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ARTICLE 1: NAME AND AREA OF OPERATION

SECTION 1: This organization will be known as “**DISTRICT 4 HOCKEY**”

SECTION 2: The area of operation will be Southwestern Minnesota. District 4 Hockey is comprised of the following hockey associations of Minnesota Hockey:

Fairmont, Luverne, Marshall, Redwood Falls, Windom, Worthington, New Ulm/Seepy Eye
Affiliate of District 4 Hockey: Lakes Area.

ARTICLE 2: 2020-2021 DISTRICT 4 OFFICERS

Director District 4

Jeremy Reed
312 South Washington St
New Ulm MN 56073
507-766-3424
jfreed420@gmail.com

President & Statistician

Todd Frankenhoff
tfranken@madjac.net

Secretary

Robyn Wessels
414 S Fairview Drive
Luverne MN 56156
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rwessels@iw.net

Treasurer & Tournament Director

Kris Hohensee
31450 310th St
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507-360-6787
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Hockey Director

Joe Stremcha
coachstremcha@gmail.com
320-226-4798

HP 15 (Boys) GM

Mike Pigman
hockey@tristategc.net

HP 14 Boys

Jeremy Brennan
jbrennan2706@gmail.com
507-276-2956

Girls Coordinator

Cassie Weiss
Cassi.Weiss18@gmail.com

Coach in Chief

Sean Stewart
507-276-4259
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Supervisor of Officials

Scott Kuhl
sdkuhl@yahoo.com

District 4 Registrar

Todd Elmer
12808 90th Place N
Maple Grove MN 55396
tjelmer@comcast.net

ARTICLE 3: 2020 - 2021 DISTRICT 4 PLAYOFFS, MN HOCKEY REGIONAL, STATE TOURNAMENT SITES:

All End of the Year, District Playoff, Regional, and State Tournament Locations will be posted on the Website.

<https://mnhdistrict4.pucksystems2.com/>

ARTICLE 4: OPERATING PROCEDURES

SECTION 1: TEAM REGISTRATION

1. All teams in all divisions will be registered with Minnesota Hockey and USA Hockey.
2. All league games will be played and governed by District 4 Hockey playing rules, Minnesota Hockey, and USA Hockey Rules.
3. All hockey associations within District 4 must update and complete the Affiliate Agreement, as found in Minnesota Hockey handbook, when directed by the District Director. The league registration fees for each member team in District 4 will be as follows: (Includes Lakes Area association)
 - a. District 4 fee for each Association - \$200.00
 - b. District 4 web fee for each Association - \$125.00
 - c. District 4 Officials Fee \$50.00
 - d. District 4 Fee for each Registered Team \$10.00
 - e. League Team Fee for 12U, 15U, PeeWee, Bantam - \$50.00
 - f. Arbiter fee for Referee Scheduling \$150.00
 - g. Any league games played prior to payment of fee and dues will be forfeited if fees and dues are not paid in full before December 1, 2020.**
 - h. Any fines or bills that are not paid to the District means that the Association will NOT participate in District, Regional, or State Playoffs.
 - i. All teams will indicate at time of registration, of their intention to participate in District 4 Playoffs. When a team, (who has indicated at the beginning of the season of their intent to play in the playoffs, if they qualify) qualifies for a District Playoff Position, fails to participate in the District Playoff, will be subject of very strong disciplinary action. Teams subject to this review will be allowed to state

their reason(s) in person or writing as to why participation did not occur. District 4 Board will assess any disciplinary action based upon review of all information presented.

SECTION 2: COACHES

1. All coaches must follow USA Hockey coaching affiliation.
2. All coaches must complete Safe Sport, Background Screening, & Age Appropriate Module before taking ice in September. This must be done prior to taking the ice, failure to adhere to Safe Sport and Minnesota Hockey Background Screening Policy as outlined in the MN Hockey Handbook are: **1st Violation Warning, 2nd Violation 30 days suspension.**
3. All head and assistant coaches must attain the appropriate certification level by December 31, 2020.
4. There will be no uncertified coaches on the bench at any time, at any level after December 31, 2020.
5. All certified coaches must be registered on the teams roster that they are coaching. Coaches must submit a Concussion certification form prior to being rostered.
6. All coaches and certifications numbers will be listed on the scoresheet, and all coaches on the bench must sign each scoresheet, before the start of the contest.
7. Each coach is required to wear a HECC approved helmet during practice, with a chin strap. **No Warning's 1st Violation 30 days suspension from all team activities.**
8. Any association from District 4 who has a coach ejected from a game for "abuse of officials" will pay:
 - a. 1st Offense \$250.00 fine to District 4 and be suspended for 3 games or one week.
 - b. 2nd Offense \$500.00 Fine, with District Hearing and up to 30 days suspension.
 - c. 3rd Offense District Hearing and up to one year Suspension.

SECTION 4: LEAGUE GAMES

1. All league games must be completed on/before February 7, 2021 (including makeup games).
2. League games between teams from the same association will have a scheduled completion date of January 17, 2021.

3. The League Schedule will consist of TBD games: as determined by the district 4 league committee. Any game between two teams will be considered a league game unless otherwise agreed upon by both teams. All District 4 Bantam, 12UB, and PeeWee League games will be 15 minute periods with stop time.
4. Game Limites per season:
 - a. Youth Squirt and Girls 10U levels are limited to 35 games (including scrimmages and tournaments).
 - b. All traveling mite/8U levels (and below) shall utilize half and cross ice games. These teams will follow the Minnesota Hockey mite rules as stated in the MN Hockey Handbook, pg 26.
 - c. Mites/8U Girls levels and below teams may not play full ice games.
 - d. Out of town scrimmages and split practices with out of town teams are considered games.
 - e. All mite schedules will be reported to the District Director, to include date, time, location, and cross or half ice.
5. All league games will be played as per original schedule listed with District 4.
 - a. Games may be rescheduled prior to October 31, 2020, in which league games may be changed at no charge by filling out the district 4 rescheduling form. (listed on website)
 - b. Any game changes after October 31, 2020 MUST be rescheduled using the District 4 Game Rescheduling Form and paying the required fee.
 - c. Games can be rescheduled, with no fee, due to incimate weather or severe team illness.
 - d. District 4 League Coordinators and/or Directors Decision will be final.
 - e. Rescheduling a league game will be \$250.00, paid by the team that wants to reschedule. Submit Rescheduling form and Associations/teams will be invoiced electronically.
6. **Cancelling Games:** Any team that cancels or is a “no show” to a game will be fined \$300.00 per cancelled game. The fine will be paid to District 4 within 7 days of the date of the cancelled game. District 4 will direct \$200.00 of the cancellation fee to the other team/association involved in the cancelled game. The remaining \$100.00 will be retained by District 4. In case of double forfeit, both teams/associations will be fined \$200.00. A team that cancels or is a, “no show” for a league game also becomes ineligible for District Payoffs. Exceptions to this would be inclement weather of severe team illness.
 - a. This includes the cancellation of non-league games between district 4 teams.
 - b. No “Fair Play Points” will be awarded to either team for cancelled games as no game was played. A fair play point may be awarded to a team if a team forfeits a game, per the District Directors approval.

- c. It is mandatory that all league games be played. If a team refuses to play another team, the non-forfeiting team will be awarded 2 points. Exceptions are outlined in 5c above. Any team refusing to play a league game for reasons other than those described in 5c, may be barred from participating in league play for the following season; and/or exclusion from the District playoff/end of the year events, pending review by the Board of Division Coordinators and the District 4 Director.
7. **Hazardous Travel:** If weather conditions seem hazardous for highway travel and a coach questions the feasibility of traveling within the District 4 area, the following procedures should be followed:
 - a. The traveling coach must call the District 4 Director Jeremy Reed 507.766.3424
 - b. The call MUST be made by a coach or team manager, NOT a parent.The District Director will retrieve information on travel advisories and make a decision on the game in question. If it is decided that the game should be played, and isn't the game will be recorded as a forfeit. The traveling team will be fined for not playing a league game.
 8. **Referee's:** Referee issues will be reported to the District 4 Supervisor of Officials:
 - a. Scott Kuhl, sdkuhl@yahoo.com 507.993.5951
 - b. If you are a coach that recently played a game in District 4, please feel free to fill out the form at the link below with your referee evaluation. Please be specific with referee names and with all comments. Please be aware, you may be contacted to elaborate on your comments as we strive to provide the highest quality of officiating.
<http://mnhdistrict4.pcuksystems2.com/page/show/25008>

SECTION 5: PLAYING RULES

1. The **HOME TEAM** will wear white jerseys, and be responsible for a change in jersey color in case of color conflict.
2. The **HOME TEAM** will provide the visiting team with warm up pucks. All District 4 Tournament sites will provide warm up pucks for all games.
3. The Uniform of 12U/PeeWee/Bantam/15U may display a District 4 patch.
4. All Bantam/15U, PW/12U games will be 15 minute stop time periods with a 5 minute pre-game warmup.
5. Squirt/10U will be 12 minute stop time periods, with a 5 minute pre-game warmup.
6. Penalties for **all** games in District 4 will be:
 - a. 2 minutes for minor penalty
 - b. 5 minutes for major penalty
 - c. 10 minutes for misconduct penalty

7. **One time out allowed in league games**
8. All players, including goalkeepers, are **required** to wear a colored (non-clear) internal mouthpiece, which covers all remaining teeth of one jaw, customarily the upper, and tethered to the mask or helmet.
9. Minimum allotted time for Squirt/10U games is 60 minutes.
10. Minimum allotted time to play for PeeWee/12U games is 75 minutes.
11. Minimum allotted time to play for Bantam/15U games is 90 minutes, with a resurface every two periods of play.
12. A one-minute rest period will be allocated between periods which have no resurface.
13. When one team holds at least a six (6) goal lead in the third period, there will be running time on the clock until the game ends or if the lead becomes less than six (6) goals.
14. There will be no overtime in league games.
15. Occasionally, District 4 is unable to secure enough teams at a certain level to support a viable league within D-4. When that happens an Association may be required to participate in a league sponsored by another District. If that happens, the participating team will play by that district's rules, and it shall be the Associations responsibility to familiarize, and notify ALL necessary individuals of the leagues rules and requirements.
16. Mites and mini-mites, mites are considered 8 years old and younger. Mini-mites are considered 6 years old and younger. Mini-Mites must play all games cross ice. Mites may play cross ice, or half ice, this must be determined by the two teams when the game is scheduled. There are no full ice mite games in District 4.

Section 6: Statistics

1. During the 2020-2021 Season District 4 Hockey will be Piloting Game Sheet Inc.
 - a. <https://gamesheetinc.com/>
2. All Games played in District 4, will utilize Game Sheet Inc. Including Invitational Tournaments, and non-league, or exhibition games.

SECTION 6: TOURNAMENTS

1. No invitational tournaments/jamborees in District 4 will be sanctioned on the weekend of District Playoffs, February 12-14, 2020 and the End of the Year Event Weekend, February 19 - February 21, 2020.
2. No invitational tournaments within the District will compete at the same level with another invitational tournament on the same weekend. To avoid this all tournament dates will be

turned into the District Tournament Director no earlier than March 15th and no later than June 1, 2020. Dates will be awarded on a first come first serve.

3. Any invitational tournaments that have not been approved and have been advertised will be subject to a fine. As well, any dates that have been instructed to be changed and do not get changed are subject to fines and/or subject to not being approved for sanctioning.
4. District 4 Playoff Tournament entry fees will be \$500.00 per team, District gate fees will be those established by Minnesota Hockey.
5. Teams will be seeded for district play by the District 4 Standings.
6. District 4 Playoffs will be as follows:
 - a. Set by the District Director, can be any of the following or combination of,
 - i. Round Robin, bracketed, double elimination, playoff series
 - ii. Utilize playin games
 - iii. Decisions on format will be based on size of league and strength of league.
7. District 4 End of Year Squirt/10U Event will be \$375.00. District gate fees will be those Established by Minnesota Hockey.
8. District 4 End of Year Jamboree for Mites will be \$275.00 and no gate fees will be Charged, but free will donation will be allowed.

SECTION 7: DISCIPLINE AND SANCTIONS

1. Authorized disciplinary actions taken by the District 4 Board will be in accordance with the USA Hockey Playing Rules.
2. The District 4 Director will be notified of players or coaches receiving fighting, game misconduct, and match penalties. A written report, date marked within 72 hours of the infraction and will be emailed to the District 4 Director.
3. Game reports will be sent by the Supervisor of Officials of D4 to the District Director. The District Director will notify the respective association president.
4. Any game scheduler who assigns incompletely registered officials for games is subject to serious liability and sanctions from USA Hockey, MN Hockey, and District 4 as he/she jeopardises the insurance coverage of the officials for both teams involved.
5. A \$100 fine will be imposed by the District Director for the following; but not limited to; failure to pay league fees and dues by December 1, failure to submit background checks by the designated time set by the director, failure to complete Safe Sport, failure to

properly register teams, non-attendance at mandatory District 4 meetings, and other required submittals as determined by the District 4 rules.

6. Association rosters will not be approved unless each association is in good standing, including a current Affiliate Agreement, and Safe Sport agreement submitted.

Sub-Section 7: Match Penalty Proceedings

1. Match Penalties may have a disciplinary hearing to determine if further suspension is needed. The District retains the option to hold a hearing within 30-days of the offense. This is known as the “discovery” phase.
2. During the discovery phase players, coaches, or team officials are not allowed to Coach, practice, or participate in any team activities until either the 30-days period has lapsed or a hearing has convened.
3. Details about hearings come from the District 4 Director.

Section 8: GRIEVANCE

1. The grievance Committee of District 4 will be the District 4 Board. All grievances must be in writing and postmarked or time stamped within 72 hours of the reported incident. The local league representative will submit the report to the District Director. Copies of the grievance will be sent to the opposing team’s league representative.
2. If two teams are involved in the incident, they will then have 7 days in which to submit any information requested by the Grievance Committee and any information that either team feels is pertinent to the handling and resolving of the grievance. Any grievance not submitted within the 72-hour time frame WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. If the league representative is not available to present the grievance, the local Association President may submit the grievance. If the Grievance Committee’s decision will affect the League Standings the League Statistician must be notified immediately.

SECTION 9: CONDUCT

Racial or ethnic slurs and/or harassing conduct of any kind will not be tolerated. Each team is responsible for the conduct of its spectators. Coaches should advise their parents and other fans of conduct rules.

If spectator conduct becomes so abusive that, in the referee(s) opinion, it is distracting from the game or inciting the players, the referee(s) **will** stop play and:

1. Ask the coach(es) to control their spectators and/or:
2. Ask the coach(es) to request specified individuals to leave the arena.
3. Disruptive use of artificial noise makers will be considered abusive conduct.

4. Possession of a device that could be detrimental to the players or to the conduct of the game, such as laser pointers, will be considered abusive conduct and reported to local law enforcement officials. During MH playoffs or invitational tournaments, the District Director, designated district personnel or the tournament director shall have the authority to take actions as necessary to control spectator conduct.
5. **Any spectator removed under this paragraph will incur a mandatory minimum 3 game suspension from that team's games and may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body.**
6. District 4 Hockey requests all home team (managers) monitor parent/spectator conduct and submit off ice incidents to the District Director by email at jfreed420@gmail.com

Section 10: Appeals

Refer to Minnesota Hockey Handbook By-laws, Article 6

Section 12: Pre-Season Meetings -

2020-2021 Pre-Season Coaches and Managers Meetings will be held via zoom over the week of October 18, 2020. This season we will hold separate meetings for squirt/10U, District 4 Leagues, and teams playing in combined leagues. Association Presidents and District Representatives will be provided a schedule with the meeting links to distribute to their local managers and coaches for attendance.

Each team will be required to have one manager, and one coach attend per team. A \$200.00 fine will be assessed to programs for not having managers or coaches attend.

SECTION 13: 2020-2021 District 4 Leagues

10UB - Marshall, New Ulm/Sleepy Eye, Fairmont, Luverne, Worthington, Willmar

Squirt B - Fairmont 1, Fairmont 2, Marshall 1, Marshall 2, Marshall 3, Worthington, Windom 1 and Windom 2, Lakes Area, Redwood Area, Luverne, New Ulm/Sleepy Eye (January 1, 2021)

New Ulm/Sleepy Eye - Playing in house until January 1, 2021

Windom - Playing in house until January 1, 2021

Squirt A - January 1, 2021 - Marshall, New Ulm/Sleepy Eye, Fairmont, Worthington

12UB - Fairmont, Marshall, New Ulm/Sleepy Eye, Windom, Lakes Area, Luverne, Redwood Area, Willmar (returns to D5 playoffs).

PWB - Fairmont, Marshall, New Ulm/Sleepy Eye, Windom, Luverne, Lakes Area, Redwood Area, Worthington

PWA - New Ulm/Sleepy Eye, Luverne, Marshall, Fairmont,

Bantam B - New Ulm/Sleepy Eye, Redwood Area, Marshall, Windom, Lakes Area, Worthington, Fairmont.

Playoff format for 12UB, PWA, PWB, Bantam B announced January 1, 2021.

Combined District 6 League -

PWA - New Ulm/Sleepy Eye, Luverne,

Bantam A - New Ulm/Sleepy Eye, Luverne, Marshall - (Both home and away to be played at Neutral facility to cut travel. 14- 16 game schedule)

All Scheduling and League Organization for the combined league will be through District 6.

2020 - 2021 District 4 Hockey
<http://mnhdistrict4.pucksystems2.com>
www.minnesotahockey.org