used to conduct the Hearing. In suspension/discipline cases, the grounds for the proposed suspension/discipline, the consequences of an adverse finding, and issues to be resolved by the Hearing panel should be included in the notice.
 2. The Hearing Panel shall consist of a minimum of three (3) reasonably impartial persons. The Hearing panel shall consist of the FFHA President, Hockey Directors and Safe Sport Coordinator.
 3. The panel may in its discretion hold a formal or informal Hearing, in person or by telecom; hear any evidence it feels is relevant; place limitations on time, evidence and documentation; allow witnesses or written statements; and establish other hearing rules. Each party shall be treated equally, and shall have reasonable opportunity to present their case, in accordance with the established rules.
 4. Parties may be represented by counsel, but the counsel's role in the Hearing is limited to listening only. Counsel may advise the parties quietly during the hearing or during a recess in the Hearing.
 5. Findings must be supported by a preponderance of the evidence (more likely true than

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

not true) that an applicable rule has been violated. The decision logic must be included in the written findings. The Panel must endeavor to render its decision within (5) days of the Hearing and mail a written decision within (15) days of the Hearing. The decision must include the parties' right(s) of appeal. Decisions can affect only parties that were part of the Hearing (cannot be expanded to discipline a party that was not a subject of the Hearing).

- E. Appeals: Any member, team, league or local association who has standing in the matter may appeal a disciplinary suspension or administrative action, in writing, to the District Director for a period of ten (10) calendar days, after a decision was rendered or a Hearing refused within its own league or association. Such appeal must state that it is an appeal, and provide the rationale, citing the applicable rule or regulation, as to why the disciplinary suspension or administrative action should be overturned or modified. In all appeals, the appealing party is required to establish the merits of the appeal. The District Director shall make a written determination within twelve (12) calendar days of receipt of a valid appeal. The decision of the District Director may be appealed, in writing, for a period of ten (10) calendar days to the cognizant Maroon or Gold Vice President, who will issue a written ruling within twelve (12) calendar days. Any decision of the Divisional Vice President may be appealed for a period of ten (10) calendar days to the MH Grievance Committee which must make a written determination within twelve (12) calendar days of receipt of a written appeal. The decision of the Grievance Committee shall be final except as noted in the paragraph hereinafter titled "USAH Appeal".
- F. Appeal Process:
1. The District Director, Regional Vice President and Grievance Committee may make their determination by holding personal meetings, or communicating through the mail, e-mail or conference call(s).
 2. The "Hearing" format is not typically used for appeals, since the intent is to review the appropriateness of the initial decision, not to provide another forum in which to present the same arguments or evidence. Appeals are generally handled solely on written submissions, and the appealing parties should be notified that no personal appearances can be made.
 3. The appealing party must provide a basis for the appeal by referring to the relevant rules and/or regulations and describing why the previous decisions made were flawed or incorrect. These elements are essential when considering the basis for appeal. Appeal Requests lacking this information may be rejected for cause.
 4. Only the evidence and theories explicitly presented to the initial decision-making body for consideration prior to rendering of its decision shall be presented or considered for appeal. In the event new evidence is discovered, it must be identified as such and included in the Appeal Request. If it is determined by the entity considering the appeal

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

that the new evidence would have likely affected the initial decision, the matter will be referred back to the initial hearing body.

5. If the entity considering the appeal uses a Hearing format to assist in making its determination, the process in the paragraph titled "Hearings" hereinbefore will be used.
- G. MH Board Appeal: Decisions by MH Committees other than the Grievance Committee or the Screening Committee may be appealed to the MH Board of Directors by providing written notice within fourteen (14) calendar days of a written decision. The appealing party must provide the rationale as to why the disciplinary suspension or administrative action should be overturned or modified.
- H. USAH Appeal: Decisions of the MH Grievance Committee, Screening Committee or the MH Board of Directors may be appealed to USAH according to the provisions of USAH Bylaw 10 - Dispute Resolution, Discipline, and Arbitration.
- I. Dispute Resolution: It is the policy of the Fergus Falls Hockey Association that any individual seeking an appeal regarding an administrative decision must first exhaust the rights and remedies available under the Fergus Falls Hockey Association Rules and Regulations and Bylaws, the MH Articles and Bylaws and USA Hockey Bylaws. To seek recourse through other means outside the jurisdiction of the Hockey Association shall be deemed conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Fergus Falls Hockey Association, Minnesota Hockey and USA Hockey.

HOUSE LEAGUE TEAMS

- A. Levels determined by age or as of July 1. In the instance where a player is young for their grade in school, that player will have the option to play with their classmates. An example of this would be a 4th grader that turned 9 after the July 1st cut off being allowed to play Squirts.

Age on 7/1/17 → Year in Hockey ↓	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Otter	Otter	Otter	Gopher	Wild	Wild
2	N/A	Otter	Gopher	Gopher	Wild	Olympic
3	N/A	N/A	Gopher	Gopher or Wild	Wild	Olympic
4	N/A	N/A	N/A	Gopher or Wild	Wild	Olympic
5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Wild	Olympic
6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Wild	Olympic

- B. Team Selection

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. All players will be evaluated and placed on a team.
 2. All player evaluations shall be confidential and available only to the House League Director and the House League coaches.
 3. The House League Director, with the assistance of the coaches, will choose team members.
 4. Players will be drawn from pools established according to evaluation.
 5. As close as possible, teams will receive the same number of players evaluated equally.
 6. The House League Director will have final authority in cases of dispute.
 7. A head coach (parent) has the option of choosing his own child.
 8. The head coach may choose the child of assistant coaches.
- C. Early Move-Up: Requests from parents to move their child up early will not be entertained. The only instance that a player could potentially be moved up to the next level prior to the age or grade of eligibility would be in the instance that there are insufficient numbers of players at the higher level (as determined by the Board of Directors at the recommendation of the Hockey Committee). The procedures for early move-up will be as follows should the Hockey Committee feel that there is a shortage of players at a certain level.
1. Hockey Committee makes a recommendation to the Board of Directors to move a specific number of kids from one level to another level.
 2. Board of Directors approves or denies the Hockey Committee's recommendation for the number of players to be moved.
 3. Based on the numbers of players approved by the Board of Directors. A Sub-Committee of the Hockey Committee will observe players during fall clinic, placements, or try-outs. Members of the Sub-Committee should not have conflicts of interest in the decision. The Sub-Committee will make a recommendation for approval to the Hockey Committee on which players will be asked to move-up to the next level.
 4. Hockey Director will approach the parents of the player(s) and ask if they would be interested in an early move-up pending Board Approval.
 5. If the family(ies) are interested in early move-up the Hockey Director will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval on which players should move-up early.
- D. Practices:
1. Otter and Gopher will have a minimum of 1 full hour practice per week and a ½ practice prior to their house league game during the weekend; 8U/Wild and Olympic Mites will have a minimum of 2 practices per week.
 2. All Mite practices will follow the ADM format.

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

E. Games:

1. After the regular season begins, Mites and 10U/Squirts will play a minimum of one game per week during the house league season.
2. For Mites and 10U/Squirts, games will be played in one of three ways:
 - a. Stop clock every 90 seconds or two minutes for line changes, or
 - b. Change on the fly with a buzzer every 90 seconds or two minutes.
 - c. 8U/Mites (Otter/ Gopher and Wild/ Olympic) and 10U/Squirts will play 3 on 3 or 4 on 4 a minimum of 1 time per week in cross-ice format.
3. Coaches will do their best to have even match-ups on the ice.
4. 8U/Mite teams should play one time each between periods during High School games. Half ice or cross ice games can be played for Mites. Games are to be set up by the House League Director and the High School coaching staff.

F. Rules:

1. Otter and Gopher Cross Ice Games
 - a. No checking or slap shots.
 - b. Coaches shall call additional infractions only if they are deliberate.
 - c. Games will be approximately 30 minutes in length following approx. 25 minutes of practice during their designated weekend ice time.
2. Wild and Olympic Mites
 - a. No checking or slap shots.
 - b. Referee/Coaches shall call additional infractions only if they are deliberate.
3. A Mite who draws a penalty will serve the penalty by being removed from the ice for the remainder of their shift. Habitual cases will be handled by the coaches and House League director.

G. Positions

1. Coaches will attempt to use all players at each position during the regular season in house league games. This will include everyone playing goalie.
2. 8U/Mite and 10U/Squirt players will rotate playing goalie according to the goalie rotation schedule set by the House League Director, Squirt House League Director and/or the 8U and 10U coaches.

H. **Wild and Olympic Mite Season Plan** - Oversight by House League Director

1. Number of coaches 8-10 – It is best to have a MINIMUM of 6 coaches on the ice for each practice.
2. 4 of the coaches will be head house league coaches depending on the number of skaters at the Mite Level. The desired number of players per house league team will be no less than 7 and should not exceed 9. If there are enough players to form 6 teams of seven there should be 6 head coaches.

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

3. Coaches will rank kids into top third, middle third, and bottom third during the Mite placements sessions in the fall.
4. After Ranking – Head House League Coaches will hold a draft to determine the house league teams, the draft will be overseen by the house league director. If the House League Director determines that there is an imbalance in the teams, a redraft can be held at the House League Director’s discretion in an attempt to make the teams as even as possible.
5. Full Ice Games– A team or teams (depending on numbers comprised of kids in their last year of mites by age) and who played Wild mite hockey in the previous year will be able to play a maximum of 6 full ice games after Dec. 31st (including tournaments) against other towns. HLD will be responsible for setting these games up with help of the association and the arena scheduler. They should be against towns that are within an hour’s drive of Fergus Falls (E.g. Alexandria, Wahpeton, or Detroit Lakes). House League Game’s take priority over travel games (Players will not miss a house league game to participate in a travel game).
6. Mite Jamboree – All Wild and Olympic Mites will have the opportunity to play in an end of year Jamboree(s). HLD and coaches will determine the teams and the levels that the kids will play in.
7. **In all instances Wild and Olympic Mite Players will not play more than 6 full ice games per season after Dec. 31st.**

- I. **8U Season Plan** - Oversight by Girls Coordinator(s) or Girls Hockey Director
 1. Number of coaches 2-3
 2. 8U program will largely mirror that of the Mite season plan. Due to lower numbers of girls in hockey, some modifications need to be made.
 3. 8U will likely share the ice for practices.
 4. House League Games – combine with 10U to play on their own third of the ice at the same time the Squirts or Mites have their house league cross-ice games.
 5. Full Ice Games – Allowed to play up to 6 full ice travel games after Dec. 31st (including tournaments) and an end of year Jamboree. House league games are priority over travel games. Travel games are optional.
- J. Weekends Free – Mites/8U will have the Christmas weekend (whichever weekend is closest) free from practice or games (Friday through Sunday).

TRAVELING TEAMS

- A. Boys levels determined by age as of July 1. In the instance where a player is young for their grade in school, that player will have the option to play with their classmates. An example of this would be a 6th grader that turned 11 after the July 1st cut off being allowed to play Pee-Wees.
 1. Squirtages 9-10(4th and 5th Grade)

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- 2. PeeWee.....ages 11-12(6th and 7th Grade)
 - 3. Bantam.....ages 13-14(8th and 9th Grade)
- Girls level determined by age as of July 1.
- 1. 10U.....ages 9 -10(4th and 5th Grade)
 - 2. 12U.....ages 11-12(6th and 7th Grade)

B. Team Selection

- 1. Numbers permitting, there will be a Squirt A & B teams, 10U, 12U, PeeWee-A & B teams, Bantam-A & B teams.
- 2. If numbers at each level are great enough, additional teams will be created by the Hockey Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.
- 3. Players will be selected by the coaches of that level. The Hockey Director and Hockey Committee may be consulted as needed.
- 4. The number of players on traveling teams will be determined by the Hockey Director after consulting with the traveling team coaches.
- 5. Try-out dates will be determined each year.
- 6. All PeeWee/12U age players who would choose not to play on a traveling team would be welcome to play in the Squirt or 10U House League and may practice with the PeeWee B or 12U team.

C. Early Move-Up – Requests from parents to move their child up early will not be entertained. The only instance that a player could potentially be moved up to the next level prior to the age or grade of eligibility would be in the instance that there are insufficient numbers of players at the higher level (as determined by the Board of Directors at the recommendation of the Hockey Committee). The procedures for early move-up will be as follows should the Hockey Committee feel that there is a shortage of players at a certain level.

- 1. Hockey Committee makes a recommendation to the Board of Directors to move a specific number of kids from one level to another level.
- 2. Board of Directors approves or denies the Hockey Committee’s recommendation for the number of players to be moved.
- 3. Based on the numbers of players approved by the Board of Directors. A Sub-Committee of the Hockey Committee will observe players during fall clinic, placements, or try-outs. Members of the Sub-Committee should not have conflicts of interest in the decision. The Sub-Committee will make a recommendation for approval to the Hockey Committee on which players will be asked to move-up to the next level.
- 4. Hockey Director will approach the parents of the player(s) and ask if they would be interested in an early move-up pending Board Approval.
- 5. If the family(ies) are interested in early move-up the Hockey Director will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval on which players should move-

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- up early.
- D. In the event there are only enough players to form one team at any level the Hockey Committee will determine if the team will play “A” level or “B” level for the season.
- E. Sqrirt/10U Plan – Intro to Full Ice Games - Oversight – Hockey Director(s)
1. Optimum number of coaches at this level (2 travel coaches per travel team and 1 or 2 helpers for ADM practices of which 1 will be Sqt HLD).
 - a. Practice Schedule – 2/week All Squirts (Travel and House League Only) will practice in the ADM format – Sqt House League Director will lay out the practice plan. 10U and 8U will combine for their ADM practices which will be laid out by the 10U/8U coaches.

1/week – (Sqrirt Travel Team Practice) Sqrirt A’s ,B’s, and C’s will split the ice. Travel coaches will choose how they want to run their practice. 10U will share the ice with 12U for a Travel Team or combined practice.
 - b. Travel Games – The Sqrirt and 10U Travel teams will play up to a maximum of 25 traveling games (approximately half at home and half away) which will include home tournament, District 15 Tournament, and 1 away tournament. Squirts/10U will not travel beyond 115 miles of Fergus Falls. If a player misses a house league game without an excused absence, they will not be allowed to play in the next travel game.
 - c. Goalies – The Sqrirt A Team will rotate a minimum of 2 goalies for travel games. The Sqrirt B teams will rotate a minimum of 2 goalies for travel games. Kids should skate out when not playing goalie.
 - d. Weekends Free – Squirts will have the Christmas weekend (whichever weekend is closest) free from practice or games (Friday through Sunday).
 2. Playing Time – FFYHA coaches will not sacrifice player development for a win in any case at the Sqrirt Level. Our goal is to develop each and every player to their fullest potential and we will make short term win/loss sacrifices in order to maximize each player’s long-term development. Coaches will do their absolute best to make sure all players are getting equal playing time and an opportunity to play in different positions in travel and house league games.
- F. Player Movement
1. No player movement shall take place after the final USA player roster date (12/31).
 2. Prior to the final USA player roster date, player movement will be as limited as possible. The Coaches & Hockey Director must agree to the move. In the event that the parties cannot reach an agreement, the Hockey Committee will have the final say. The player(s) parents will be notified of the decision as soon as possible. Grievance procedures can be followed if a party is unsatisfied with the decision.

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- G. Pee Wee/12U/Bantam Practices
1. All teams will have a minimum of 3 practices per week.
 2. Pee Wee/12U/Bantam teams can practice before school.
 3. Goalie Clinics will be required for all Squirrel/ 10U (if they own their own equipment), PeeWee/ 12U and Bantam goalies. They must attend 80% of the clinics throughout the regular season to receive 1/2 registration credit at the end of the season. Attendance will be kept by the Goalie Coordinator.
- H. Pee Wee/12U/Bantam Games
1. There will be a maximum of 35 games for Peewees/12U and 40 for Bantams. Not including Playoffs.
 2. Any games above the maximum for each level must have the approval of the Hockey Director & Hockey Committee.
 3. When scheduling non-conference games, an attempt should be made to match teams of equal skill or a slight greater.
 4. Each traveling team may participate in 1 invitational tournament outside of Fergus Falls and have 1 home tournament. Exceptions may be made by the Hockey Director. Tournament games will count in overall number of games.
 5. The head coach, the Hockey Director and the Scheduler should determine which invitational tournaments to enter based on the above guidelines. Once an entry fee has been paid, the team must enter that tournament unless otherwise agreed between the Hockey Director and the Scheduler.
 6. Playing Time – FFYHA coaches will not sacrifice player development for a win in any case at the PW/12U/Bantam levels. Our goal is to develop each and every player to their fullest potential and we will make short term win/loss sacrifices in order to maximize each player's long-term development. Coaches will do their absolute best to make sure all players are getting equal playing time and an opportunity to play in different positions. Exceptions can be made if a player is not giving full effort, is having behavior problems, or in play-off situations.
 7. When possible, all teams will have one day per week in which no practice or games will be held, except during Playoffs.
- I. Overnight Supervision
- On overnight trips, the players are under the supervision of their parents unless different arrangements are made.
- J. PeeWees/12U and Bantams are to observe all USA rules for infractions.

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- K. Travel Team Coach Expense Policy is as follows:
1. Head coaches and assistant coaches will be reimbursed their expenses based on the reimbursement scale set by the FFHA Board of Directors. Amounts paid out are not to exceed the set amounts per level.
 - ** Coaches will be required to attend meetings as stipulated by the coaching contract with the FFHA Board of Directors
 2. FFHA will pay mileage when traveling out of town. Coaches are recommended to car pool whenever possible.
 3. FFHA will provide one double occupancy room to be shared by the Head Coach and his assistant (one) when an overnight stay is necessary. EXCEPTION: FFHA will pay for two rooms at the single rate in the same hotel when a spouse accompanies the head or assistant coach. A receipt for this lodging expense must accompany the individual's expense reimbursement form.
 4. Team members and parents are discouraged from staying with coaches.
 5. The Head Coach and one assistant coach) shall each be allowed a maximum of \$30.00 per day for food (\$8.00, \$8.00, \$14.00 for breakfast, lunch and dinner, respectively) to be substantiated by a properly completed expense reimbursement form. Submission of receipts is optional. More than 2 coaches per team will work out compensation and reimbursement.
 6. Expense reports will be submitted on a FFHA Travel Expense Reimbursement Form and will be submitted to the FFHA Treasurer.
 7. All claims for reimbursement will be approved by the appropriate FFHA individual before issuance.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Use reference in the USA Hockey Handbook Skills Guide. Information can also be found on the USA Hockey website **and www.ADMKIDS.com**

SEASON OUTLINE

- A. **THE HOCKEY SEASON WILL RUN FROM OCTOBER THROUGH MARCH.**
- B. All information, such as clinic times, tryout dates, and the FFHA Rules and Regulations will be distributed to its members.
- C. Following a clinic, team selection will begin. Bantam, PeeWee, 12U, Squirt & 10U traveling teams will be informed after tryouts as to what team they are on. All Bantam and PeeWee/12U and Squirt/10U traveling team rosters may be incomplete after the initial tryout period. Player movement up or down may occur sometime before the final roster

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

deadline of December 31. Following the season, final player conferences will be made with each player individually. Off-ice and off-season material will be available at that time.

- D. There will be a coaches meeting conducted by the Hockey Director before the season begins.
- E. The House League season will end with a Tournament to determine a championship team at each level.
- F. Following the season ending tournaments, a team recognition gathering will be held.

**FFHA CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS & SIGNIFICANT OTHERS
2016-2017 Season**

OFFICERS & OTHER BOARD MEMBERS:

President – Cyndi Young

Vice President- Cory Reinertson

Secretary – Niki Welde

Treasurer –Jeff Young

Mike Donahue, Darren Krein, Tim Lill, Eric Nelson, Curt Proffit, Nikki Richter, Susan Rohde, Laurissa Stigen, Mike Welde, Ryan Welle

HOCKEY DIRECTOR: Boys – Mike Donaghue, Girls – Tim Lill and Todd Hershner

HOCKEY COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mike Donaghue, Tim Lill, Todd Hershner, Scott DeBrito, Greg Buckmeier, Erik Johnson, (House League Director), Eric Nelson, Laurissa Stigen, Mike Pitman, Josh Shol

ARENA SCHEDULER: City of Fergus Falls

CONCESSIONS: Pam Muxfeldt

TRAVELING SCHEDULER: Mike Welde

**FERGUS FALLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

HOME TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Darren Krein

REGISTRAR: Curt Proffit & Laurissa Stigen

EQUIPMENT MANAGER: Ryan Welle

PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE: Susan Rohde

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Brady Manteufel

ROOKIE PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Niki Welde

SPONSORSHIP: Pat Shol

GAMBLING: Jessica Karsnia

WEBSITE: Cyndi Young & Curt Proffit

LEGAL ADVISOR: Sarah Cheshire

MITE HOUSE LEAGUE DIRECTOR: TBD

SQUIRT HOUSE LEAGUE DIRECTOR – TBD

GOALIE COACH: Jason Loftquist

REFEREE COORDINATOR: Jason Loftquist

TREADMILL DIRECTOR: TBD

HIGH SCHOOL COACHES: Mike Donaghue & Tim Lill

CITY LIAISON: Jim Fish