



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: Article 7

Heading: Tier II and National Bound

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: VII.A.1, p.109

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

It is recommended that each Tier II National Bound Team hold open tryouts.

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

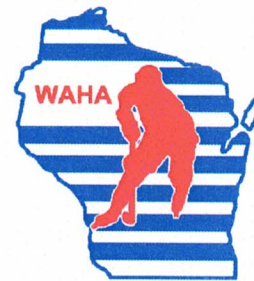
All Tier II National Bound teams shall be allowed to post their tryout information immediately following the conclusion of the previous year's National Championships or on the same date-
This would be in line with the Tier I programs. It is understood that these tryouts would not be held until after the Tier I tryouts have concluded-

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

Currently the WEHL programs post their tryout dates just after the conclusion of the USA Hockey National tournament while non-WEHL teams are required to get annual WAHA approval which can come weeks or even a month after dates posted by WEHL-

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION: Mike Cowan, Waupun Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26 PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-53 (T II Nat Bound)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: Article 7 – Tier II and National Tournament Bound Teams – Rules and Regulations

Heading: V. Criteria for Determining Teams

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: Section C. Limitations, Sub-section 1 – Page 106

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

**PROPOSED WORDING:
CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED
DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH**

CURRENT WORDING:

1. Youth 16U and 14U, Before/After and Girls 16U and 14U Before/After Teams shall be defined exclusively through the Wisconsin Elite Hockey Leagues (WEHL).
2. Youth 18U and Girls 19U teams.....
3. Creation of teams.....
4. Tier II National Bound.....
5. Any waiver for deviations.....
6. Teams must publish.....
7. It is recommended.....

- ~~1. Youth 16U and 14U, Before/After and Girls 16U and 14U Before/After Teams shall be defined exclusively through the Wisconsin Elite Hockey Leagues (WEHL).~~
1. Youth 18U and Girls 19U teams.....
2. Creation of teams.....
3. Tier II National Bound.....
4. Any waiver for deviations.....
5. Teams must publish.....
6. It is recommended.....

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

See Attached

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION: David Jolicoeur, Coach, Badger City

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26 **PROPOSAL NUMBER:** 2026 R-54 (T II tm criteria)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

2026 R-54, p. 2

REASON FOR PROPOSAL

Why is WAHA forcing players to play WIAA (non-USA Hockey sanctioned) in order to be eligible for USA Hockey National Tournaments under this rule? The criteria as written for being national bound eligible at Youth 16U and 14U and Girls 16U and 14U – eligibility is reserved exclusively for Wisconsin Elite Hockey League (WEHL).

WEHL is a before/after program that has a requirement that skaters must play WIAA hockey during the regular season to even be eligible to play WEHL:

Article 7 – Tier II and National Bound Teams – Rules and Regulations

II. Definitions:

D. Before and After Teams

4. All Tier II Before and After skaters must play WIAA hockey during the season when it is available to them. Any requests for exceptions must be submitted to the State Registrar by July 15. (Note: this becomes effective with the 2025-2026 playing season.)

Limiting national bound eligibility to only WEHL and then requiring that skaters play the regular season for non-USA Hockey sanctioned teams (WIAA) to be eligible for WEHL makes no sense for a USA Hockey affiliate. This punishes skaters for playing for USA Hockey sanctioned teams during the regular season. How do you justify to the membership that the primary criteria used to declare them ineligible for USA Hockey National Bound participation is that they play on a USA Hockey sanctioned team during the regular season? To be eligible to try and play for the highest honor our sanctioning body (USA Hockey) offers, you can't support and play during the regular season on a USA Hockey sanctioned team?

Why is WAHA steering skaters to play for non-USA Hockey sanctioned programs? As a USA Hockey affiliate - shouldn't WAHA be supporting USA Hockey sanctioned and supported classifications for regular season and tournament play instead of punishing skaters that chose USA Hockey for regular season play?

Not every skater's path needs to go through the WIAA. The goal should be to develop a life-long love of the game and have skaters continue through adulthood, regardless of the path they choose. WAHA shouldn't punish those that choose the regular season path of WAHA's own governing body.



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: _____ New Rule

Heading: _____ New Rule

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: _____ New Rule

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

I don't see this rule defined in the current rules and regulations

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

All 10U games will be played using intermediate net's

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

This comes from a conversation at the annual symposium two years ago around net size with USA Hockey's Director of Goaltending Steve Thompson. It seems not practical to move from intermediate net's at 8U to full size net's at 10U based on the size of the goalies. From that conversation it was communicated USA Hockey is studying this change. I am making this proposal as one I think smaller net's will encourage more kids to play goal and have a better experience playing goalie. Secondly it will force kids to score hockey goals vs being able to take advantage of a large net. This tracks with other sports as net size is increased as kids get older.

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION: _____ Joey Frayne President West Madison Polar Caps

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26 **PROPOSAL NUMBER:** 2026 R-55 (nets)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number:

1

Heading:

REGISTRATION, ELIGIBILITY, GENERAL
RULES

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number:

D. RESIDENCY Page 44-45

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

RESIDENCY: A player's residence for a hockey season is based on where the player and their family live on a full-time basis at the time of player registration in the fall. Only players who reside in the boundary area of the association are eligible to play on association teams. (The exception to this rule is if a player is an out-of-district player or if the association has a boundary modified by a previous WAHA boundary agreement.) NOTE: out-of-district under this exception applies to players whose permanent residence is in Wisconsin. Players with an out-of-state release will always be considered out-of-district. Unless 45 there is an exception by the WAHA Board, out-of-state players will always be considered out-of-district.

RESIDENCY: A player's residence for a hockey season is based on where the player and their family live on a full-time basis at the time of player registration in the fall. Only players who reside in the boundary area of the association are eligible to play on association teams. (The exception to this rule is if a player is an out-of-district player which or **for all border associations servicing kids in neighboring states, the boundaries are defined as a 30 mile over the border, into the neighboring state from the associations rink, in any direction.** ~~if the association has a boundary modified by a previous WAHA boundary agreement.~~) NOTE: out-of-district under this exception applies to players whose permanent residence is in Wisconsin. Players with an out-of-state release will always be considered out-of-district. Unless 45 there is an exception by the WAHA Board, out-of-state players will always be considered out-of-district.

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

To clearly define the in-district players for all the border associations by making the boundaries the same for all border associations. It will be in writing and easy to manage.

Michele Buss, Vice President Beloit Youth Hockey
Association

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-56 (residency)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: 2

Heading: State Tournament

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: Section B; Subsection #23; page 61

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

The officers, in all matters pertaining to WAHA regional and state sanctioned tournaments, shall have the power to adjust matters at any time in the best interests of the tournament and the sport of ice hockey in general.

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

The officers, in all matters pertaining to WAHA regional and state sanctioned tournaments, shall have the power to adjust matters at any time in the best interests of the tournament and the sport of ice hockey in general.
To participate in the Midget (16U/18U) state tournament, all teams must be part of a WAHA association, playing in a Wisconsin High School Club League and play at least 50% of their games in Wisconsin.

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

To increase participation in Wisconsin High School Hockey Leagues. Increase interest in participation in Wisconsin programs and increase the number of teams to allow to participate in the state tournament.

Michele Buss, Vice President Beloit Youth Hockey Association

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-57 (HS club req)

Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.



PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number:

1

Heading:

Registration, Eligibility, General Rules

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number:

G.1, p. 47

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

A player may play for a team from the nearest association offering a youth Division 1 team, provided the association serving player's place of residence is of a lower classification. The player must be selected by that nearest association to play on their highest classified team.

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

1. A player may play for a team from the nearest association offering a youth Division 1 team, provided the association serving player's place of residence is of a lower classification. The player must be selected by that nearest association to play on their highest classified team. **A maximum of two (2) skaters per age classification may roster with non-resident associations under this provision. Passovers or secondary placement with additional associations beyond the nearest eligible association shall not be permitted. Under no circumstances shall player movement under this provision result in more than two (2) skaters leaving a single resident association per age classification.**

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

See p. 2

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

Jillian Marabelli, Stoughton Girls ALD

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-58 (2 skatr max)

REASON FOR PROPOSAL:

The intent of the higher classification rule is to allow players to compete at an appropriate skill level when their resident association does not offer that level. However, the current structure creates unintended consequences in areas with a high density of associations, specifically in Dane County.

Using Stoughton Youth Hockey Association as an example, the nearest Division 1 association is the Madison Patriots Youth Hockey Association. Under the current interpretation, players may try out there without a release.

After or even before tryouts, players may request a “pass over/release” from the “nearest D1,” allowing the next nearest Division 1 associations or association depending on location, to roster those same players under this rule. In Dane County, these associations include the Madison Polar Caps Youth Hockey Association, Middleton Youth Hockey Association, Verona Area Youth Hockey Association, Sun Prairie Youth Hockey Association, and Waunakee Youth Hockey Association.

If each of these associations is permitted to roster up to two (2) non-resident players following ongoing passovers, a single Division 3 or Division 4 association like Stoughton could lose:

Up to 12 skaters per age classification (2 players × 6 associations).

This represents the loss of an entire team roster in many age groups and creates a significant risk to the viability of smaller associations.

This outcome contradicts the intent of the rule, which is to support player development—not to allow a cascading redistribution of players that disproportionately impacts smaller programs. This proposal ensures that player advancement opportunities remain available while preventing excessive roster depletion from any single association, thereby protecting competitive balance and long-term program sustainability.



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number:

Policies

Heading:

Disciplinary Policy/Issues

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number:

1 and 3a, Page 130

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

1. Game Misconducts: Any game official assessing a Game Misconduct or Match Penalty is required to file a USA Hockey Incident Report, which is sent to the WAHA Referee-in-Chief (RIC) and the WAHA Disciplinary Chair. All Game Misconducts are reviewed by the Chair and are subject to further review and action by the proper authorities, as determined by WAHA.

3a. Match Penalties: Any game official assessing a Game Misconduct, Major Penalty or Match Penalty is required to file a Game Report copied to the Referee-in-Chief and Chair of the WAHA Disciplinary Committee. In addition, for all Match Penalties, the game official must mail, or send electronically, a copy of the score sheet, within 24 hours of the incident to the WHOA RIC and Chairman of the WAHA Disciplinary Chairman.

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

1. Game Misconducts: Any game official assessing a Game Misconduct or Match Penalty is required to file a USA Hockey Incident Report, which is sent to the WAHA Referee-in-Chief (RIC) and the WAHA Disciplinary Chair. All Game Misconducts are reviewed by the Chair and are subject to further review and action by the proper authorities, as determined by WAHA. **In addition to the official signing the score sheet, the coach of the team that was assessed a game misconduct must acknowledge the penalty at the end of the game by initialing the score sheet and verifying that it was recorded correctly.**

3a. Match Penalties: Any game official assessing a Game Misconduct, Major Penalty or Match Penalty is required to file a Game Report copied to the Referee-in-Chief and Chair of the WAHA Disciplinary Committee. In addition, for all Match Penalties, the game official must mail, or send electronically, a copy of the score sheet, within 24 hours of the incident to the WHOA RIC and Chairman of the WAHA Disciplinary Chairman. **In addition to the official signing the score sheet, the coach of the team that was assessed a match penalty must acknowledge the penalty at the end of the game by initialing the score sheet and verifying that it was recorded correctly.**

Micki Smeeding, President

Wildcat Youth Hockey Association

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-59 (disc policy)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

2026 R-59, p. 2

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

Many scorekeepers are unaware of the difference in penalties and officials are also in a hurry to get the game moving along. This causes many penalties to be put in incorrectly, and there is no way to find out until after the game has been submitted and a GameSheet record is sent to the teams (if applicable). This then causes many layers of extra work for already over-tasked volunteers that could be negated by a simple verification at the end of a game.

Please note that we are not advocating for coaches to acknowledge that they agree with the officials' call. We simply want coaches (or managers if you prefer) to have an opportunity to verify the penalty information on sheet is correct before submitted.

THIS IS A POLICY CHANGE, NOT A RULE CHANGE.



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: WAHA Personnel Directory
 Heading: WAHA Officers
 Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: Page 27

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

President.....Fran Finco
 1012 Quincy St., Onalaska 54650
 Cell: 608-780-6101; ffincoona@gmail.com

Vice-President.....Chuck Anger
 4208 Pine Meadow Dr., Eau Claire 54701
 Cell: 715-559-8770; chuckanger@icloud.com

Secretary John Hack
 4316 E. Third St., Apt. 3, Superior 54880
 Cell 218-391-2301; john.hack1967@gmail.com

Treasurer..... Tom Slocum
 10134 N. Port Washington Rd., Mequon 53092
 Cell 414-510-7925;
 tom.slocum@wahahockey.com

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

President (**Elected 20XX**).....Fran Finco
 1012 Quincy St., Onalaska 54650
 Cell: 608-780-6101; ffincoona@gmail.com

Vice-President (**Elected 20XX**).....Chuck Anger
 4208 Pine Meadow Dr., Eau Claire 54701
 Cell: 715-559-8770; chuckanger@icloud.com

Secretary (**Elected 20XX**)..... John Hack
 4316 E. Third St., Apt. 3, Superior 54880
 Cell 218-391-2301; john.hack1967@gmail.com

Treasurer (**Elected 20XX**)..... Tom Slocum
 10134 N. Port Washington Rd., Mequon 53092
 Cell 414-510-7925;
 tom.slocum@wahahockey.com

**REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):
 Easier tracking of officer election years like the Regional directors (page 22)**

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION: Micki Smeeding, President
 Wildcat Youth Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26 PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-60 (officer terms)

THIS IS NOT A RULE CHANGE.



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: 2

Heading: State Tournaments

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: 37. Page 74

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – ~~STRIKETHROUGH~~

State tournaments at all age levels and classifications Youth and Girls will be seeded. Pairings for first round games shall be 1v8, 2v7, 3v6 and 4v5. Seeding will take place once play downs are completed and will involve the coaches of the state bound teams. Coaches will rank the teams, Section Directors will compile results and set the seedings.

State tournaments at all age levels and classifications Youth and Girls will be seeded. Pairings for first round games shall be 1v8, 2v7, 3v6 and 4v5. Seeding will take place once play downs are completed and will involve the coaches of the state bound teams. Those coaches will **rank the qualifiers using My Hockey Rankings, as was done for play downs, and** Section Directors will compile results, **share the individual rankings of each team and what other teams ranked them with every other team,** and set the seedings.

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

To prevent teams from stacking rankings to throw them off on purpose, especially when they rank a team as 7 when they have the highest MHR. Reasons for the rankings should be provided. If each team has to share what their rankings are and why, they will be less likely to be deceitful. Anonymity is not required for this process.

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION: Micki Smeeding, President
Wildcat Youth Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26 PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-61 (MHR share)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: 1

Heading: P. On-Ice Officials

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: 2. Page 53

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

The official method of officiating USA Hockey/WAHA games is the one Referee and two Linesmen system. However, local associations are authorized to use the two Referee officiating system or the two-referee/ two-linesmen officiating system for games under their jurisdiction. (The two-referee/ one-linesman officiating system is not an approved USA Hockey officiationsystem and cannot be used in any USA Hockey/WAHA game).

The official method of officiating USA Hockey/ WAHA games is the one Referee and two Linesmen system. However, local associations are authorized to use the two Referee officiating system or the two-referee/ two-linesmen officiating system for games under their jurisdiction. (The two-referee/ one-linesman officiating system is not an approved USA Hockey officiating system and cannot be used in any USA Hockey/WAHA game). **Although USA Hockey only STRONGLY RECOMMENDS that, regardless of membership level attained, officials not work games of their own age classification or higher, this is a requirement for all WAHA games. Officials may only work games that are one age classification below their age group (Example, a U12 can only work U10 or below, not U12 games or higher).**

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

During the season several officials were officiating games of players that were older than them. This led to an imbalance of power, much like what is outlined in SafeSport. This was even more prevalent when a mature official was not on the ice with these individuals, which was quite often. The result was harassment of the younger official by players and even coaches, and a bullying component that caused call reversals and dangerous chaos when the official was not able to stand up to the older players.

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION: Micki Smeeding, President
Wildcat Youth Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26 PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-62 (refs age limit)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: 2. State Tournaments

Heading: B. General Rules

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: 2, p. 56

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

**PROPOSED WORDING:
CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED
DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH**

CURRENT WORDING:

2. All teams wishing to enter State Tournaments must pay \$100. If an association fails to meet the registration deadline to register their teams for State Tournament, the fee for that association will increase from \$100 per team to \$300 per team. In addition, if the association fails to file within seven days of the deadline, the number of teams for that association will not be used in calculations for Wild Card and Open Slots, and the committee's recommendation of the Wild Card and Open Slots for that year's State Tournaments. All teams then advancing (after playoffs) to the actual State Tournament must pay an additional fee as determined by WAHA, within seven (7) days of completion of Regional Playoffs. NO GATE FEES MAY BE CHARGED FOR ANY STATE TOURNAMENTS.

2. All teams wishing to enter State Tournaments must pay \$100. If an association fails to meet the registration deadline to register their teams for State Tournament, the fee for that association will increase from \$100 per team to \$300 per team. In addition, if the association fails to file within seven days of the deadline, **their association will not be included in the recommendations for Wild Card or Open Slot, although they will still be used in the count for number of associations in that region to get the Wild Card or Open Slot.** ~~the number of teams for that association will not be used in calculations for Wild Card and Open Slots,~~ and the committee's recommendation of the Wild Card and Open Slots for that year's State Tournaments. All teams then advancing (after playoffs) to the actual State Tournament must pay an additional fee as determined by WAHA, within seven (7) days of completion of Regional Playoffs. NO GATE FEES MAY BE CHARGED FOR ANY STATE TOURNAMENTS.

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):
To punish associations that do not get paperwork in on time without punishing the rest of the associations in their region.

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION: Micki Smeeding, President
Wildcat Youth Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/26 **PROPOSAL NUMBER:** 2026 R-63 (st tour fine)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number:

Article 2

Heading:

STATE TOURNAMENTS / GENERAL RULES

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number:

NEW SUBSECTION. PAGE 60-75

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

**PROPOSED WORDING:
CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED
DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH**

CURRENT WORDING:

None specific. WAHA rules do not currently contain a statewide standardized running-clock (mercy rule) provision for regular season games. Running time provisions exist in some playoff and tournament contexts but are not uniformly applied across all levels and game types.

RUNNING CLOCK (MERCY RULE). In all WAHA-sanctioned regular season games, when a goal differential of six (6) or more goals exists at any point during the third period, running time shall be used for the remainder of that period. If the goal differential is reduced to fewer than six (6) goals, stop time shall resume. This provision applies to all age levels and classifications. Running time shall not be used during any period other than the third period during regular season play. This provision does not apply to WAHA State Tournament, playoff, or championship games, which shall be governed by their respective tournament rules. Referees are responsible for tracking goal differentials and initiating running time in accordance with this rule. Associations hosting WAHA-sanctioned games shall ensure timekeepers are aware of and trained on this provision.

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

Currently, mercy rule provisions in WAHA are applied inconsistently across regions, age levels, and game types. Some associations use running time in lopsided games; others do not. This creates confusion, uneven enforcement, and unnecessary hardship for players on the losing side of a blowout.

A standardized running-clock rule accomplishes several goals: it reduces the duration and emotional burden of lopsided games for younger players, it respects the time of families and officials, and it discourages running up scores. Minnesota Hockey and most well-organized state affiliates have codified this provision.

The proposal intentionally excludes playoffs and state tournaments, where competitive integrity may require stop time in all situations. It focuses on regular season games where the educational and developmental environment should be protected.

Referees already track goals – this adds no administrative burden. Timekeepers at all levels are accustomed to switching clock modes. Implementation cost is essentially zero.

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

Nick Trentadue – President, McFarland Youth Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/14/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-64 (mercy rule)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number:

Article 4

Heading:

GIRLS HOCKEY

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number:

NEW SUBSECTION. PAGE 82-85

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

Girls 14U State Tournament classification thresholds (A vs. B bracket split) are currently determined based on total team registration counts that are not published in advance. Associations learn their 14U classification tier late in the season, making it difficult to plan schedules, development, and budget accordingly.

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

GIRLS 14U STATE TOURNAMENT CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA – ADVANCE PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT. No later than October 1 of each playing season, WAHA shall publish on its website the specific criteria and numerical thresholds that will govern Girls 14U State Tournament classification for that season, including: (1) the minimum and maximum number of registered teams required to trigger an A/B bracket split at the 14U age level; (2) the criteria used to assign teams to the A or B classification where a split occurs; and (3) the process by which an association may appeal a classification assignment. Such criteria shall not be materially changed after October 1 except by a two-thirds vote of the WAHA Board of Directors. WAHA shall also publish a mid-season registration update by December 1 showing current 14U team counts and projected classification structure, allowing associations to anticipate their State Tournament bracket prior to the December 31 roster deadline.

REASON FOR PROPOSAL: see p. 2

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

Nick Trentadue – President, McFarland Youth Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/14/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-65 (girls seeding)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

2026 R-65, p. 2

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

Girls 14U hockey in Wisconsin operates with significantly smaller participation numbers than boys hockey. WAHA's current rules tie the A/B classification split at the Girls 14U State Tournament to total registration counts – but those thresholds are not published in advance. Associations investing in their 14U girls programs cannot make informed scheduling, coaching, or budget decisions without knowing whether their team will compete in an A or B bracket until late in the season.

This uncertainty is particularly harmful at 14U where girls participation is thinnest statewide. A 14U girls team that trains all season expecting A-level State Tournament competition may find itself in a B bracket – or vice versa – based on registration numbers it had no way to anticipate. Publishing criteria by October 1 and a mid-season registration update by December 1 gives associations the visibility they need to plan effectively without locking in a bracket structure prematurely.

Transparency in classification criteria is standard practice at the boys level and should be equally available to girls programs. WAHA has stated a commitment to growing girls hockey – providing associations with the information they need to plan and invest in their girls programs is a concrete step toward that goal.



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number:

Article 1

Heading:

REGISTRATION, ELIGIBILITY, GENERAL
RULES

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number:

NEW SECTION D. PAGE 44-45

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

Players are required to register with the WAHA-certified association whose geographic boundaries encompass their primary place of residence. No provision exists for players who attend school outside their residential association's boundaries to participate with the association serving their school of attendance.

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

SCHOOL-BASED PARTICIPATION WAIVER. A transfer waiver shall be granted to any player in good standing who wishes to participate with the WAHA-certified association whose geographic boundaries incorporate the school in which the player is enrolled and attending, provided the request is made prior to the player's first game of the season with any association. (a) Players granted a school-based waiver shall be deemed members of their Association of School Attendance and shall have the full rights and privileges accorded to all members of that association. (b) The waiver shall be renewed annually. A player who changes their school of attendance shall be eligible for a new school-based waiver with the association serving their new school. (c) A player may not hold simultaneous registration with both their residential association and their Association of School Attendance. The school-based waiver supersedes residential association boundaries for all WAHA registration and participation purposes. (d) Financial obligations to a prior association must be resolved before a school-based waiver takes effect. (e) This provision does not apply to Tier I organizations nor private schools.

REASON FOR PROPOSAL: see p. 2

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

Nick Trentadue – President, McFarland Youth
Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/14/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-66 (school based)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

2026 R-66, p. 2

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

Wisconsin families increasingly exercise school choice, open enrollment, and charter school options. A significant and growing number of players live in one association's geographic boundaries but attend school in another. Under current WAHA rules, these players are required to register with their residential association regardless of where they go to school, where their friends are, or which program better serves their development.

Minnesota Hockey adopted a mandatory school-based waiver rule in January 2024, recognizing that "the most recent rule modifications are the direct result of a changing landscape." Wisconsin faces the same landscape. The school day creates natural social bonds – players skate with teammates they see every day, coaches can more easily communicate with players, and families can coordinate transportation more efficiently when the association aligns with the school.

This proposal does not threaten geographic association boundaries – those remain in place and continue to matter for co-op formation, classification, and State Tournament purposes. It simply recognizes that for a meaningful number of families, school attendance is a more relevant community anchor than residential address.

The mandatory waiver structure is important: it removes the releasing association's ability to veto the move, while preserving financial obligation requirements. A family should not be blocked from participating where their child goes to school simply because a board disagrees with the choice. Tier I is excluded to prevent the waiver from being used as a back-door recruiting tool at the highest competitive levels.



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number: Article 1

Heading: Registration, Eligibility, General Rules

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number: End of Page 54

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

**PROPOSED WORDING:
CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED
DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH**

CURRENT WORDING:

NEW PARAGRAPH

All games played under WAHA jurisdiction shall use GameSheet for electronic scoring. Home teams/associations are responsible for ensuring GameSheet is activated prior to each game. Paper scoresheets will no longer be accepted as the official game record. In the event GameSheet is not able to be used during the game, a paper scoresheet can be used and then should be transcribed into GameSheet within 24 hours of the game commencing and shall constitute the official scoresheet for the game. For transparency, WAHA will make the rosters, games scores, and penalties in each sanctioned game available for WAHA affiliate members to view on the Gamesheet Dashboards

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):
Gamesheet has been subsidized and rolled out across the state – lets fully adopt it and use its features for all WAHA affiliates.

Nick Trentadue – President McFarland Youth Hockey Association

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

DATE RECEIVED: 4/14/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-67 (GameSheet)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

PROPOSED RULE & REGULATION CHANGE, ADDITION OR DELETION

Article Number:

Article 1

Heading:

REGISTRATION, ELIGIBILITY, GENERAL RULES

Section, Sub-section, Paragraph, Page Number:

NEW SECTION. PAGE 54

NOTE: Rule Changes are voted upon by the WAHA Board of Directors prior to the WAHA Annual Meeting. Rule Changes will be announced and copies provided to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

CURRENT WORDING:

None. The WAHA Rules and Regulations contain no standardized procedure governing what occurs after a spectator is ejected from a WAHA-sanctioned game. Ejections are handled inconsistently across associations, and no tracking or escalation mechanism currently exists.

PROPOSED WORDING: CHANGES – BOLD, BLACK & UNDERLINED DELETIONS – STRIKETHROUGH

SPECTATOR EJECTION PROCEDURE. Any spectator removed from a WAHA-sanctioned game by a game official or rink manager for violating WAHA Zero Tolerance Policy, USA Hockey rules, or engaging in threatening, abusive, or harassing behavior toward players, coaches, or officials, shall be subject to the following procedure: (1) The game official shall document the ejection on the official game sheet, including the nature of the conduct and the name of the ejected individual if known, and which association the spectator is affiliated with if determinable. (2) The rink manager or facility staff shall be responsible for ensuring the ejected spectator leaves the facility immediately. (3) The board president or designee of the association with which the ejected spectator is affiliated – whether home or visiting – shall submit a written incident report to the WAHA Regional Director within 72 hours of the ejection.. (4) The WAHA Board shall maintain a cumulative record of all reported spectator ejections. Any individual with two or more reported ejections within a single season shall be referred to the WAHA Grievance Committee for review and potential suspension from all WAHA-sanctioned events.

SUBMITTER, TITLE & ORGANIZATION:

Nick Trentadue – President, McFarland Youth Hockey Association

DATE RECEIVED: 4/14/26

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 2026 R-68 (spec eject)



Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

2026 R-68, p. 2

REASON FOR PROPOSAL (attached extra sheets if needed):

WAHA's Zero Tolerance Policy prohibits abusive behavior toward officials, coaches, and players, but the current rules contain no standardized procedure for what happens after a spectator is ejected. In practice, ejections are handled inconsistently – some are documented, many are not, and repeat offenders face no cumulative consequences because there is no tracking mechanism. This proposal fills that gap by establishing a clear documentation, reporting, and escalation procedure. It protects referees and players, creates accountability for associations to manage their spectators, and gives WAHA the data it needs to address patterns of misconduct before they escalate into serious incidents.

Without a documented ejection procedure, the current system effectively has no memory. A parent can be ejected from a game in October, a different game in December, and a third in February – and unless coaches or association presidents manually track it, WAHA never knows. Officials and young players bear the cost of that gap. Minnesota Hockey, USA Hockey, and other state affiliates have formalized ejection tracking for this reason. This rule gives WAHA the same tool.