



Triad Hockey Alliance

Standard Operating

Rules / Policies / Procedures

2019-2020

Adopted May 7, 2019
Revised September 1, 2020



Introduction:

The operating rules, policies and procedures in this document are intended to provide a guide to the management and operations of the Triad Hockey Alliance (THA). These rules, policies and procedures were established and adopted by the Board of Directors and may be amended at any time by a majority vote of the Board to keep up with changes in the organization and amateur youth hockey. These are the working documents of the organization whereas the bylaws provide the framework of the organization.

Triad Hockey Alliance
Board of Directors



History:

Triad Hockey Alliance

The Triad Hockey Alliance (THA) was formed in 2015-16 as a joint collaboration between the Greensboro Youth Hockey Association (GYHA) and the Winston Youth Hockey Association (WSYHA) to help grow youth hockey in the Piedmont Triad of Central North Carolina, by fielding combined travel teams at various age levels. The combined effort was a year in the making, and was put together out of a need to better serve members of the two organizations. Due to the success of this joint effort it was determined by the founding organizations to formalize the Triad Hockey Alliance for the 2019-20 season as its own not for profit entity with a dedicated Board of Directors and operations.

The Triad Hockey Alliance program will consist of competitive travel teams at the AA, A and B/House level at the U10, U12, U14, U-16, U-18 age groups as well as a House or Rec League component. Development programs including Mite and Learn-to-Play programs will continue to be spearheaded locally within the GYHA and WSYHA organizations. but a coordinated collaborative effort for development will be undertaken

The program is to be sanctioned by [USA Hockey](#) and the [Carolina Amateur Hockey Association \(CAHA\)](#). Most teams will compete within the Carolinas Hockey League (CHL). The Triad Hockey Alliance Board of Directors which are elected by its members shall provide oversight and governance to the organization.

THA MISSION STATEMENT:

It is our mission to provide opportunities and design programs aimed at participation in youth ice hockey regardless of gender, age and ability, with an emphasis on player development and play at a competitive and appropriate skill level.

THA VISION STATEMENT:

To be the leading voice for amateur youth ice hockey in the Piedmont Triad of central North Carolina.



2019 – 2020

Board of Directors:

Zach Maggart, President
Marci Johnson, Vice-President
Marty Halpin, Treasurer
Carrie Collins, Secretary
Joe Argenta
John Endredy
Jason Gamble
Tibor Nemeth
Zack Parks

Ex-Officio (non-voting):

Dean Christy, Hockey Operations Manager
Michelle Hodges, Registrar
Dustin Koufman
Don Johnson

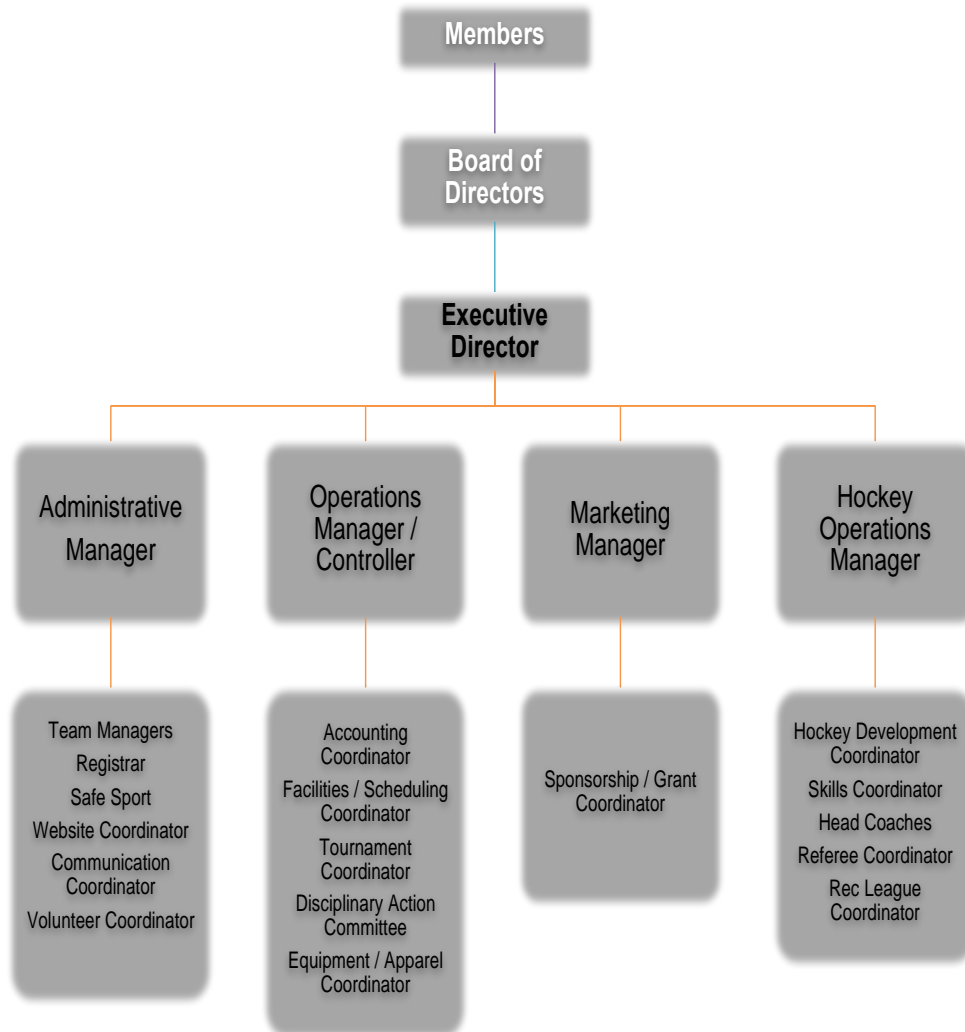
Bucky Dame, Executive Director

The Board of Directors Pledge:

It is the intent of the Triad Hockey Alliance, its Board of Directors and members to be a exemplary organization for amateur youth ice hockey within the Carolina Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA) and Carolina Hockey League (CHL) well as the Piedmont Triad Region. Special emphasis will be made to provide a fun and safe environment for everyone to enjoy while creating a lifelong love and appreciation for the sport of ice hockey. To design an environment that fosters growth both as a player and individual and to provide development of each individual player regardless of skill level. The THA will strive to make the sport of youth ice hockey affordable to everyone that wishes to participate. Collectively the organization will make every effort to create a setting that supports the development of values that can transcend the rink into the player's life while instilling the importance of overall health, fitness and well-being.



Triad Hockey Alliance Organization Chart



STANDARD OPERATING RULES, POLICIES, PROCEDURES:

I. TEAM FORMATION

1. Teams:

THA intends to form at least one ice hockey team based on available players to compete at the Travel, House Select, and House levels for 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U and 18U divisions where appropriate. Second and third teams at the travel level will require a Board decision. The THA Board may approve two teams in a division if the following exists:

- There are an adequate number of players at tryouts (see "Team Size")
- Coaches exist for a second team
- Adequate ice time is available for practices and games.

2. Team Size:

A team will consist of a minimum of 12 players plus at least 1 goalie or a maximum of 18 players and 2 goalies. If there are less than 13 registered players in a division available for a prospective team, then the THA Board reserves the right to approve solicitation of additional registrants and will hold additional tryouts. The THA Board also reserves the right to approve teams of less than 13 players under special circumstances, or to mandate an increase above the 13-player minimum. The THA Board reserves the right to approve a team up to 18 players and 2 goalies in accordance with USA Hockey guidelines. If there are not a sufficient number of qualified players available at a given age group to field, in the opinion of the Head Coach, tryout evaluators and ultimately the THA Board, a minimally competitive team, the THA Board reserves the right not to field a team at the age group for that season and in a tryout situation, will declare the tryout over and refund any money collected for tryout fees less ice cost.

3. Eligible Prospects:

Any player can tryout for the USA Hockey Division that coincides with his/her age level. Players must be registered with USA Hockey prior to the tryout (see "Players that Miss Tryouts") and not have any outstanding balances with THA (see "Fees").

4. Tryouts:

Travel and House Select Team tryouts will be held before any player selections are made. USA Hockey Certified Coaches will conduct a series of skill drills and/or scrimmage, as defined by the Tryout Committee or Tryout Committee-appointed player evaluators. The Tryout Committee will appoint a team of three qualified observers for each age level. THA will collect a fee to cover the cost of tryouts. Each player will be scored individually by the observers on each skill and/or scrimmage. The scores will be averaged and the players will be ranked according to their average score.

5. Players that Miss Tryouts:

Any player that does not attend the official tryout sessions is still eligible to join an established **or forming THA Travel or Rec Select Team** if all of the following circumstances apply:

- The team has less than 18 skaters
- The player could not attend due to illness or injury (doctor certificate required), due to a death in the family, or for some other Board approved absence
- If the player is transferring from another organization, a letter is provided stating the players previous level of play and status with the organization
- The player receives the approval of the team Hockey Operations Manager, Head Coach and Executive Director

If these circumstances are met, the player will be granted a separate or supplemental tryout session. A tryout fee will be required prior to the session.

If a player is deemed ineligible, that decision is binding throughout that THA season.

6. Play Up:

Players shall tryout and play in their respective divisions based on birth year and USA Hockey age classifications. The THA board may consider player movement between age divisions from time to time on the basis of player numbers required for team formation. See THA Play Up Policy.

7. Team Selections:

The six players with the highest scores are automatically on the team, along with the highest scoring goaltender. Remaining roster to include skaters and a second goalie is selected utilizing input from player evaluations, tryout committee and head coach. Prospective assistant coaches that have players trying out should not participate in the selection process.

8. Rostering:

A coach may add players to the team roster before the 12/31 USA Hockey deadline based on above guidelines. Any player transfer between formed THA teams will require THA Board Approval. Player transfers between THA and teams outside of THA are to meet the requirements of CAHA and USA Hockey.

II. SCHEDULE

1. Season:

THA will hold Travel Team tryouts at the end of each season. Travel practices will begin in September and conclude late February or early March and generally coincide with the CHL season. Rec Team practices generally begin in October and conclude late February or early March.

2. Practice:

Team practice frequency and duration are determined prior to the start of the season and are generally set based on USA Hockey guidelines for player development and ice availability. On ice practice will be held at either the Greensboro Ice House or Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Annex. Off ice training may be held at various locations determined by the coach.

3. Games:

The schedule and game-length rules for Travel are set by the CHL. The schedule varies based on league annual rules and the number of teams in a division. House Teams schedule and game length vary but is generally one (1) hour long.

4. Tournament Play

Teams are encouraged to participate in additional tournaments for more competition. THA does not limit the number of tournaments or the distance traveled. Individual participation is voluntary, except as required by league the team is participating in. Expenses for tournament fees (not included in program fees), travel, lodging, and meals are the responsibility of the players.

5. Ice Time Travel Hockey at all levels is competitive. Players and parents should **NOT** expect equal ice time for all players. However, coaches are expected to recognize that all players are playing for fun and skill development and will be given adequate opportunity to participate. The house program is less competitive and more focused on providing equal ice time for the fun of the game.

III. FEES / PAYMENTS / REFUNDS

The THA Board will establish fees and a payment schedule before the first regular season practice. Fees are set to accurately reflect the costs of USA Hockey fees, league fees, practice time, game time, referee expenses, and miscellaneous costs. These parameters may vary from one age division to another and the differences will be reflected in the fees.

- Players will not be allowed to practice or play once fees are past due.
- Payment: Refer to THA Payment Policy
- Refunds: Refer to THA Refund Policy

IV. EQUIPMENT

1. Required Equipment:

The following protective equipment is **required** for all THA players and coaches in accordance with USA Hockey guidelines:

Skaters:

- HECC/CSA Approved Helmet and full-face shield (metal cage or plastic). Helmets must always be worn when on the ice or bench
- Red Helmet for all teams Squirt and up
- Mouth Guard – Internal, colored (not white or clear). The guard must be mounted to the helmet mask with a proper strap. Mouth Guard is optional for Mites and Squirts unless required by the facility. Officials will insist the player wear the mouth guard if they have one on their mask.
- Throat Protector/Neck Guard – Highly recommended for all THA Players, while playing or practicing, at home or away. This is required for Squirt age players
- Shoulder Pads, Elbow Pads and Shin / Knee Guards
- Hockey Gloves- Predominantly Red for all teams Mite House Select teams and above
- Supporter with Cup (boys) or Pelvic Protector (Girls)
- Hockey pants with pads – Red for all teams.
- Skates
- Hockey Stick – must have the butt-end covered properly with tape or a rubber end ca

Goalies:

- HECC/CSA Approved Face Mask with Throat Protector
- Glove & Blocker
- Chest Protector
- Shoulder Pads
- Hockey Pants
- Leg Pads

Coaches

- HECC/CSA Approved Helmet

2. Purchasing Uniforms:

All players must purchase a THA uniforms (home and away) from THA. Payment is due in advance.

3. Wearing Uniforms:

Players are only permitted to wear their THA uniform when representing THA in any USA Hockey Sanctioned Ice Hockey event, including league games, exhibition games, and tournaments.

4. Selecting Jersey Numbers:

Numbers are assigned with the intent to avoid overlap – so players do not have to change numbers (and uniforms) from one year to the next:

- An existing THA Travel uniform from the previous year takes precedence over all else.
- A number cannot be selected if it is used by players on the same team, same division, or IN ADJACENT YEARS, or two years adjacent to a Midget. The THA Apparel Coordinator will define the set of available numbers for each team.
 - From the available numbers, the oldest player on highest Midget team will select first followed by the remainder of the team. The next level Midget team selects next, oldest player first, following through the age divisions. In the selection of new numbers, we will avoid use of a number on all levels of each division to avoid conflicts in the following year(s) and to aid in movement of players within a level.
 - If two players on the same team somehow have the same number on an existing jersey, or want the same number, the older player gets first choice. Players ordering a new uniform (e.g. for a larger size) surrender the right to the number if someone else on the team has the same number on a uniform they are keeping.
 - THA will only use number 1-98 and no number 69.

V. COACHES

1. Coach Selection:

Coaches will be selected annually by the THA Board for all THA teams being formed that year. The THA Coaching Selection Committee will interview and thoroughly vet each candidate and the THA Board will review, confirm the selection process, and vote on all coaches.

2. Selection Criteria:

The THA Coaching Selection Committee will be taking a broad view to find the best all-around candidate for each team. The best coaches are those that can fulfill the goals of THA to provide a fun environment in which players develop their character and their hockey skills. The THA Coaching Selection Committee will seek a coach for each team that has the following attributes:

- a. Hockey Skills
 - A good knowledge of the game.
 - Experience coaching and/or playing (incumbent is not guaranteed the position).
- b. Ability to Teach
 - Committed to the time required to lead games and practices.
 - Trained (all coaches must be certified at the level required by USA Hockey). Communicates with players.
 - Teaches skills effectively.
 - Maintains a well-disciplined team environment.
- c. Good Character
 - Creates a positive and fun environment for the players.
 - Treats all players fairly and positively so they have the best experience possible. Communicates with parents and handle disagreements in a positive way.
 - Balances winning and player development in a manner appropriate to the age and division. Sets a good example by demonstrating disciplined and ethical behavior at all times.

3. Member Feedback:

The THA Board will survey all members immediately after the season to obtain feedback on their coach the past season. This will serve as just one source of information when making selections for the upcoming season using Survey Monkey or another online survey platform.

4. Coaching Applications:

All those interested in a Head Coaching position will register for the coaching position via the THA website.

6. Final Coach Approvals:

The THA Board will vote to approve a Head Coach for all THA Travel, House Select, and House Teams.

7. Assistant Coaches and Managers:

The Head Coach may select up to three assistant coaches and one manager. The THA Board reserves the right to approve all assistant coaches and managers.

8. Mandatory Requirements for ALL Coaches:

Anyone that coaches or assists on the ice or on the bench must comply with the following requirements:

- All coaches must be registered with USA Hockey.
- Coaches must be certified at the level required for their age division, including their age specific modules as stipulated by USA Hockey and CAHA. THA will reimburse the coaches for the cost of USA Hockey Coaching certification.
- Coaches must comply with mandatory or random background checks, including fingerprinting for checking criminal

records, as may be required by THA, CAHA, and USA Hockey. In the case of a THA-initiated background check, strict confidentiality will be maintained.

VI. CODES OF CONDUCT

THA CODE OF CONDUCT OVERVIEW

THA consists of players, parents, coaches, administrators, off ice officials, volunteers, and spectators. Good conduct of all is expected within this organization on and off the ice. By attending a THA event every participant accepts responsibility of his or her actions and adopts the THA Code of Conduct.

THA ZERO TOLLERANCE POLICY

There will be a 24-hour cooling off period after every game or practice.

I will refrain from discussing game situations with coaches, on/off ice officials, and THA board members for 24hours after every game.

I will not attend any THA event under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Fighting will not be tolerated and will result in suspension.

Racial slurs will not be tolerated at any time and will result in suspension.

I will serve THA in my elected or appointed capacity with respect to the organization.

I will be a THA team player because teamwork is the heart and soul of this organization.

THA ENDORSES USA HOCKEY ZERO TOLERANCE RULES.

1. USA HOCKEY Zero Tolerance Rules:

THA supports the Zero Tolerance Rules of USA Hockey. In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, THA supports on-ice officials enforcing the Zero Tolerance Policy. This policy is designed to require all players, coaches, officials, team officials, administrators, and parents/spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during, and after all USA Hockey-sanctioned games.

Players:

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:

- Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
- Uses obscene, vulgar, or racially directed language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.
- Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.

Coaches:

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a coach:

- Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
- Uses obscene, vulgar, or racially directed language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision, including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players, or spectators.
- Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, he/she shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

Officials:

Officials are required to conduct themselves in a professional, sportsmanlike, impartial, and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited. On-ice officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.

Off-Ice Officials:

Off-Ice officials are the responsibility of THA and sometimes have a child or children playing in the game. These officials are an intricate part of the game and therefore are required to conduct themselves in a professional manner. One must refrain from using obscene, vulgar, or racially directed language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time. Visual displays of dissatisfaction with an official's decision, a player or coach's actions including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players, or spectators will be considered an infraction to the code.

Parents/Spectators:

On-Ice officials will stop the game when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. The on-ice officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced, and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:

- Use of obscene, vulgar, or racially directed language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time. Taunting of players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
- Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, players' bench, penalty box or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard

2. Coaches Code of Conduct:

The Coaches play a critical role in the personal as well as athletic development of their athletes. They must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it. The following Code of Conduct has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behavior that will allow their athletes in becoming well-rounded, self-confident, and productive human beings. Although this code is directed toward coaching conduct, it equally applies to other members of the team (managers, trainers, and equipment personnel).

In addition to the following, THA expects all coaches to follow the "USA Hockey Coaching Ethics Code" (found in the USA Hockey Rulebook).

Each coach has the responsibility to:

Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. Care more about the child than winning the game. Remember, players are involved in hockey for fun and enjoyment.

- Be a positive role model to your players, display emotional maturity, and be alert to the physical safety of players.
- Be generous with your praise when it is deserved; be consistent and honest; be fair and just; do not criticize players publicly; learn to be more effective communicator and coach; don't yell at players.
- Adjust to personal needs and problems of players; be a good listener; never verbally or physically abuse a player or official; give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence, and develop self-esteem; teach them the basics.
- Organize practices that are fun and challenging for your players.
- Familiarize yourself with the rules, techniques, and strategies of hockey; encourage all your players to be team player.
- Maintain an open line of communication with your players' parents.
- Explain the goals and objectives of your association.
- Be concerned with the overall development of your players. Stress good health habits and clean living. To play the game is great; to love the game is greater.
- Treat everyone fairly within the context of his or her activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, color, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
- Direct comments or criticism at the performance rather than the athlete.
- Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of their sport and coaching. Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches, athletes, officials, and volunteers.
- Abstain from the use of tobacco or alcohol products while in the presence of her/his athletes.
- Discourage the use of alcohol in conjunction with athletic events or victory celebrations at the playing site. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing, or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of his/her duties.
- Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability, and fitness level of the athletes and educate athletes as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
- Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment, and management of their athletes' medical and psychological problems. Consider the athletes' future health and wellbeing as foremost when making decisions regarding injured athletes' ability to continue playing or training.
- Regularly seek ways of increasing personal development and self-awareness.
- Treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and encourage athletes to act accordingly.
- Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and the spirit of such rules.
- Communicate and co-operate with the athletes' parents or legal guardians, involving them in decisions pertaining to their child's development.
- Be aware of the many pressures placed on athletes as they strive to balance the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of their lives and conduct practices and games in a manner so as to allow optimum success.
- Be prepared for practices and games beforehand. Keep in mind the goals and philosophy that you established at the beginning.
- Be consistent, honest, fair, and just.
- Do not yell at your players. Encourage and teach them.
- Do not abuse officials, players, coaches, and parents. This will not be tolerated and will be dealt with accordingly.

To have fun and enjoy what you are doing!!!

COACH: If you have a child on the team, he/she should be treated equally to the other players. People should not be able to distinguish who your child is. You are here to coach not to promote your own personal agenda.

Coaches must:

- Communicate to their parents and players in a positive and constructive manner.
- Ensure the safety of the athletes with whom they work at no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with their athletes. This includes requests for sexual favors or threat or reprisal for the rejection of such requests.
- Respect the athletes' dignity; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable.
- Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
- Never provide under age athletes with alcohol; never encourage its use.

3. Parents Code of Conduct

- Three words of praise before one constructive criticism.
- Do not force your child/children to participate in sports but support their desires to play their chosen sport. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.
- Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches, or officials. By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants, your child will benefit.
- Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit your young athlete. De-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
- Know and study the rules of the game and support the officials on and off the ice. This approach will help in the development and support of the game. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.
- Applaud a good effort in victory and in defeat and enforce the positive points of the game. Never yell or physically abuse your child after a game or practice – it is destructive. Work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.
- Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are very important to the development of your child and the sport.
- Communicate with them and support them

If you enjoy the game, learn all you can about the game, and volunteer!!!

4. THA Board of Directors Code of Conduct:

In addition to being subject to the codes of conduct for parents and coaches, THA board members will:

- Communicate with parents by holding parent/player orientation meetings as well as by being available to answer questions and address problems throughout the season.
- Recruit volunteers, including coaches, who demonstrate qualities conducive to being role models to the youth in our sport.
- Support the THA organization and avoid activities that the board deems as contrary to the good of the organization.
- Follow and enforce THA Policies, Operating Rules, and Board Decisions.
- Board members will maintain confidentiality where warranted, respecting the rights of individuals while recognizing that all board meetings are open to all members of THA.
- The THA Board may initiate action to remove a board member that fails to comply with these codes, as stipulated in the By-Laws.

5. Players Code of Conduct:

Play for FUN!!!

- Work hard to improve your skills.
- Be a team player – get along with your teammates. Learn teamwork, sportsmanship, and discipline.
- Be on time for practices and games.
- Learn the rules, and play by them. Always be a good sport.
- Respect your coach, your teammates, your parents, opponents, and officials

6. Spectators Code of Conduct:

- Display good sportsmanship. Always respect players, coaches, and officials. Act appropriately; do not taunt or disturb other fans, Enjoy the game together. Cheer good plays of all participants; avoid booing opponents.
- Cheer in a positive manner and encourage fair play; profanity and objectionable cheers or gestures are offensive and result in a game misconduct.
- Help provide a safe and fun environment; throwing and items on the ice surface can cause injury to players and officials.
- Do not lean over or pound on the glass; the glass surrounding the ice surface is part of the playing area.
- Support the referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.
- Be responsible for your own safety - be alert to prevent accidents from flying pucks and other avoidable situations.
- Respect locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches, and officials.
- Be supportive after the game - win or lose. Recognize good effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

ON-ICE NON-GAME DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES:

As you know, we have a very limited amount of time to accomplish our many goals. As a result, our first line of defense against behavioral disturbances is prevention. THA simply cannot allow behavioral misconduct to interfere with practices or games. The coaches are aware that a certain amount of silliness and an abundance of energy are naturally expected at the younger levels. Therefore, each will make every effort to be sensitive to the needs of his age division, and will set realistic expectations accordingly. However, if a player's behavior reaches a point where it interferes with the development of another player or the team as a whole, the coaching staff reserves the right to discipline the player as needed which may include removing the player from the ice or suspension.

PLEASE NOTE: There are certain instances in which warnings will not be given. We will **NOT** tolerate dangerous play of any kind, specifically: misusing the stick or checking from behind. If a player is jeopardizing his/her safety or the safety of another player, he/she will immediately be removed from the ice and further discipline if necessary.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

In accordance with Article XI of the THA By-Laws, THA will establish a Dispute Resolution process in accordance with the guidelines outlined by USA Hockey By-Law Section 10 and CAHA By-Law Section 25.

VII. PRIVACY POLICY

The THA utilizes SportEngine as its web provider and enables the organization to an option of an array of tools to assist us in communicating to the members. As such we fall under the SportEngine Privacy Policy. Your privacy is very important to us. To better protect your privacy, we provide this notice explaining our online information practices on how your information is collected and used at this Sport Ngin site (the "Policy").

Before you submit any information on this site, please read this Policy for an explanation of how we will treat your personal information. By using this SportEngine site you consent to the collection and use of your personal information as outlined in this Policy.

Your use of any part of any SportEngine site indicates your acceptance of this Policy and of the collection and use of your personal information in accordance with this Policy.

Sport Ngin sites do not knowingly solicit any personally identifiable information from children under the age of 13. In addition, SportEngine sites do not knowingly obtain, retain or use information from anyone who indicates that they are under the age of 13. Accordingly, children under the age of 13 may be restricted from participating in certain features and transactions on SportEngine sites. All SportEngine Websites strictly adhere to Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 or COPPA.

To view the SportEngine Private Policy visit www.sprtsngin.com or you can contact SportsEngine directly at privacy@sportngin.com

Please note that SportEngine hosts some websites on behalf of Organizations and those Organizations may place or permit the placement of cookies and other tracking technology. SportEngine is not responsible for these tracking practices. You

should always read the privacy policy of the Organization if you have questions about the data practices of the Organization website.

VIII. LOCKER ROOM POLICY

In addition to the development of our hockey players and enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our participants is central to THA goals. THA adheres to USA Hockey's SafeSport Program as a means to help protect its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse and other types of misconduct. THA has adopted the following locker room policy.

At arenas utilized by THA and arenas the teams travel to though out the season there will be multiple locker rooms available for our program's use. The locker room facilities (i.e.: rest rooms, shower facilities, etc.) will vary from location to location. THA team organizers will attempt to provide information on the locker room facilities in advance of games away from our home arena when possible. At arenas for which you are unfamiliar, parents should plan to have extra time and some flexibility in making arrangements for their child to dress, undress and shower if desired.

History of USA Hockey's Locker Room policy:

The (locker room) policy originated with the Coaching Section and the Risk Management Committee, and was supported by the Legal Counsel. The rule simply provides that teams "...have at least one responsible adult present directly monitoring the locker room during all team events...." USA Hockey 2010-11 Annual Guide, p. 35.

The details of how to implement the rule were left to the affiliates and the teams to determine. Below are several areas that were looked at and taken into consideration when making the rules for the Locker Room Monitor.

1. Locker Room Monitoring:

THA has predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (e.g., generally 30-45 minutes before and following practices and games). This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. While constant monitoring inside of locker rooms and changing, areas might be the most effective way to prevent problems, we understand that this would likely make some players uncomfortable and may even place our staff at risk for unwarranted suspicion.

We conduct a sweep of the locker rooms and changing areas before players arrive, and if the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, either a coach or voluntary locker room monitors (each of which has been screened) will be posted inside or directly outside of the locker rooms and changing areas, depending on the age group, during periods of use, and leave the doors open only when adequate privacy is still possible. Only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room. Team personnel will also secure the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

Any individual meetings between a minor participant and a coach or other adult in a locker room shall *require that a second responsible adult is present*. The responsible adult that monitors and supervises the locker room shall have been screened in compliance with Section III of the SafeSport Handbook. All programs are responsible to work with their teams and coaches to adequately ensure that locker room monitors are in place at all appropriate times. Requirements include Background check, SafeSport and a current USA Hockey number.

2. Parents in Locker Rooms:

Except for players at the younger age groups, we discourage parents from entering locker rooms unless it is truly necessary. If a player needs assistance with his or her uniform or gear, if the player is or may be injured, or a player's disability warrants assistance, then we ask that parents let the coach know beforehand that he or she will be helping the player.

Naturally, with our youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed. We encourage parents to teach their players as young as possible how to dress independently. In circumstances where parents are permitted in the locker room, coaches are permitted to ask that the parents leave for a short time before the game and for a short time after the game so that the coaches may address the players. As players get older, the coach may in his or her discretion prohibit parents from a locker room.

3. Mixed Gender Teams:

Some of our teams consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all of our players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Where possible, THA will have the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room before the game or team meeting. Once the game or practice is finished, the players may come to one locker room for a team meeting and then the male and female players proceed to their separate locker rooms to undress and shower, if available. If separate locker rooms are not available, then the players will take turns using the locker room to change. We understand that these arrangements may require that players arrive earlier or leave later to dress but believe that this is the most reasonable way to accommodate and respect all of our players.

4. Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices:

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, are not permitted for use in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be taken outside of the locker room. This is a USA Hockey Policy.

5. Prohibited Conduct and Reporting:

THA prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. Participants, employees or volunteers in THA may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these locker room policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. Reports of any actual or suspected violations, you may email USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org or may call 1-800-888-4656 or our SafeSport coordinator.

The following rules for locker room monitors have been adopted by THA to insure the safety of our players.

Rules

1. "Responsible adults" should be of sufficient maturity.
2. All locker room monitors must be screened in accordance with USA Hockey's Background Screening Policy.
3. The locker room monitors should be carefully chosen, and understand their role is strictly supervision of the locker room. The non-coach locker room monitors are not coaches and should not attempt to be such.
4. "All Team Events" means both games and practices, and monitoring is required whenever players are in the locker room. The staff must come early and stay late
5. For the younger teams the locker room monitors must be physically in the locker room. One cannot supervise from the hallway. This applies even if other parents are in the locker room to assist a player with his or her equipment. For older teams a monitor will be posted directly outside of the locker rooms and changing areas during periods of use, and leave the doors open only when adequate privacy is still possible.
6. All recording devices should be banned from use in the locker room, including cell phones and cameras. Younger teams are asked to leave these items with their parents. Older teams are required to have these turned off and stored inside of their bags.
7. At a minimum, the locker room monitors' specific duties should include:
 - Responsibility for locker room security, including allowing only team- authorized persons to enter the room and locking the room when the team is on the ice.

- Responsibility for the locker room key.
- Collecting and safeguarding any cell phones or other recording devices brought by players.
- Being in the locker room at all times when a coach is in the room with a single player.

***The above is in addition to the locker room policy USA Hockey adopted in 2010 and can be found in the USA Hockey Annual Guide.

IX. USA HOCKEY REPORTING POLICY

USA Hockey's Reporting Policy is a key part of its SafeSport Program and an effective reporting policy is crucial to preventing abuse. Section IV of the SafeSport Handbook contains specifics on the Reporting Policy.

The Policy requires that every employee or volunteer of any USA Hockey Member Program must report (1) actual or perceived violations of the USA Hockey SafeSport Program Handbook, (2) any violations of the policies prohibiting Sexual Abuse, Physical Abuse, Emotional Abuse, Bullying, Threats and Harassment, and Hazing, and (3) suspicions or allegations of child physical or sexual abuse to the appropriate USA Hockey representatives.

Additionally, in all cases involving suspicions or allegations of child physical or sexual abuse, every employee or volunteer of USA Hockey Member Programs must also report to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

To make a report to USA Hockey, you may do so either by: (1) clicking on "[Report to USA Hockey](#)" and completing the Reporting Form, (2) emailing to SafeSport@usahockey.org, or (3) calling 800-888-4656.

Reports may also be made to the Affiliate SafeSport Coordinator. To make a report to your Affiliate SafeSport Coordinator, please click on the link for the contact information for each [Affiliate's SafeSport Coordinator](#).

All reports involving sexual abuse and misconduct must be reported to the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Reports to the U.S. Center for SafeSport may be made by (1) completing an online report to the U.S. Center for SafeSport at <https://www.safesport.org/report-a-concern>, or by (2) calling 720-524-5640. For additional information on reporting to the U.S. Center for SafeSport, please click [here](#).

USA Hockey Policy (<https://www.usahockey.com/makingareport>)

X. TRAVEL POLICY



USA Hockey Travel Policy:

A significant portion of USA Hockey participation involves overnight travel for youth teams to games and tournaments. Minor players are most vulnerable to abuse or misconduct during travel, particularly overnight stays. This includes a greater risk of player to player misconduct. During travel, players may be away from their families and support networks, and the setting – unfamiliar 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 minors and adults while traveling. Further, the policy directs how minor players will be supervised between and during travel to and from practice and games. Adherence to travel policies helps to reduce the opportunities for misconduct.

USA Hockey requires that all local programs have travel policies applicable to their youth teams and to provide the policies to all players, parents, coaches and other adults that are travelling with the team. It is strongly recommended that a signature by each adult acknowledging receipt of and agreeing to the travel policy be obtained by the local program/team.

Some travel involves only local travel to and from local practices, games and events, while other travel involves overnight stays. Different policies should apply to these two types of travel. The form of policy below is a sample only but may be modified by the local program to meet its specific needs and travel.

Triad Hockey Alliance Travel Policy:

Triad Hockey Alliance (THA) has some teams that travel regularly to play individual games, two or three games at a time, or in tournaments, has some teams where travel is limited to only a few events per year, and some teams where there is no travel other than local travel to and from our own arena. THA has established policies to

guide our travel, minimize one-on-one interactions and reduce the risk of abuse or misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase player safety and improve the player's experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

We distinguish between travel to training, practice and local games or practices ("local travel"), and team travel involving a coordinated overnight stay ("team travel").

1. Local Travel:

Local travel occurs when THA or one of its teams does not sponsor, coordinate, or arrange for travel.

Players and/or their parents/guardians are responsible for making all arrangements for local travel. The team and its coaches, managers or administrators should avoid responsibility for arranging or coordinating local travel. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the minor player maintains the proper safety and legal requirements, including, but not limited to, a valid driver's license, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with applicable state laws. The employees, coaches, and/or volunteers of THA or one of its teams, who are not also acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor player and should only drive with at least two players or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor player's parent.

Where an employee, coach and/or volunteer is involved in an unrelated minor player's local travel, efforts should be made to ensure that the adult personnel are not alone with the unrelated player, by, e.g., picking up or dropping off the players in groups. In any case where an employee, coach and/or volunteer is involved in the player's local travel, a parental release should be obtained in advance.

Employees, coaches, and volunteers who are also a player's parent or guardian may provide shared transportation for any player(s) if they pick up their player first and drop off their player last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.

It is recognized that in some limited instances it will be unavoidable for an employee, coach or volunteer of THA or one of its teams to drive alone with an unrelated minor player. However, efforts should be made to minimize these occurrences and to mitigate any circumstances that could lead to allegations of abuse or misconduct.

2. Team Travel:

Team travel is overnight travel that occurs when THA or one of its team's sponsors, coordinates or arranges for travel so that our teams can compete locally, regionally, nationally or internationally. Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the players.

When possible, THA will provide reasonable advance notice before team travel. Travel notice will also include designated team hotels for overnight stays as well as a contact person within THA or the team. This individual will be the point of contact to confirm your intention to travel and to help with travel details.

THA will post specific travel itineraries when they become available. These will include a more detailed schedule as well as contact information for team travel chaperones. THA will make efforts to provide adequate supervision through coaches and other adult chaperones. THA will make efforts so that there is 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 we will attempt to arrange chaperones of the both genders. However, we rely on parents to serve as chaperones and may be limited in providing this match.

Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a minor player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player).

Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers, and chaperones will often travel with the players. No employee, coach, or volunteer will engage in team travel without the proper safety requirements in place and on record, including valid drivers' licenses, automobile liability insurance as required by applicable state law, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with all state laws. All chaperones shall have been screened in compliance with the USA Hockey Screening Policy and all team drivers shall have been screened and the screen shall include a check of appropriate Department of Motor Vehicle records. A parent that has not been screened may participate in team activities and assist with supervision/monitoring of the players, but will not be permitted to have any one-on-one interactions with players.

Players should share rooms with other players of the same gender, with the appropriate number of players assigned per room depending on accommodations.

The coach will establish a curfew by when all players must be in their hotel rooms or in a supervised location. Regular monitoring and curfew checks will 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 sleeping rooms and must be held in public settings or with additional adults present.

All players will 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.

Family members who wish to stay in the team hotel are permitted and encouraged to do so.

The team will make every effort to accommodate reasonable parental requests when a child is away from home without a parent. If any special arrangements are necessary for your child, please contact the team personnel who can either make or assist with making those arrangements.

Meetings do not occur in hotel rooms, but the team may reserve a separate space for adults and athletes to socialize.

If disciplinary action against a player is required while the player is traveling without his/her parents, then except where immediate action is necessary, parents will be notified before any action is taken or immediately after the 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 minor player and have the minor player stay in their hotel room.

During team travel, coaches, team personnel and chaperones will help players, fellow coaches and team personnel adhere to policy guidelines, including, without limitation, the Travel Policy, Locker Room Policy and Reporting Policy.

Prior to any travel, coaches will endeavor to make players and parents aware of all expectations and rules. Coaches will also support chaperones and/or participate in the monitoring of the players for adherence to curfew restrictions and other travel rules.

XI. PROHIBITED CONDUCT REPORTING

THA prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. Participants, employees or volunteers in THA may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of the Travel Policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. Reports of any actual or suspected violations, you may email USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org or may call 1-800-888-4656.

XII. TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION POLICY

When a team is eligible to register for a tournament outside of the tournaments that the organization registers for as a group the following procedures need to be followed. This is to help both the team and the organization keep continuity within our teams and to make sure that we are receiving the largest discounts that are available to us.

The Tournament Coordinator is responsible for making sure all registrations are complete including but not limited to rooming list, T1 Roster verification, payment and hotel assignment. The Tournament Coordinator will work with Team Managers, Coaches and Registrars.

1. The organization will set the desired weekends for tournaments for the upcoming season before the tryout season starts. We will make every effort to look at school calendars and pick tournaments that line up with school holidays without using the Thanksgiving and Christmas break.
2. The coaches/staff of the upper teams that receive an extra tournament in their fees will decide the location of this "extra" tournament preferably before tryouts or soon thereafter, again taking into consideration most of the school calendars.

Note: While all of our players do not go to the same school system we realize that not all vacation/holiday/teacher workdays are the same.

3. Once these tournaments are decided upon, the team must let the Tournament coordinator know what they have decided. If they need assistance in finding a tournament the Tournament Coordinator will help with this as well. The Tournament Coordinator will assist in completing these registrations. This is due to the fact that if multiple teams use the same tournament at the same time a discount is due us if we register the teams together.

XIII. APPEARL AND EQUIPMENT POLICY

Procedure for Ordering Coaching and Staff Apparel:

This guideline once instituted will help the ordering and distributing of the coaching and team staff apparel go seamlessly. We have used the guideline in the past that a coach would have his apparel replaced by the organization every two years if needed. We do not have a precedence of replacing Team Manager jackets currently.

1. The Apparel Coordinator shall keep a record of all coaches as when they receive their jacket and pants, and when Team Managers receive their jackets. To make this process easier for the coordinator they are to receive the order from the coaches and team managers for the apparel.
2. The coaches and team managers will go be fitted with the samples supplied by our supplier, make note of their size and send their order via email to the Apparel Coordinator.
3. The Apparel Coordinator will then place the order for all coaches and team managers with the supplier, NO EXCEPTIONS.
4. Once the apparel arrives completed to the supplier the Apparel Coordinator will take custody of all the apparel, verify it is correct and distribute it at the rink during the first week of practice or at a staff meeting before the season starts.

No other person is to order apparel or hand out apparel for coaches and team, this way the organization is not over buying or over paying for apparel. Unless appointed by the Apparel Coordinator and will act in the same capacity as the Apparel Coordinator.

XIV. PAYMENT POLICY

- Fees for all programs must be paid in full.
- Any registered player who leaves Triad Hockey Alliance without paying the entire program fee (unless granted release or refund per the Refund Policy) will be deemed as "not in good standing" with Triad Hockey Alliance and USA Hockey.
- Any member who does not satisfy an outstanding balance from any prior season will not be allowed to register for any Triad Hockey Alliance program until the prior balance is paid in full.

- Extended payment plans due to financial hardship may be requested. Upon receipt of documentation supporting hardship circumstances, the joint Board of Directors will arrange and approve extended payment plans. Any default on extended payment plan will result in all outstanding fees due in full immediately.
- Members with payment delinquencies or returned charges that aren't immediately satisfied will be subject to immediate suspension from all program activities until the delinquency matter is settled.
- Triad Hockey Alliance has a recurring billing program for all of its Fall season fees. At the time of registration, members will authorize Triad Hockey Alliance to charge their original form of payment (credit card) for the remainder program payments per the posted schedule on the dates and in the amounts listed on the Triad Hockey Alliance Payment Plan Recurring Charge Policy and Schedule.
- In the event of a dishonored charge, members also authorize Triad Hockey Alliance to charge their credit card used in the original registration for any amount dishonored **PLUS** a \$25 service charge for *each* dishonored payment as it occurs.
- Dishonored charges due to unforeseen circumstances with the cardholder account (i.e. stolen card, fraud concern cancellation, etc.) will be granted a single grace recharge without fee, provided that replacement payment information is received within 48 hours of return charge.
- Non-payment will result in termination of participation in the payment program, and immediate and full participant suspension from the current program until program fees are paid in full.
- This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until Triad Hockey Alliance has received written notification from the member of its termination in such time and in such manner to afford Triad Hockey Alliance a reasonable opportunity to act on it. Cancellation of this authorization shall not terminate any of the member's payment obligations pursuant to the current Triad Hockey Alliance hockey program registration or their authorization to charge their credit card.
- Member agrees to pay all program fees according to the Card Issuer Agreement and these terms.
- Triad Hockey Alliance provides for scholarship or financial aid under established criteria as outlined in the THA Scholarship / Financial Aid Request Form. Form can be found on the THA website. Request shall be made directly to THA Executive Director via e-mail or US Mail. No verbal request will be accepted.

XV. REFUND POLICY

- THA operates under a no refund policy for any fees and/or payments associated with THA activities and programs.
- No refunds will be issued for voluntary discontinuation.
- All program tryout fees are not refundable or transferable under any circumstances.
- All program registration fees are not refundable but are transferable to commitment fees once offers are made for travel teams and or rec league.
- Program fees are non-transferable from season to season.
- Once a position on a team is accepted, the parent or the legal guardian assumes financial responsibility for the entire season fee.
- If the THA program is suspended and/or ends due to closure of facilities due to a pandemic or similar occurrence out of the control of the THA, the THA will refund a prorated amount based on related association and team expenses to that date.
- The THA may award financial aid in accordance with Financial Aid Policy. The Financial Aid is non-transferable from program to program or year to year.
- After registration, each member has a 72 hour "Right of Rescission" that must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director within 3 days of payment, upon which full refund will be granted, less applicable \$50 administration fee.
- Refunds for season-ending, extended injury or medical condition shall be considered on a case by case basis. The Board of Directors and/or committee designated by the Board of Directors shall review any such refund requests. All refund requests must be made in writing to the Executive Director and/or Treasurer and have physician or other documentation supporting suspension or termination of season. Refunds granted will be a pro-rata portion of the season for time missed.
- Refunds for financial hardship requests shall be considered on a case by case basis. The Board of Directors and/or committee designated by the Board of Directors will review refund requests for financial hardship. All refund requests must be made in writing to the Executive Director and/or Treasurer and have appropriate documentation to support suspension or termination of season.
- Any program refund is subject to a \$50.00 Administrative Fee. In no case will greater than 75% of any program fee be refunded. No refund requests will be considered past **December 31.**

- Program fees will not be refunded for any player who accepts a position on a team, and then opts for another organization/team thereafter. Releases will not be granted until member balances are satisfied in full.
- Any policy and/or procedures mandated by USA Hockey and/or the Carolinas Amateur Hockey Association which the THA is a member shall be incorporated into the THA Refund Policy.
- The Board of Directors and/or a committee designated by the Board of Directors may also review requests for refunds for other extraordinary circumstances at their discretion.

XVI. PLAY UP POLICY

- The THA enforces a policy of placing all participating skaters in the level of play associated with their age/birth date. However, a skater may request THA Board approval to “move up” to a level of play that is a level higher than the level dictated by their date of birth.
- The THA shall follow all Rules, Regulations and Policies as set forth by USA Hockey, Carolina Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA) and Carolinas Hockey League (CHL) in regards to its Play Up Policy
- Permission to Play Up is granted solely at the discretion of the THA Board of Directors and the procedures set forth wherein.
- The THA does not allow skaters to play down a level.
- Combined Age Groups: In the event that the association fields a combined team (example: Combined U16-U18) the full play up policy would not apply although certain conditions would apply as noted Under “Section II THA Play Up Policy Players 15 and Older” # II.3.
- The THA Play Up Policy is in two sections based on age. Section I. Players 14 and Under and Section II. Players 15 and Older

Section I. THA Play-Up Policy 14 and Under

The THA adheres to CAHA / USA Play Up Policy as it relates to players age 14 and under.

CAHA Play Up Policy:

PLAY UP POLICY (AGE 14 AND UNDER)

19.1 The Carolina Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA) Board of Directors recognizes that in rare and specific cases it can be appropriate and even beneficial to a player’s development for him or her to play up in the next age classification. A fine balance needs to be struck, however, to avoid placing the desire of a player above the legitimate opportunity for that participant to be successful in an older age classification. In some cases, based on the skill, size and maturity of a player, it may be desirable to utilize this option; in other cases, it may be best for the player to remain in their appropriate age classification.

19.2 All players, male and female, requesting to play up during the USA Hockey season in an association must have played for that association during the previous Fall/Winter season. For example, a male or female player requesting to play up during the 2017-2018 USA Hockey season must have played for that association during the 2016-2017 Fall/Winter season. Male and female players that register in a new association are restricted to playing in their appropriate age classification during their first season with that association. The Fall/Winter season shall be defined as September 1 – February 28.

Exception – 19.2 shall be waived for female players aged 9 and older moving from an association that forms youth teams only into an association that forms girl’s teams. This limited exception is intended to provide a female player that has participated in a youth association only the experience of playing on a girls’ team. A play up in this situation must receive prior approval from CAHA, shall not exceed one age classification and will not be allowed if the association forms an age appropriate girls’ team. A completed Play-Up Request & Acknowledgement of Risk and Liability Form shall be required for all female players in this play up situation prior to roster approval.

19.3 Players and parents should acknowledge that approval to play up in a specific season does not necessitate the need to continue in a play up situation or guarantee approval to play up in future seasons. The player or goaltender requesting a play up must meet the criteria for each year of eligibility. At some point, it may be necessary to play three years in one age classification if the player’s past youth participation did not align with USA Hockey age classifications.

19.4 There is increased risk of injury for players playing outside of their designated age classification. However, CAHA allows movement in certain situations if specific conditions are met. You should carefully consider the increased risks involved and

follow the criteria below when making a request to move a player into an older age classification. Players may request to play up in an older age classification under the following criteria:

a. Age 8 or younger - A male or female player age 8 or younger is permitted to move up to a 10U (Squirt) or Girls 10U team in an internal house program only and must meet all criteria described within this policy to be eligible to move up. Under no circumstances will a player age 8 or younger be approved on a 10U (Squirt) or Girls 10U team roster in any registration category, including but not limited to: Tier II, Travel, House/Rec and Invitational Tournament.

b. Players aged 13 and under are permitted to move up an age classification in internal no-check house programs only and must meet all criteria described within this policy to be eligible to move up. Players aged 13 and under shall not be allowed to move up an age classification on teams that require an approved team roster except as provided in 19.6, 19.7 and 19.8.

c. 12U (Pee Wee) - Allowing players to move from a non-body checking age classification into a body checking age classification represents the greatest risk and shall not be allowed.

d. Players aged 14 are permitted to up to an age classification and must meet all criteria described within this policy to be eligible to move up.

e. A player will not be permitted to move up more than one year in age. This requirement shall apply to all movement allowed under a., b. and d. For example, a first year 10U (Squirt) cannot be moved to the 12U (Pee Wee) age classification, however, a second year 10U (Squirt) may advance to Pee Wee if the remaining criteria is met. This shall apply to 8U (Mite), 10U (Squirt) and 14U (Bantam) age classifications. A second year 14U (Bantam) can be moved into the 16U (Midget 16 & Under) if all other criteria are met, however, a first year 14U (Bantam) must remain in the 14U (Bantam) age classification.

f. Male and female players in a play up situation may not participate in games above the next age classification. For example, a 14 year old rostered on a 16U (Midget 16 & Under or Girls 16U) team may play in games against other 16U (Midget 16 & Under or Girls 16U) teams only. A 14 year old playing on a 16U (Midget 16 & Under or Girls 16U) team may not participate in games played against 18U (Midget 18 & Under) Youth or 19U Girls teams.

g. An impartial evaluation of the player's skills, the ability to contribute to the older team as well as the player's maturity level compared to players in the older age classification must be made by a panel of neutral coaches before a decision is approved to grant the play up request.

h. The move up player or goaltender should be projected to be among the top 25% of all players or goaltenders on the next age classification team. CAHA PLAY UP POLICY CAHA Bylaws, Addendum E

i. A completed Play-Up Request & Acknowledgement of Risk and Liability Form for all players in a play up situation must be submitted with the team roster in order to receive roster approval from the Associate Registrar.

19.5 Consideration should be given as to how the play up will impact the two teams involved. The number of players within each age classification should be considered. The request should be denied if the play up will displace an age appropriate player that would otherwise have played as determined by the team selection process.

19.6 Based on USA Hockey recommendations, each team should include two goaltenders. Unfortunately, there is often a shortage or surplus of goaltenders at a particular age classification. The possibility exists that an age classification may not have enough goaltenders to field a team. CAHA will allow goaltender movement to address these situations. If after exhausting all possibilities to obtain a goaltender from within the age classification, a goaltender from a lower age classification may be moved up provided the age appropriate team is not left without an experienced goaltender. All goaltenders will be required to fill out a Play-Up Request & Acknowledgement of Risk and Liability Form. This will be done solely to acknowledge the risk of playing with older players and the criteria for players to be "projected to be among the top players" will be excluded, however, 19.2 shall apply. Any association that moves up goaltenders to address shortages must submit to CAHA their planned growth initiatives to avoid goaltender shortages in the future.

19.7 In small market youth (male or co-ed) associations where the number of registered players within the geography of the association at an age classification do not equal one team, it may be necessary to consolidate age classifications in order to create teams. If and when that occurs, upon notification to the CAHA Board of Directors, the team will carry the name of the oldest age classification and those players that are part of the younger age group will be required to fill out a Play-Up Request & Acknowledgement of Risk and Liability Form. This will be done solely to acknowledge the risk of playing with older players and the criteria for players to be "projected to be among the top players" will be excluded, however 19.2 shall apply. The notification to CAHA must include the registration statistics for the consolidated age classifications, full information on the

selection process, and the association's planned growth initiatives to avoid consolidation in the future. Consolidation of teams excludes 8U (Mite)/10U (Squirt) and 12U (Pee Wee)/14U (Bantam) consolidated teams.

19.8 In frequent circumstances due to numbers, it may be necessary to consolidate Girls age classifications in an Association in order to create teams. If and when that occurs, upon notification to the CAHA Board of Directors, the team will carry the name of the oldest Girls age classification and those players that are part of the younger age group will be CAHA PLAY UP POLICY CAHA Bylaws, Addendum E required to fill out a Play-Up Request & Acknowledgement of Risk and Liability Form. This will be done solely to acknowledge the risk of playing with older players and the criteria for players to be "projected to be among the top players" will be excluded, however 19.2 shall apply. The notification to CAHA must include the registration statistics for the consolidated age classifications, full information on the selection process, and the association's planned growth initiatives to avoid consolidation in the future. Consolidation of teams excludes 8U/10U consolidated teams.

19.9 The Member Association must specifically reserve the right to reverse any decision allowing a player to play up at any time. If a player that has moved up is experiencing difficulty, as determined by the association and/or the player's coach, the association may reverse the decision allowing the participant to play up. In this case, every attempt should be made to place the player on a similar team within the player's proper age classification. Parents and players should carefully consider this outcome prior to making a request to play up.

19.10 Nothing in USA Hockey's or CAHA rules requires an Association to allow any player(s) to play up.

19.11 Middle School students are not eligible to play up on a High School team under any circumstances.

19.12 CAHA will not accept or consider requests for waivers or exceptions to this Play Up Policy.

Section II THA Play Up Policy Players 15 and Older:

II.1 CAHA /USA Hockey Play Up Policy for players 15 and Older is somewhat more flexible and left to the individual Association to determine and develop an internal Play Up Policy. Refer to item # 19.10 under the CAHA Play Up Policy.

II.2 The THA has adopted a Play Up Policy for Players 15 and older under the guidelines wherein.

II.3 There is increased risk of injury for players playing outside of their designated age classification. However, THA may grant movement in certain situations if specific conditions are met. You should carefully consider the increased risks involved and follow the criteria below when making a request to move a player into an older age classification. Players may request to play up in an older age classification under the following criteria as outlined.

II.3 U16/18 Combined Team: In the event that insufficient numbers of participants are available to host individual U16 and U18 teams and only a U16-18 combined team is possible in order to fulfill a roster. A completed Play-Up Request & Acknowledgement of Risk and Liability Form for all U16 players participating must be completed by player/parent/guardian and be submitted prior to participation in tryouts. This request must be approved by the Hockey Operations Manager and Registrar.

II.4 THA will not accept or consider requests for waivers or exceptions to this Play Up Policy.

PLAY UP POLICY (AGE 15 AND OLDER)

- a. All players, male and female, requesting to play up during the USA Hockey season in the THA must have played for an USA Hockey sanctioned association or other recognized amateur hockey sanctioning body during the previous Fall/Winter season. The Fall/Winter season shall be defined as September 1 – February 28.
- b. Players and parents should acknowledge that approval to play up in a specific season does not necessitate the need to continue in a play up situation or guarantee approval to play up in future seasons. The player or goaltender requesting a play up must meet the criteria for each year of eligibility.
- c. No first-year player in the lower age classification are eligible. Only second-year players within the lower age classification are eligible if the remaining criteria is met.

- d. Consideration will be given as to how the play up will impact the two teams involved. The number of players within each age classification will be a major consideration. The request shall be denied if the play up will displace an age appropriate player that would otherwise have played as determined by the team selection process

II.5 Player Up Request:

- a. A written Play Up request must be presented outlining reasoning for request to play up to the THA Executive Director and the Hockey Operations Manager by the parent/guardian. Request must be made not less than five (5) days prior to first day of tryouts for the association. Request may be made via e-mail (directly to individuals above and/or to (Info@triadhockey.org) or US Mail. No verbal request will be accepted. THA shall notify player no later than 48 hours after receiving play up request of decision to allow participation in tryout process.
- b. A written request must be presented endorsing the potential play up request by the head coach (Play Up Team Head Coach) to the THA Executive Director and the Hockey Operations Manager for each player participating in the Play Up opportunity not less than five (5) days prior to first day of tryouts for the association. Request may be made via e-mail (directly to individuals above and/or to (Info@triadhockey.org) or US Mail. No verbal request will be accepted.
- c. The move up player or goaltender should be projected to be among the top 25% of all players or goaltenders on the next age classification team.

II.6 If Play Up Request is Granted:

- a. A completed Play-Up Request & Acknowledgement of Risk and Liability Form for all players in a play up situation must be completed by player/parent/guardian and be submitted prior to participation in tryouts. This request must be approved by the Hockey Operations Manager and Registrar. The Play-Up Request & Acknowledgement of Risk and Liability Form will be provided with the team roster in order to receive roster approval.
- b. The player must participate in tryouts for each age group under consideration and to pay the appropriate fees for each age group tryout. There will be no exceptions to this.
- c. The move up player or goaltender must score in the top 25% of evaluations of all players or goaltenders on the next age classification team to be considered.

II.7. Exception – II.6. C. If the association was to have an excess of players in one age group and need for players at the next (upper) age group. (example: 22 players at U16 and 12 at U18). Play Up would be consider for players not scoring in the top 25% of evaluations of all players or goaltenders. All other Play Up criteria would be adhered to.

II.8. Following tryouts, the play up request and tryout evaluation will be reviewed by a committee of the THA Board to consist of at least one member and not more than two members of the Board of Directors, Executive Director, Hockey Operations Manager, Skills Coordinator and Hockey Development Coordinator and a member of the Tryout Committee as appointed by the Executive Director. The decision of the committee will be handed down prior to offers being extended and the decision shall be final.

XVII. Sponsorship / Fundraising:

This guideline allows for the comprehensive coordination and management of all sponsorship procurement and fundraising efforts for the association. It is intended to ensure that these efforts are coordinated and managed in accordance with direction provided by the Board of Directors and administered by Executive Director and the Marketing Manager for the association.

1. The Marketing Manager shall coordinate and manage all sponsorship and fundraising efforts of the association. Marketing Manager shall provide reports of such efforts as needed or requested to the Executive Director and Board of Directors.
2. Marketing Manager will develop an annual sponsorship strategy and plan for the association.
3. Marketing Manager may appoint coordinators to assist with Sponsorship and Fundraising initiatives with prior approval of Executive Director.
4. Sponsorship and Fundraising initiatives which are considered should impact when possible the entire association and its members not individual teams or age levels.
5. Any individual team or age level sponsorship and/or fundraising initiatives must be approved by the Marketing Manager in advance. Individual team and/or age level initiatives that could negatively impact the efforts of the association as a whole will not be considered. A report of any such efforts shall be provided to the Executive Director and Board of Directors.

