



MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY RULES AND REGULATIONS

As amended and revised at the Annual Meeting, at Hyannis, Massachusetts June 21 and 22, 2003.

ARTICLE I - REGISTRATION; COMPLETION

Section 1. Registration

Persons and associations desiring membership in Massachusetts Hockey are required to register in the category of membership sought as defined in Article III in the By-Laws of Massachusetts Hockey and shall meet the following requirements in order to be so registered:

A. Associations:

Only one association shall be registered for each city and town or groupings of cities and towns in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with populations of less than 150,000 residents. More than one association may be registered in cities or towns with populations over 150,000. Such programs shall consist of two or more groups of players who engage in competitive hockey play and may be referred to hereinafter as association(s) or town association(s).

In order to be registered each such association shall:

1. adopt a constitution and/or By-Laws which provide for the election of officers, a Board of Directors, the conducting of its business and affairs in accordance with generally accepted parliamentary procedures and defines who has the right to vote and submit a copy of same to the Association Registration Committee as required;
2. ensure that membership and voting powers of its governing body consist of not less than 20% of members who have children actively skating in the association;
3. provide the right to vote to parents(s)/guardian(s) of minor players, coaches, and any other volunteers in that association in the process for nomination and election of Directors;
4. hold no fewer than 4 meetings per year open to all members of the association
5. One of these meetings will be an annual meeting at which time
 - a) A written financial report for the most recent year ending shall be presented to its members, and
 - b) The election of its Board of Directors shall be held.
 - c) Such meetings shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted parliamentary procedures.
6. make copies of its By-Laws and/or Constitution Rules/Regulations, including methods of becoming an Officer or Director, method of selecting coaches, definition of membership and voting rights, and a list of current Officers and Directors, available to all parents, coaches, players and other members of the association;
7. abide by Massachusetts Hockey's By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and Policies and Procedures, including but not limited to, those regarding the prevention of Physical and Sexual Abuse;
8. secure and submit Individual Membership Registration forms (IMRs) from all members and prepare team rosters for all teams; and
9. pay required fees as established by USA Hockey and Massachusetts Hockey and as set out in the Fee Schedule herein.

B. Leagues:

Leagues organized for competitive play in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall be registered with Massachusetts Hockey.

In order to be registered each such league shall:

1. be comprised of associations, teams and members registered pursuant to the provisions of these Rules and Regulations, or pursuant to the rules of any other affiliate District of USA Hockey;
2. agree to abide by Massachusetts Hockey's By-Laws, Rules and Regulation, and Policies and Procedures;
3. file a league registration annually with the Association Registration Committee certifying compliance with these requirements; as set out in the Fee Schedule herein.

C. Teams:

Teams shall be registered in one of the following categories:

1. Youth: -- Teams, which are members of a City or Town association.
2. Girls/Women's: -- Teams, which are registered pursuant to the provisions in the Registration procedures.
All By-Laws, Rules and Regulations in this Annual Guide apply to Girls/Women unless specifically exempted.
3. Select: -- Teams which are members of the Massachusetts Hockey TIER I League pursuant to the provisions of Article XIV of these Rules and Regulations.
4. Club: -- Teams, which do not fit into the definitions above.

To be registered as club teams these teams must:

- a. Be comprised of a minimum of 80% Massachusetts residents;
- b. Agree to abide by Massachusetts Hockey Policy and Rules and Regulations regarding the prevention of Physical and Sexual Abuse and seek consents for the Criminal Offender Record Information for all relevant personnel on the team(s);
- c. Comply with all registration procedures of USA and Massachusetts Hockey
- d. Agree to be governed by the following restrictions:
 - 1) Cannot participate in Massachusetts Hockey State Championship Tournaments, USA Hockey Regional, Sectional or National Championship Tournaments;
 - 2) Cannot participate in Massachusetts Hockey Registered Leagues without the approval of the Massachusetts Hockey Executive Board; and
 - 3) May only play against USA Hockey and Canadian Amateur Hockey Association registered teams, using USA Hockey playing rules, and registered USA Hockey referees.

D. Individual Members:

Those individual members who are players, coaches and/or referees shall be registered with Massachusetts Hockey.

In order to be registered a member shall:

1. Complete Individual Membership Registration (IMR) prepared by USA Hockey, Inc. and pay required registration fee;
2. players registered as individual members on a youth team must play for the town association of residence except that a resident of a city or town which does not have a registered association may join a association in an abutting city or town. A member who has joined an

abutting city or town association shall be deemed to be a member of that association for his/her youth hockey career. Midget level players shall not be subject to these requirements.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of D.2 requirements, a city or town association may register and roster up to three (3) members per roster who are non residents provided such member does not have outstanding financial obligations to another Massachusetts Hockey or USA Hockey affiliated association. Any non-resident member properly rostered for the 2000-01 regular season by association shall not be subject to this limitation.

4. A association described in Article I Section 1(A) may petition for a waiver from the requirements of Article I, Section 1(D)(3) to the Massachusetts Hockey Roster Committee.

E. Honorary Members:

Honorary members shall not be required to register and shall be elected as honorary members by vote of the Board of Directors of Massachusetts Hockey.

Section 2. Completion

A. In General

All registrations shall be done annually at the time and in the manner prescribed by Massachusetts Hockey on forms prepared by Massachusetts Hockey and/or USA Hockey, Inc. and shall be deemed complete and accepted when stamped by an appropriate Massachusetts Hockey official.

B. Players

Players shall not be considered registered and shall not participate in any on ice activity until an Individual Membership Registration (IMR) form is completed and submitted to their association.

C. Teams

Teams shall not be considered registered until a USA Hockey team application and official player roster form (Form 1-T) are submitted to the District/Division Registrar with the required fees established by USA Hockey and Massachusetts Hockey 10 days prior to the start of playdowns or November 15, whichever comes earlier, for tournament bound teams, and on or before December 1 for all other teams.

D. Associations

Associations shall not be considered registered until all IMRs for their members have been submitted, all team applications and rosters have been submitted, all Criminal Offender Record Information consent forms have been submitted, their constitution and/or By-Laws have been submitted and all required fees have been paid.

ARTICLE II - COACHES AND MANAGERS; CERTIFICATION

Section 1. Coaches and Managers

Coaches, managers and all bench personnel shall be registered as members of Massachusetts Hockey, Inc. and shall be identified as such on approved roster forms. They shall be responsible for the conduct of all members of their teams during sanctioned activities. There shall not be less than one nor more than four (4) bench personnel in the bench area during a game and a game shall be forfeited upon a failure to comply with the minimum requirement of one. At all times during sanctioned activities there shall be on the bench at least one individual certified pursuant to the provisions of Section 2 of this Article. Coaches, managers and bench personnel may be changed during the season by submitting a Change/Add Bench Official form and the appropriate fee to a District/Divisional Registrar.

Section 2. Certification

- A. To qualify as a head coach or assistant coach on an approved roster, the following USA Hockey Coaching Education Program qualification levels must have been attained by November 1 for Bantam and Midget and December 31 of the current playing season for Mite - Pee wee .
- B. Coaches who fail to comply within their inaugural season will be declared ineligible for subsequent season(s) until they first achieve the appropriate USA Hockey Coaching Education Program level endorsement.

C. Pre-requisites:

Initiation Level	None
Associate Level	Initiation
Intermediate Level	Associate
Advance Level	Intermediate

D. Required Level of Achievement

Level of Play	Coaching Education Program Level
Learn to Skate	Level 2 Associate
Mite Tier ii (A), Tier III (B)1 st Year	Level 2 Associate
2ndYear	Level 3 Intermediate
Mite Tier IV(C)	Level 2 Associate
Squirts	Level 3 Intermediate
Peewees	Level 3 Intermediate
Bantams	Level 3 Intermediate
Midgets	Level 3 Intermediate
All Tier I (Selects) and Midget Tier II National Tournament Bound)	Level 4 Advanced
Girls/Women 10 & Under	Level 3 Intermediate
Girls/Women 12 & Under	Level 3 Intermediate
Girls/Women 14 & Under	Level 3 Intermediate
Girls/Women 16 & Under	Level 3 Intermediate
Girls/Women 19 & Under	Level 3 Intermediate

- Although not required, it is recommended all coaching personnel complete a first aid treatment education program or receive a certification in EMT training and/or CPR techniques.

E. Re-certification

Coaches (except Advance or Masters Level) shall progress through the USA Hockey Coaching Education Program by attending a coaching clinic at least once every three (3) years up to the Intermediate level. A coach who has completed the Intermediate Level, shall do one of the following every three (3) years; a.) attend another Intermediate Level clinic; b) take a USA Hockey Continuing Education Course; or c.) attend an Advance Level Clinic.

The effective date for re-certification will commence from the year 2000.

ARTICLE III REFEREE IN CHIEF; REFEREE SUPERVISORS;
MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY REFEREE REGISTRAR; REGISTRATION AND
CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 1. Referee in Chief; Referee Supervisors; Referee Registrar

USA Hockey, Inc., shall designate a Referee-in-Chief for Massachusetts who will recommend his choice of District Referee Supervisors, one from each state District, from a list of three candidates submitted by each District, to the Massachusetts Hockey Executive Committee for approval. Each District Referee Supervisor shall be responsible for registering, collecting fees, and classifying the referees in his District on an annual basis and forwarding the same to the Referee-in-Chief. The Referee-in-Chief shall deliver all referee registrations, including fees, to the Massachusetts Hockey Referee Registrar who will issue a Massachusetts Hockey Crest indicating the current hockey Year to each referee.

Section 2. Registration and Classifications

All referees shall be registered as members of Massachusetts Hockey, Inc. and shall be classified in their district of residence by the USA Hockey Referee in Chief.

In order to be registered a referee shall:

- A. complete an Individual Membership Registration (IMR) prepared by USA Hockey, Inc. and pay the required registration and/or classification fees as set out in the Fee Schedule herein;
- B. attend an annual USA Hockey, Inc. seminar that includes information on Massachusetts Hockey rules.

In order to be classified a referee shall meet the requirements of USA Hockey, Inc. as set out in its Rules and Regulations and be classified there under.

Referees so registered and classified shall be responsible to supervise all games played under the auspices of Massachusetts Hockey, Inc. and shall enforce all rules of the game, including but not limited to, ensuring complete and accurate game sheets and meeting all reporting requirements. Only Level 3 and 4 referees shall be eligible to referee Peewee, Bantam, Midget, Girls/Women and Junior Massachusetts Hockey tournaments.

All referees must report all Match penalties within 48 hours, in writing, to his/her District Referee Supervisor, including attaching the relevant game sheet if possible. The District Referee Supervisor in receipt of the referees' report will forward a copy to the District Registrar of the offending party and the Chairman of the Discipline Committee within 48 hours. Referees failing to report Match penalties may be subject to suspension from Massachusetts Hockey.

ARTICLE IV -ROSTER LIMITATION PROCEDURE

- A. A waiver petition under this Article shall be made in writing to the Roster Committee and shall set forth the names of the parties and association affected and the substantive reasons for the waiver. The Chair of the Committee shall request from the District/Divisional Registrar(s) any comments or recommendations in writing regarding the waiver request.
- B. The Committee may determine, in its sole discretion, either through hearing or written submissions, whether the waiver requested is consistent with Massachusetts Hockey's By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Policies and Procedures and in the best interest of Massachusetts Hockey. The Committee shall be guided by established precedents relative to creating teams from combinations of associations, rostering out of state players and similar concerns. A written decision shall be issued within thirty (30) days of receipt by the Committee of the waiver petition.
- C. Requests for waivers by associations may be made no earlier than June 1st and no later than October 15th of the current regular playing season.
- D. All decisions of the Committee shall be final with no appeal to any other individual, committee or board of Massachusetts Hockey.

ARTICLE V - NON-REGISTERED AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Members shall not play any team not recognized by or registered with Massachusetts Hockey or any team, which has been suspended and/or expelled by Massachusetts Hockey or USA Hockey, Inc. Members shall not play in international competition without securing written permission from the USA Hockey Registrar submitted on the forms and in the manner prescribed by said Registrar and after having paid the required fee as set out in the Fee Schedule herein.

ARTICLE VI - TEAM CLASSIFICATIONS

Teams in Massachusetts Hockey shall be classified as follows:

SENIOR NON-CHECKING 30 AND OVER—Restricted to US residents. Unrestricted as to citizenship, and unlimited so as to include amateurs and/or reinstated professionals. Limited as to exclude any player who plays that current season as a professional player, or on a NCAA (Div. I, II, or III) or Junior College or College Club team. Players shall be 30 years of age or older. Exception: Goalkeepers (2) may be 25 years of age or older before December 31 of the current playing season.

SENIOR NON-CHECKING 18 AND OVER— Restricted to US residents. Unrestricted as to citizenship, and unlimited so as to include amateurs and/or reinstated professionals. Limited as to exclude any player who plays that current season as a professional player, or on a NCAA (Div. I, II, or III) or Junior College or College Club team. Players shall be 18 years of age or older.

SENIOR ELITE— Restricted to US residents. Unrestricted as to citizenship but limited to no more than three (3) non-US. Citizens. Limited to amateurs and/or reinstated professionals who have played less than five (5) professional games during that current season.

SENIOR US—Restricted to US citizens, either US-born or naturalized with final papers. Limited as to exclude any reinstated professionals and any player who plays that current season on an NCAA (Div. I, II, or III) or Junior College, or College Club team.

JUNIOR — Limited to US citizens, registered aliens and foreign exchange students only and limited to amateurs. 20 years of age or under on December 31 of the current season.

YOUTH — Seventeen years of age and under. (Midget) On June 30 prior to the season

YOUTH — Sixteen years of age and under (Midget)

YOUTH — Fourteen years of age and under. (Bantam).

YOUTH — Twelve years of age and under. (Pee wee). On December 31

YOUTH — Ten years of age and under. (Squirt). of the

YOUTH — Eight years of age and under. (Mite). current season

YOUTH — Six years of age and under. (Mini-Mite).

GIRLS — Nineteen years of age and under

GIRLS — Sixteen years of age and under On December 31

GIRLS — Fourteen years of age and under of the

GIRLS — Twelve years of age and under current season

GIRLS — Ten years of age and under

Girls/Women who participate must comply with the age requirement of the classification in which they compete.

NON-AMATEUR — Unrestricted as to citizenship and may include players under contract to a professional organization.

HIGH SCHOOL/PREP SCHOOL — Formal high school and prep school teams or non-varsity teams consisting of full-time students attending a single high school/prep school, or within a single school district as defined by the appropriate state law or School District body.

COLLEGE — Varsity.

COLLEGE — Junior College/Community College.

COLLEGE CLUB — Div. I, Div. II and Open Formal College teams (four year or two year), school, or within a single school district as defined by the appropriate state law or School District body.

COLLEGE — Varsity.

COLLEGE — Junior College/Community College.

COLLEGE CLUB — Div. I, Div. II and Open Formal College teams (four year or two year), consisting of students attending that college, which are non-varsity teams.

National and State Championships are not held in all of the above classifications.

Any team violating any of the aforementioned rules and regulations may be declared ineligible to play in the State Playdowns and State Finals, and may be subject to suspension from further Massachusetts Hockey

ARTICLE VII - A GAME

Section 1. Games And Scrimmages

The following conditions shall constitute a game:

- A. When two teams occupy the same ice surface for the purpose of competitive play, including scrimmages, at least for the minimum time and all rules prescribed by USA Hockey.
- B. Any tournament or exhibition game played with teams from other USA Hockey Districts or teams approved by USA Hockey from other countries.

Section 2. Referee Requirements

- A. All Playdown games are under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts Hockey and must be officiated by Massachusetts Hockey registered referees.
- B. Score sheets are required for all games played. It is mandatory that all games leading to District Playdowns including Tier IV playdowns be played with Massachusetts Hockey Referees. Before the beginning of the game. the referees SHALL PRINT HIS/HER NAME ON THE GAME SHEET. At the end of the game the referees SHALL SIGN AND/OR INITIAL THE GAME SHEET.
- C. No Massachusetts Hockey team will engage in a game within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts unless the referee(s) is wearing his/her Massachusetts Hockey Crest.

Section 3. Physical Assaults on Game Officials

Any player, coach or team official found guilty of a clear, deliberate physical assault upon a game official will be expelled from Massachusetts Hockey.

ARTICLE VIII - YOUTH TOURNAMENTS

Section 1. National And State Bound Championships

Massachusetts Hockey in the Youth and Girls/Women categories will recognize the following classifications for State Champions provided a minimum of four teams have applied. In the Youth categories they must represent at least 3 Districts.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT BOUND TEAMS;

- A. Only Teams from these Massachusetts Hockey categories are eligible to compete in these Tournaments heading for a National Tournament site.
 - Tier I (Selects Pee Wee Major, Bantam Major, Midget 16 and under and Midget 17 and under).
 - Tier II (Pee Wee, Bantam, Midget 16 and under and Midget 17 and under)

Girls (12 years of age and younger, 14 years of age and younger, 16 years of age and younger, 19 years of age and younger).
Women's (any Age)

- B. TEAMS NOT A CANDIDATE FOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS;
Teams eligible to compete for a State Tournament but not a National Tournament.
Tier I- (All Select Mite, Squirt, Pee Wee Minor and Bantam Minor)
Tier II - Division 1 L (Large)- Squirt through Midget.
Tier II - Division 1 S (Small)- Squirt through Midget.
Tier III - Squirt through Midget.
Tier IV - Squirt through Bantam.
Girls 10 years of age and younger
- C. Playdowns shall be held in each District /Division to select teams for participation in the State Championship Tournament at each Tier described above.
- D. Massachusetts Hockey Youth association teams are eligible to enter State playdowns in the Tier for which they are qualified, except teams disqualified by Massachusetts Hockey Rules. Host teams for State, Sectional and National tournaments shall not participate in games leading to that tournament, unless invited by the Massachusetts Hockey State Tournament Coordinator (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the "STC"),
- E. Classification must be declared on the team application form. The home District shall be construed to be the District in which the team registers. Any team, which competes in an inter-district or inter-community league, must return to its home district for District play. District/Division teams shall, if directed by the STC enter inter-District/Division Playdown activity to reduce the number of entries for the tournament.

Section 2. Tier Classifications Classification for District and State Tournaments are as follows:
TIER I:-

Tier I State Tournament will consist of Teams from the Massachusetts Hockey Select League The format will be determined by the State Tournament Coordinator.

TIER II:

1. Any registered Massachusetts Youth Hockey team except a Massachusetts Hockey Tier I team and Massachusetts Hockey Club teams may compete in the State Tournament at the proper Tier II classification. A Tier II team is considered to be the first, or highest rated, team in an association.
2. A Tier II team electing not to compete in the District playdowns and State Tournament will not penalize the Tier III and/or Tier IV teams from competing at the proper classification, subject to the approval of the District, if the District Registrar has a viable roster and at least ten (10) game sheets for the non-competing Tier II team.
3. A team competing in Tier II Division 1L (Large) shall be so classified where in the current playing season the association rostered, in the case of Midgets and Bantams more than 39 players at each level respectively, and in the case of Pee Wees and Squirts more than 54 players at each level respectively.
4. A team competing in Tier II Division 1S (Small) shall be so classified where in the

current playing season the association rostered, in the case of Midgets and Bantams fewer than 40 players at each level respectively, and in the case of Pee Wees and Squirts fewer than 55 players at each level respectively.

5. Any team in Division 1S may apply for participation in the Division 1L District Playdowns and State Tournament competition with the approval of the District. Such application, made to the District Registrar, shall include league standings and all official score sheets for games played in the current season (including sanctioned tournaments). The District shall vote approval of each such team.
6. For purposes of total player census for Division 1S or 1L classification at the Tier II level, all players rostered in house leagues, other travel teams and on Yankee Conference teams shall be included for purposes of paragraphs 3 and 4 above.

TIER III:

Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this section, any second or third team from an association that has a team competing in Tier II in that same youth classification for that year's tournament (see rules under Tier II part 2 above for exception).

TIER IV:

Any third or lower team from a association that has teams eligible for Tier II and Tier III competition in that same youth classification for that year's tournament. Also included shall be any team playing in a city/town recreation league or combination of players from a recreation program, subject to eligibility requirements and upon approval of the STC and the District Registrar for that team's district.

Any team, except a Tier I team, may petition its District to play in one tier lower if the team plays in a lower tier in their League and/or they feel they would not be competitive in the tier these rules require them to enter. The petition must be submitted with their Playdown application, the petition must document the basis for this change in tier. Documentation must show the record, the division they play in their league(s), or other information to document their reasons for the petition. The petition must be approved by a vote of the District. Any association making a travesty of this will be censured the following season.

Section 3. District/Division Playdown Tournament Committees

The appropriate Registrar shall appoint the District/Division Playdown Tournament Committee. They shall be responsible for all Playdown activity, and will notify the STC verbally and in writing of the complete Playdown results.

At every District Playdown game, there shall be in attendance at least one member of the District Playdown Committee, and it shall be their responsibility to establish and monitor player sign-in procedures to prevent any irregularities. Any association making a travesty of this will be prohibited from entry in the playdowns the following season.

Section 4. Tournament Application and Playdown Timetables

- A. Midget and Bantam II national bound teams must signify their intentions of entering District Playdowns no later than the October 1. All other teams must signify their intentions to enter the District Playdowns no later than November 15. No tournament applications will be accepted by the STC after December 1st
- B. All District Midget II and Bantam II National Bound playdowns must be completed by October 21. All other Bantam and Midget playdowns may also be held prior to December 1st at the option of the District.
- C. All Midget State except Tier I and Bantam Tier II State tournaments will be held no later than the 3rd weekend of November

- D. District playdowns for all Squirt, Peewee, and for Bantam III, IV must be completed by Friday, February 20.

Section 5. Tournament Formats

- A. The STC shall award the State and Northeast Sectional Tournaments to the Districts at the Annual June Meeting. The District will award the tournament to the Host/Co-host by the September State Meeting. The Host shall submit to the STC the compliance form for approval no later than the October State meeting. District/Divisions or Hosts failing to meet the above dates are subject to immediate forfeiture of that tournament. The STC may on the above dates award the tournament to a new candidate who shall submit the compliance form by the November State meeting.
- B. The tournament host shall submit to the STC a \$250.00 refundable check at the pre-tournament meeting. Seven (7) days after the completion of the tournament, the host(s) shall return all paper work (rosters, roster changes, game sheets, sign in sheets, summary score sheets and tournament report) to the STC. The STC shall deduct from the \$250.00 refundable check \$50.00 per week for each week the paper work is late or incomplete.
- C. The Tournament Host shall pay all fees for that State tournament. The Semi Final and Final games for the Tier I and Tier II National Bound Tournaments shall have accredited medical personnel as outlined in the USA Hockey Regional Playoffs Rules. Massachusetts Hockey strongly recommends this policy for all Tournaments
- D. All State Tournaments shall be held on the dates scheduled in the Massachusetts Hockey Annual Guide.
- E. The STC shall set the number of teams in each non National Bound Tournament using as a guide 20% of the Playdown Applications for that level the previous year. Tournaments will be 8, 12, or 16 teams.
- F. District/Divisional Teams entering the State Finals shall have a representative attend the Pre-Tournament meetings to obtain the schedules and other pertinent information, meet the host, give the tournament a check and receive an overview of the Tournament Rules by the committee and Hosts. Failure to do so could result in expulsion from the Tournament.

Section 6. Tournament Seeding

- A. Seeding for Tier II, III, IV State Finals:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
10	1	2	6
3	5	4	7
RU	8	RU	9
HOST	RU	HOST	RU

- B. Except as provided in Paragraph C of this Section, all Massachusetts Hockey Tournament play will consist of sixteen teams. The sixteen teams will be divided into four divisions (North, East, South, West) of four teams each, with a round robin being played in each division. In the case of a tie, Division winners will be determined by the following tie-breaking formulas. In order to break the tie, the following formulas will be followed until one rule determines the position of all teams that are tied.
 1. The results of the games played between the teams tied in the following order:

- a. The points acquired in these games.
- b. Subtracting goals scored against from goals scored in these games, the position being determined in order of the greatest surplus.
- c. Dividing the goals scored in these games by the goals scored against, the position being determined in order of the greatest quotient.

Note: Forfeits-If a team forfeits any of its games, and becomes involved in any tie-breaking formula to determine its eligibility to advance to the next level of play, the team forfeits all games in the round robin play and the games are recorded as 1 - 0 victories for the non-offending team.

2. If after applying the formulas of 1 a, b, and c, the tie still exists, 1b and 1c shall be applied using all games played by the teams tied. The formulas shall be applied in the order 1 a, b, c and 2.
3. If the above procedure does not break the tie, then their position will be determined by the number of penalty minutes assessed. Their position being determined in order of the least penalty minutes.

The four division winners would advance to the semi-finals with the North vs. South and East vs. West. The winners of these games play each other for the championship.

- C. Teams entering the competition for the Tier II - National Bound Tournament Championship will be seeded from Joint District Playdowns. National Bound Tier II competition shall consist of two divisions. Five (5) Joint Districts will be organized zones from Massachusetts Hockey Districts. Zone 1 will comprised of Districts 1 and 3; Zone Two will be comprised of Districts 4 and 5; Zone Three will be comprised of Districts 6 and 7; Zone Four will be comprised of Districts 8 and 9; and, Zone Five will be composed of Districts 2 and 10. The host organization for the zone playdowns will alternate annually, beginning with the lower numbered District in the 1999-2000 season.

The National Bound Championship Tournament format will consist of eight (8) teams, one from each of the Zone Playdowns, two Zone Finalists (determined by the STC based on the number of teams entered in that tournament), and one (1) host team. The zone winners, finalists and host teams shall be placed in two divisions, with three playoff games for each team in all classifications. In the case of a tie, Division winners will be determined by Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey Rules.

In the first National Bound Championship round (semi finals) the division winner will play the other division runner-up. The winners of the two semi final games advance to the final championship game.

- D. The format for any State Tournament of less than 16 teams will be determined by the STC; tournaments of less than 12 teams shall have but one host.
- E. The number of teams to be selected from each Districts/Zone for State Tournament will be based on the current season's total number of Playdown applications submitted to the STC by each District Registrar for each specific Age Division and Tier. If two or more Districts/Zones have the same number of applications the tie shall be decided by the number of applications in that age classification.

Section 7. Tournament Rules and Requirements

- A. No team participating in District Playdowns or State Tournament shall be required to play more than two (2) games per day, and no team shall be scheduled to play a second game in one day against a team playing its first game on that day, except with specific prior approval of the

STC or his designee. It is recommended that there be a minimum of four (4) hours between games on the same day, and twelve (12) hours between games played on consecutive days. The playing schedule and times of games must be approved by the STC or his or her designee.

- B. Unless other wise agreed by the Team and Tournament Director, the home team shall wear light/white jerseys and the visiting team shall wear dark colored jerseys in all games. If the home team has not been established by the Tournament Committee, it shall be determined by the toss of a coin. The team traveling the furthest distance shall call. The Host will provide the jerseys or pullovers as required for the team wearing the inappropriate colors.
- C. All State Tournament games shall be played stop time.
- D. USA Hockey Playing rules and Massachusetts Hockey variations shall prevail. All round robin games shall be 12-minute periods. All Tier I and Tier II National Bound semifinals and finals games will have fifteen (15) minute periods. All other State Playdown and State Tournament games shall be no less than twelve (12) minute periods.

TIMES FOR PENALTIES AND OVERTIME ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PERIOD	OVERTIME	PENALTIES (MINUTES)	
TIME (SUDDEN DEATH)			
SEMI-FINALS			
FINAL ONLY	MINOR	MAJOR	MISCONDUCT
12 MINUTES 6 (ALL SQUIRT GAMES)	1 1/2	4	6
15 MINUTES 7 1/2	1 1/2	5	7 1/2

- E. In case of a tie in the semi or final games, at the end of regular play, teams will be allowed a three-minute rest period. All divisions are to play to a sudden death conclusion.
- F. In all National Bound Tournaments, Semi-Final and Final games the ice should be resurfaced after every two (2) regular periods of use, if possible. In all State Tournaments the 1st overtime period, if required will be played following a 3-minute rest period. If additional overtimes are required, the ice may be resurfaced, and again if possible after each set of 4 overtime periods with 1 minute rests between periods until a conclusion is reached.
- G. Tournament fees will be established by Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors at the January State meeting if possible.
- H. All disciplinary actions in playdowns or state final games will be acted upon using the Massachusetts Hockey regular process (Article XIV of the Massachusetts Hockey By-Laws). There will be no hearings conducted at Playdown or State Tournament sites.
- I. Suspensions resulting from a game misconduct imposed during a Playdown or tournament game must be served in the next state Playdown or tournament game. If there is an intervening non-playdown, non-state tournament game, the suspension will

also apply to that intervening game. Any member incurring a Match Penalty during playdowns, regional or state tournaments shall be ineligible for such play for the balance of the games leading to a State Championship.

- J. The Girls/Women State Playdowns leading to the National Championships will consist of a single Tournament for each classification (12 & under, 14 & under, 16 & under, 19 & under, Women Senior). In classifications which have two divisions the STC and the Massachusetts Hockey Executive Board will annually select the teams to fill the openings to the National site.
- K. Regional Playoffs for USA Hockey shall consist of the winners of North, East, South and West Divisions of the Pee wee, Bantam and Midget State Finals. Regional Playoffs shall consist of three games in each classification.
- L. State or Regional Champions will be considered to represent Massachusetts Hockey in the USA Hockey national and any other Tournaments designated by Massachusetts Hockey if they receive the approval of the Massachusetts Hockey STC and Executive Board.
- M. In the event a state champion is not selected through tournament competition at any level of play, for any reason, the Massachusetts Hockey STC, in consultation with the Executive Board, shall name a team to represent Massachusetts in all national and other competitions.

Section 8. Protests

Protests must be filed by a rostered team official of the protesting team. Protests must be filed with the on-site Massachusetts Hockey Tournament Committee representative(s), in writing, within one (1) hour after the completion of the game in question. On ice judgment calls and playing rules are not cause for protest.

Specific Requirements:

1. Written protest must contain all the facts and may only protest one stated issue or challenge the qualifications of one player. Multiple protests may be submitted if multiple issues and/or player qualifications are being protested. However each is considered a separate protest requiring a separate fee.
2. Protest will be accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 cash, and will be returned if the protest is upheld.
3. All parties must be duly notified and be present in person at the protest hearing or no appeal will be allowed the absentee.
4. A hearing of the protest will be heard by a committee designated by the STC.
5. If an appeal on the outcome of the protest committee's decision, is necessary, the offended party must file the appeal within (1) hour of the decision, in writing, accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 cash.
6. All parties must be duly notified and present in person at the appeal hearing; the appeal being heard by a committee of at least 3 members of the Massachusetts Hockey Tournament Committee.
7. The decision of the appeals committee shall be final.
8. All parties will be given the final decision at the conclusion of both the protest and the appeal hearings, a follow up of the decision, in writing, will be sent within 10 days.

Section 9. Referees

- A. Referees fees shall be negotiated at the Massachusetts Hockey Annual Meeting and submitted to the Board of Directors for approval. A two (2) man system may be used for all games in the District/Division playdowns, State Tournament, Regional and other

tournaments designated by Mass Hockey, with the exception of Tier I and Tier II National-bound Semi-final and Final games which will utilize a 3 man system.

- B. The USA Hockey Referee-in-Chief and the Massachusetts Hockey Referee Registrar shall provide a list of Tournament-certified referees for All State Tournament sites. The Referee-in-Chief and The Referee Registrar shall assure availability of officials for each game played. The District Referee Supervisor shall provide a list of assigned Referees matched to the tournament game schedule to the respective District/Divisional Associate Registrar. All minor officials will be the responsibility of the Tournament Host Committee.
- C. The STC or his/her designee must approve all referees used for all State Tournaments, Sectionals (if held in Massachusetts), and any other tournaments designated by Massachusetts Hockey.

Section 10. Team and Roster Requirements

- A. All Teams entering District/Division playdowns must be prepared to compete through the State Tournament, Regional Tournament and National Tournament (if there is one) or other Tournament site as directed by Massachusetts Hockey. If a team withdraws prior to the Tournament its association may be held ineligible to participate in the following year's tournament. Withdrawing teams/associations must pay a \$100.00 fine payable to Massachusetts Hockey and shall nevertheless be responsible for their tournament financial obligation if a paying, qualified replacement team cannot be found.
- B. If a team fails to appear in time to start a game, the game may be forfeited provided the other team takes the ice to claim the forfeit. If a team forfeits any of its games, and becomes involved in any tie breaking formula to determine its eligibility to advance to the next level of play, the team forfeits all games in the round robin play and the games are recorded as 1 - 0 victories for the non-offending team. Forfeiting team, coach, team officials and associations may be subject to additional disciplinary action. The forfeiting association will be responsible for all tournament fees plus a penalty fee equal to the tournament fee made payable to Massachusetts Hockey within 14 days of the forfeit. In the event of exceptional circumstances, the forfeit fee may be timely appealed to the Tournament Committee.
- C. In order to qualify for a State Tournament, prior to the start of the Tournament each team must have competed, as a team and each player including roster change players:
GIRLS/WOMEN — at least fourteen games, with each player having played in at least ten of those games.
ALL OTHERS — at least fifteen games, with each player having played in at least ten of those games, except in the case of State Championship Tournaments held before December 1, each team must have competed in nine games, with each player having played in at least six of those games.
- D. It shall be the responsibility of each team to make sure copies of the accepted, stamped roster (with names, birth dates, address and signatures), Birth Certificates, IMR or USA Hockey membership cards, approved waivers, Game sheets and team personnel change forms (if applicable) are available at the site for each playdown and final site game. Any player who is unable to obtain a birth certificate will be allowed to register if the player is able to supply satisfactory proof of birth date. These include only hospital records, immigration papers or affidavits sworn before an officer of the court.

- E. Only eligible players and team officials listed on the approved official player roster form or approved roster change forms may participate in District/Divisional Playdowns, State, Regional and other Tournaments designated by Massachusetts Hockey.
- F. Each team may dress 20 players (Massachusetts Hockey strongly recommends 2 goaltenders — see Section 11 of this Article) equipped and ready to play. No more than four (4) registered and accredited team officials in good standing will be permitted on the bench. At least one properly accredited team official must be on the bench at the start of the game. Electronic communication in any form to or from the bench by team officials will not be permitted.

Section 11. Goaltenders

- A. Any alternate goaltender that meets the requirements in Section 10.C of this Article for his/her original team may return to his/her lower division or classification team if he/she does not enter the new team's game. The alternate goaltender shall only enter the game in the event of illness or injury to the regular goaltender during the Tournament Game. The alternate goaltender who enters the game due to illness or injury to the starting goaltender may return to his/her regular team. Coaches violating this rule are subject to suspension.
- B. Massachusetts Hockey strongly recommends all teams entering District/Division Playdowns, State, Regional and other Massachusetts Hockey designated Tournaments, have two (2) goaltenders dressed and ready to play. The host will not be required to furnish alternate goaltenders for such playdowns or tournaments held in Massachusetts, as noted in USA Hockey Annual Guide Regional Playoffs. Alternate goaltenders must come from teams in the same association as the team to which he/she is moving up.

Section 12. Miscellaneous

- A. Player and/or team eligibility can be resolved by the Massachusetts Hockey Tournament Committee at any time.
- B. There shall be no all-star teams selected at any State Tournament or Playdown sites.
- C. In the event of problems not covered by the existing rules, the STC may make any determination in the best interest of the Tournament.

ARTICLE IX - OTHER TOURNAMENTS

All Senior and Junior Tournaments shall be held at the direction of and under the format prescribed by the State Championship Tournament Coordinator.

Any independent or invitational tournament held in Massachusetts must secure the sanction of Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey. One of the requirements necessary for obtaining a Massachusetts Hockey sanction is that only Massachusetts Hockey, USA Hockey, CAHA and IIHF registered teams be allowed to enter or compete in the tournament.

Any registered team participating in a non-sanctioned tournament, may be declared ineligible for the next Playdown, State or National Tournament.

ARTICLE X - AWARDS

Hat Trick, Playmaker and Zero Club awards (one per player, per season) will be issued to players who earn them during regular season, State Finals and Tournament Games, providing the roster of the team has been registered with the Massachusetts Hockey. A copy of the official game sheet must be submitted to Massachusetts Hockey on the proper Award Form (see Massachusetts Hockey Annual Guide centerfold). Game sheets copies will be returned only upon request.

ARTICLE XI - TRAVEL PERMITS

Teams traveling outside the State must obtain a travel permit. The only exceptions will be the following;

- A. Single games played in bordering States,
- B. practice ice time,
- C. league play.

Provided a letter is on file with the District/Division Registrar indicating compliance with the above. Travel Permits will only be issued by the Massachusetts Hockey Registrar's office, or your District/Division Registrar. Permit Applications can be obtained either from the Massachusetts Hockey Registrar's office, your District/Division Registrar, the Massachusetts Hockey web site (www.masshockey.com) or in the centerfold of the Massachusetts Hockey Annual Guide Book. Permit requests must be submitted well in advance of travel dates. Refer to the Application for the appropriate fees. Associations/Team officials found in violation of these procedures shall be subject to disciplinary action. The Massachusetts Hockey Registrar or your District/Division Registrar will send a copy of the team roster with the permit.

Unregistered teams wishing to travel and play outside of North America may apply for Travel Permits by filing a roster (names, addresses, birth dates, signatures and passport numbers) with the Massachusetts State Registrar and including a fee to Massachusetts Hockey of \$250.00 per team.

ARTICLE XII – ASSOCIATION MERGERS AND DIVISIONS

Mergers and/or divisive reorganizations of existing associations must be approved by the Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors.

Any request for a merger or division shall be made in writing to the President and shall identify the proponents of the merger or division, define the proposed geographic area to be merged or divided and give a brief statement of the purpose of the merger or division including, but not necessarily limited to, the number of players affected by the proposed action, the affect on any existing association and the financial plans of the proponents. The President shall inform any affected existing associations(s) of the proposal and shall refer the matter to the Association Registration Committee for an investigation of the merits of the proposal.

The Association Registration Committee may in its discretion interview the proponents and any affected existing associations and the affected Districts and shall determine, whether through hearing or written submissions, whether the proposal is consistent with Massachusetts Hockey's By-laws, Rules and Regulations and Policies and Procedures and in the best interest of Massachusetts Hockey. After the committee completes its review of the request, it shall report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors for action. The Committee shall so report no later than Sixty (60) days after the request has been referred to it.

ARTICLE XIII - LOCAL RULINGS

Section 1. Problem Resolution

All Associations must attempt to resolve their problems within their District, and the District recommendation shall be considered and given probative weight prior to cases being presented to the Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors.

Section 2. Learn-to-Skate/Initiation program Equipment Requirement

All Learn to Skate and Initiation Program players must wear HECC approved helmets.

Section 3. Rules Interpretation

If when both teams are on the ice, and a team official(s) for any reason shall pull his/her team from the ice, rule 632 (Refusing to start play) in the USA Hockey Rule Book shall apply. If the Referee shall impose a Match Penalty under this rule, and the team official(s) has been found guilty of such actions, the game in question shall be forfeited and the team official(s) may be suspended for one year as the result of a hearing.

ARTICLE XIV - SELECTS

Section 1. Massachusetts Hockey Selects League

- A. Only those registered Massachusetts Hockey teams/leagues participating in the Massachusetts Hockey Selects program are permitted to use the name "Selects". The use of the name "Selects" or advertising of "Selects" by anyone else is prohibited. The Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors will determine any exceptions to this rule. Violation of this rule will lead to suspension.
- B. Massachusetts Hockey Select teams in the Mite, Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget classifications from registered Massachusetts Hockey Leagues or Massachusetts Hockey Districts may be formed for the purpose of competing in a Massachusetts Hockey Selects League.
- C. Other USA Hockey affiliate teams may petition the Selects League Registrar and Selects Board of Directors for entry into the league for the purpose of competition only.
- D. USA Hockey Affiliate Teams accepted into the league, by majority vote of the Selects Board of Directors, will be placed in the standings but will not be allowed to play in Mass Hockey "State Playdown" Tournament.
- E. Non-Massachusetts Hockey Affiliate Team rosters shall not contain Massachusetts Hockey players (players residing in Massachusetts).

Section 2. Selects Teams

- A. Teams for the Selects League may be formed with the approval of the Selects Registrar and the Selects League Board of Directors with the right of appeal to the Massachusetts Hockey Executive Board.
- B. Selects League teams cannot play an unregistered team without permission from the USA Hockey Registrar (and notification to the Selects Registrar).
- C. All team officials and coaches will be appointed by the applicable league/district and approved by the Selects Registrar.
 - . Each league/district will be responsible for the enforcement of any violations of Massachusetts Hockey rules by a team member.

Section 3. Financial Obligations

All Massachusetts Hockey Selects players' parents are responsible for their financial obligations to their respective Massachusetts Hockey Selects league team. Selects players must be in good financial standing with both Town and Selects programs. Failure to do so can cause denial or suspension for all Massachusetts Hockey activities.

Section 4. State/District Tournaments

Massachusetts Hockey Selects teams cannot compete in District Playdowns; Massachusetts Hockey sanctioned Tier II, III or IV tournaments or Mini-One-on-One events.

Section 5. Player Eligibility and Registration

- A. Selects players through ten (10) years of age on December 31 of the current season must register with and participate in the play of their respective town association except players in the Player Development Program.

- B. All Massachusetts Hockey Selects League rosters must be forwarded to the Massachusetts Hockey Selects League Registrar.
- C. No player, coach or official under suspension for a violation of a Massachusetts Hockey rule will be permitted to participate in a game or practice of his Massachusetts Hockey Selects team.
- D. 1. A Mite and Squirt Selects player's first obligation, except between the hours of 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Sundays and for one Selects practice per week, (non game conflicting) is to play for their town association Tier II, Tier III and Tier IV team's regular scheduled league game, practice, and/or tournament game. Town associations may waive this requirement.
2. Between the hours of 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Sundays and for one practice per week (non game conflicting), Mite and Squirt players may play for the team of their choice. During State Tier I Tournaments, the Selects player's first obligation will be to play for his/her Tier I team.
- E. Conflicts between Massachusetts Hockey Selects teams bound for National Championships and town association's events may be appealed by the player(s) to the President of Massachusetts Hockey.
- F. All Selects League State Tournaments for the appropriate age group classification will be held following the Tier II State Tournaments.

Section 6. Selects Tryouts

- A. Tryouts must be held for each classification Mite, Squirt, Peewee, Bantam and Midget with a minimum of two tryouts for each classification. Teams will be formed with players attending these tryouts. Exceptions to the rule may be granted by the Selects Registrar.
- B. Each General Manager must notify by mail, all Massachusetts Hockey registered TIER II and III Players in their applicable League, 15 days prior to tryouts. (The General Manager will seek cooperation of town associations for this task.) A copy of the tryout announcement and a list of all tryout attendees will be sent to the Selects Registrar.
- C. Players whose town association does not belong to a Massachusetts Hockey league, or which does not participate in the Massachusetts Hockey Selects League, may request a league designation by the League Board of Directors. Once designated to a Selects league, no further requests will be allowed. The player's town association will be notified of the player's league designation by the Selects League Board of Directors.
- D. All supplemental Selects League Rules must be submitted to the Selects Registrar for final approval by the Executive Board.

Section 7. Selects League Administration

- A. 1. There will be a league for all classifications if possible, and the duly elected Commissioner of the Selects League except for Midgets will administer the day to day operations of the League and be the spokesperson for the Selects League.
2. The midget division and its day to day operation will be directed by the commissioner of the midget division. The division will include a board of directors of elected by Representatives from the participating team associations.
3. The selects registrar will be responsible for the USA Hockey/Massachusetts Hockey IMRs team rosters, and team registration forms.
4. The operating procedures will be submitted to Massachusetts Hockey Executive Board for approval.

- B. Prior to start of league play the Selects League Commissioner, or the duly appointed representative, shall provide the Finance Committee with a budget and financial plan for the forthcoming season. At the conclusion of the season a final statement of condition must be submitted to the Finance Committee. Failure to provide the information may cause Massachusetts Hockey to withdraw its sanction.
- C. Massachusetts Hockey Tier I State Final's in all classifications will be held.
- D. Massachusetts Hockey Selects League suspension — Any violation of the Rules and Regulations of Massachusetts Hockey by a team or any of its members will result in the immediate suspension of the team member(s) or the team official(s).

Section 8. Player Development Program

Peewee Minor and above

- A. Selects Players training curriculum will be under the supervision of the Massachusetts Hockey Player Development Committee and serve as an extension of the Massachusetts Hockey/USA Hockey Satellite Training Program. This training will include regular practices and classroom instruction.
- B. Coaches will follow the Satellite Training Program Policies, USA National training curriculum, and be involved in continuous coaching education prescribed by the Satellite Training Program.
- C. A player's first obligation will be to his/her Selects team.
- D. Player rostering will be restricted by geographical territory.

ARTICLE XV - SEXUAL AND PHYSICAL ABUSE SCREENING

Section 1. Intent

The intent of these rules and regulations is to reduce the risk of a Massachusetts Hockey minor becoming the victim of sexual or physical abuse.

Section 2. Uniformity of Standard

All Massachusetts Hockey personnel and those of its members are subject to the same screening standard.

Section 3. Applicability of Standard

- A. All organizations associated with Massachusetts Hockey shall screen their personnel pursuant to these rules.
- B. For purposes of these rules, organizations associated with Massachusetts Hockey shall include, but necessarily be limited to, the Board of Directors and members of all committees of Massachusetts Hockey, Registered town associations, member club teams, member girls/women associations, select organizations, Team Massachusetts and Festival, or development camps, collectively referred to as "member(s)".
- C. For purposes of these rules, personnel shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, officers, members of Boards, coaches, managers, referees, instructors and staffs whether or not they receive compensation for the performance of their duties.
- D. Members may, in their discretion, apply the requirements of these rules to other volunteer personnel not carried on rosters or registered by means of an Individual Membership Registration form and not specifically mentioned herein.
- E. Any individual required under these rules to be screened who does not consent to be subject to the application of these rules shall not be allowed to participate in activities of Massachusetts Hockey and its members.

Section 4. Standard For Participation In Massachusetts Hockey And Its Member Associations

A person may be disqualified and prohibited from serving as an employee or volunteer of Massachusetts Hockey and its members if:

- A. The person has been convicted (including crimes the record of which has been expunged and pleas of "no contest") of any crime of violence against minors, or any crime which indicates the person may pose a risk to the safety and well-being of children under his/her direction and/or stewardship, including but not limited to:
 - indecent assault and battery on a child under fourteen,
 - indecent assault and battery on a mentally retarded person,
 - indecent assault and battery on a person, who has obtained the age of fourteen,
 - Rape,
 - rape of a child under sixteen with force,
 - rape and abuse of a child,
 - assault with intent to commit rape,
 - assault of a child under sixteen with the intent to commit rape
 - kidnapping of a child under sixteen,
 - open and gross lewdness and lascivious behavior,
 - unnatural and lascivious acts with a child under 16,
 - distribution and trafficking of narcotics or other controlled substances,
 - intent to commit any of the above crimes; and
 - like violation of the law in another state; or
- B. It is determined that: he/she has been adjudged liable for civil penalties or damages involving sexual or physical abuse of children, is subject to any court order involving sexual abuse or physical abuse of a minor, including, but not limited to domestic order or protection, has had his/her parental rights terminated for reasons involving sexual or physical abuse of children; or
- C. Massachusetts Hockey or its members comes into possession of verified information that he/she has a history with another organization (volunteer, employment, etc) of complaints of physical or sexual abuse of minors, resigned, been terminated or been asked to resign from a position, whether paid or unpaid, due to complaint(s) of sexual or physical abuse of minors.

Section 5. CORI Screening Tool and Process

Criminal Offender Record Inquiry ("CORI"). Each person to be screened as provided by Members shall collect CORI consent statement, as required by Section 3 herein-above, certify by letter the names of all members participants required by Section 3 herein-above to be screened, and forward a certification letter with all completed consent forms attached, to the appropriate Registrar. In the case of Development Camp Staffs, the letter and forms shall be sent to the USA Hockey Registrar or a person designated by him. Each individual is required to sign only one consent form per season. The members shall immediately notify the appropriate Registrar if an individual refuses to sign the consent form.

The lead official or the member, as appropriate, (e.g., association president), shall sign the certification letter. The certification letter shall be forwarded to the appropriate Registrar so as to be in the Registrar's possession no later than December 31, except for Development camp staffs and Team Massachusetts. The lead official of development camps and Team Massachusetts shall forward the certification Letter to the USA Hockey Registrar prior to the beginning of on-ice activities.

Registrars shall verify that members (and other organizations required to screen by Section 4 of this Article) have provided certifications and consent forms as required by Section 4 herein-above, and forward the letters and forms to the Task Force within two weeks of receipt.

CORI Screening Committee.

The CORI Screening Committee shall:

- A. Collect all letters and forms and construct a computer database of Massachusetts Hockey personnel.
- B. Forward to the Massachusetts Corrections History System Board all information required to obtain CORI information.
- C. Review the information provided by the Massachusetts Corrections History System Board.
- D. If relevant information, as defined in Section 4 of this Article is revealed, request that the President of Massachusetts Hockey (or his/her designee), notify the individual, his or her parent organization, and the cognizant registrar that the individual shall be prohibited from participation in Massachusetts Hockey. Notification shall be in writing, and indicate the individual is not in compliance with Massachusetts Hockey Policy.
- E. Maintain and update the database that information was received and reviewed. G.I.F. Safeguard all information as required by the Criminal History Systems Board.
- G. With approval of the Executive Board, audit members to gather data on compliance with these rules, seek better methods for implementation and assist members in implementing these rules.

Section 6. Administrative

- A. Individuals who refuse to consent to screening may appeal according to the provisions of Article XIV of the Massachusetts Hockey By-Laws.
- B. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of any other Article in these Rules and Regulations and the provisions of this Article, the provisions of Article XV of these Rules shall take precedence.

Section 7. Awareness Program

Massachusetts Hockey shall incorporate into its various literature and clinic programs educational/awareness information as developed by the CORI Screening Committee, or other authoritative sources as pertinent information becomes available

Section 8. Appeal Process

Individuals who are prohibited from participation in Massachusetts Hockey pursuant to the provisions of this Article may appeal this action to the CORI Screening Committee in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of notice of such prohibition. The CORI Screening Committee or a designated subcommittee thereof shall hear all appeals within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request at a place and time and in a manner determined by the CORI Screening Committee consistent with the practices of Massachusetts Hockey. A decision shall be rendered in writing within ten (10) days of the completion of the hearing.

The individual may appeal any adverse decision of the CORI Screening Committee, in writing within ten (10) days of the receipt of same to the President of Massachusetts Hockey who will process the appeal consistent with its practices and procedures and these rules and regulations. A written decision signed by the members of the CORI Section 3 of this Article shall sign a consent form.

Screening Committee rendering same shall be considered prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein, and the burden of proof as to why the individual shall not be prohibited from participation in

Massachusetts Hockey shall be upon the individual in any hearing before the panel set up by the President. Whose decision shall be final.

Section 9. Complaint Process

Complaints concerning violations of the provisions of this Article and/or of Massachusetts Hockey's Sexual and Physical Abuse policy statements shall be in writing addressed to the President of Massachusetts Hockey and shall be signed by the individual making the complaint. The complaint shall state in full and complete detail the basis of the complaint concerning the alleged violations. Upon receipt of such a written complaint, the President shall refer the matter to the Physical/Sexual Abuse Screening Committee for its review. All credible complaints of sexual and/or physical abuse shall be referred to the appropriate governmental authorities by the President after the Physical/Sexual Abuse Screening Committee's review.

The Physical/Sexual Abuse Screening Committee or a designated subcommittee may, in its discretion recommend Massachusetts Hockey initiate administrative action against the individual complained of pursuant to the applicable sections of its Constitution and By-Laws and these rules and regulations.

The individual may appeal any adverse decision or other action of the CORI Screening Committee in writing within ten (10) days of the receipt of same to the President of Massachusetts Hockey who will process the appeal consistent with its practices and procedures and these rules and regulations.

A written decision signed by the members of the Physical/Sexual Abuse Screening Committee rendering it shall be considered prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein and the burden of proof as to why the individual shall not be prohibited from participation in Massachusetts Hockey shall be upon the individual in any hearing before the panel set up by the President. Whose decision shall be final.

POLICIES OF MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY

SEXUAL AND PHYSICAL ABUSE

It is the policy of Massachusetts Hockey that there shall be no sexual and/or physical abuse of any minor participant involved in or associated with any and all activities organized and sponsored by Massachusetts Hockey by its officers, directors, employees, members or independent contractors.

Sexual abuse of a minor participant shall be deemed to occur when an officer, director, employee, member or independent contractor touches a minor participant for the purpose of causing the sexual arousal or gratification of either the minor participant or the officer, director, employee, member or independent contractor. Sexual abuse of a minor participant also occurs when a minor player touches an officer, director, employee, member or independent contractor for the sexual gratification of either the minor participant or the officer, director, employee, member or independent contractor, if the touching occurs at the direction, request or with the consent of the officer, director, employee, member or independent contractor.

Physical abuse shall be deemed to occur when an officer, director, employee, member or independent contractor has physical contact with a minor participant that intentionally causes or intentionally creates a threat of immediate bodily harm or personal injury. Physical abuse shall not include physical contact that is reasonably designed to coach, teach or demonstrate a hockey skill or technique. Permitted physical conduct may include, but is not necessarily limited to, shooting pucks at a goaltender, demonstrating checking and other hockey skills and communicating with or directing participants during the course of a game or practice, by touching him in a non-threatening, non-sexual manner.

It shall not be a defense to a complaint of sexual or physical abuse that the participant consented, that his/her age was unknown or mistaken or that the act did not take place at a hockey function.

It shall be the policy of Massachusetts Hockey to refer all complaints of such sexual and/or physical abuse to the appropriate governmental authorities. Massachusetts Hockey may, in its discretion, initiate administrative action against the individual complained of pursuant to the applicable sections of its Constitution and By-Laws and may permanently ban or suspend said individual from Massachusetts Hockey if the allegation is proven to be true.

COACHING CODE OF ETHICS

All coaches who have not previously signed the Coaches Code of Ethics with their Program will be required to sign this form prior to starting their coaching activities. The local Program will keep the forms on file.

MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY VARIATIONS TO USA HOCKEY RULES

When a player incurs a Minor Penalty for High Sticking, the player will also receive a MISCONDUCT PENALTY. When a player incurs a Major Penalty for High Sticking, the player will also receive a GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY.

2003 - 2004 Registration Procedures

Paper Registration

A. IMR's Individual Membership Registration Forms

1. All Players and Coaches MUST fill out an IMR Form before going on the ice. There is no charge for Coaches who are also USA Hockey registered players. However, they must still fill out an IMR Form and check off the appropriate box on the IMR. To Register a Manager, please just check "MANAGER" on the IMR. There is no charge for a Manager but he/she is not to go on the ice. Please make sure the form is filled out COMPLETELY. Once the form is complete please have the person or their parent print their name at the bottom of the form.
2. The Participant's Social Security Number is not mandatory, but is requested.
3. Please fill in the shaded area at the top of the form with your Program Name and Number on all of the forms that you send in.
4. Be sure you fill in the box with the "Date and Received By", when you accept the Registration Form and money.
5. The Player, Coach or Manager is to receive the back (4th) copy of the form. Please tell them that they should hold on to this form, as it might be needed at a later date to show that they are registered.
6. Your Association then keeps the 3rd copy, and the top 2 copies go to your District/Division Registrar along with a Transmittal Form.

B. Transmittals

1. All IMR'S must be sent in with a Transmittal Form. Do NOT use any Forms from last year. Make sure that the number at the top of the Transmittal starts with a RT4
2. The top part of the Transmittal is to be filled out by your Association Registrar.

3. You may submit up to 200 IMR'S with one Transmittal. If you have more than 200 IMR'S you must submit them with a second Transmittal. You may submit as many Transmittals as necessary.
4. Do not hold on to any IMR Forms. All completed forms should be in the hands of the District/Division Registrar within 14 days of being completed.
5. Complete the Transmittal Form and send all 3 copies of the form to your District/Division Registrar along with the completed IMR Forms and 2 checks
 - a. Check #1 Made out to USA Hockey
 1. \$25.00 per player and coach with the following exceptions.
 - i. Players born in 1997 and later. No charge
 - ii. Initiation Program Coaches (Learn to Skate). No charge
 - iii. Coaches who are also USA Hockey registered players. No charge
 - iv. Managers. No charge.
 - b. Check #2 Made out to Mass. Hockey
 1. \$5.00 per player with the following exceptions.
 - i. No charge for any coaches or managers.
 - ii. Players born in 1997 and later. No charge
 - c. Include the total number of Managers being sent on the Transmittal form. Keep these IMR's together at the top of the batch.

C. Team Rosters

1. Please PRINT or TYPE all the information on this Form. DO NOT give this form to the players to fill out. Only give it to them to sign. All coaches and players MUST sign the Roster, from Mites (Tier II or A Division) to Midgets. If they do not sign they will not be allowed to participate in Playdowns or State Tournaments.
2. Send the entire (4 pages) Roster to your District/Division Registrar, along with the Team Membership Application.
3. A Supplemental Roster MUST be filled out if you are adding either a new coach or player to a team. This Roster MUST be signed by either the coach or player. Once this is done a Roster Change Form (found in the Mass. Hockey Guide Book) must be filled out and sent to your District/Division Registrar along with the complete signed Roster and the appropriate fee.

D. Team Membership Applications

1. Each Team Roster must be accompanied by a Team Membership Application.
2. Fill out the form completely. Make sure the Coaches and Managers birth dates are filled in. Also be sure they have checked off the coaching level achieved.
3. Send the complete (4 pages) Team Membership Form to your District/Division Registrar along with the Team Roster and 2 checks
 - a. Check #1 Made out to USA Hockey for \$20.00 per Roster.
 - b. Check #2 Made out to Mass. Hockey for \$10.00 per Roster.

Electronic Registration

A. Registering Players, Coaches Etc.

1. Take a Pre Transmittal report to your Registration. Make sure you have printed

the “All Member Report”. Check spelling, address, phone no., etc. with everybody registering. Take this information to your computer and make any corrections necessary. Enter all new members. After you have entered and activated everybody, print a Detailed Member Transmittal Report. Please make 2 Disks of the personal that you have activated.

B. Transmittals

1. After you have activated everybody, printed your Report and made your 2 Disks you are now ready to print your Transmittal Report. This Report will tell how many Players, Coaches etc. you will be sending in with this Batch. It will also tell you how much money you will have to send to USA Hockey. It will not tell you the amount of money owed to Mass. Hockey.

2. Send the Transmittal, the 2 Disks, and the Detailed Member Transmittal Report to your District/Division Registrar along with 2 checks

a. Check #1 Made out to USA Hockey

i. \$25.00 per player and coach with the following exceptions.

I. Players born in 1997 and later. No charge

II. Initiation Program Coaches (Learn to Skate). No charge

III. Coaches who are also USA Hockey registered players. No charge

IV. Managers. No charge

b. Check #2 Made out to Mass. Hockey

i. \$5.00 per player with the following exceptions.

I. No charge for any coaches or managers.

II. Players born in 1997 and later. No charge

3. Send the completed material to your District/Division Registrar within 14 days of being completed.

C. Team Rosters

1. Once you have activated all your players and coaches, you can then print your Roster. Before you have the participants sign the Roster please make a copy of it if you have an Ink Jet Printer. All coaches and players MUST sign one copy of the Roster, from Mites (Tier II or A Division) to Midgets. If they do not sign they will not be allowed to participate in Playdowns or State Tournaments.

2. Make 3 copies of the signed Roster and send all 4 (make sure the original copy is included) copies to your District/Division Registrar, along with the Team Membership Application.

3. Team ID contains a code that uniquely identifies the team to the Cyber Sport system. It will appear in the upper right hand corner of the Team Application Form and on the Player Roster Form as Team #. Your Association Code is automatically part of this Code. There is an additional field that you name yourself Please follow this scenario; The Team ID for Mites – MT1, MT2. etc. for all your Mite Teams; SQ1, SO2, etc for all your Squirt Teams and so on through the age divisions (PW. BA. MD. HS. SR. GW. (for girls/women’s teams) and IP (for Initiation program).

4. Team Name is your choice. It is a field with a maximum of 25 characters.

5. Division is the age classification of play (i.e. Initiation Program, Mite, Squirt, Peewee, Bantam, Midget 17 & under, Midget 16 & under for youth Teams) and (20 & Over for Women’s Teams, 19 & under, 16 & under, 14 & under, 12 & under and 10 & under for Girls Teams)

6. Class is to be left blank.

7. Category is a required field. Label each team with one of the following: Tier I, Tier II Tier III Tier IV or House/Rec.

8. A Supplemental Roster is also available to provide for the printing of a Roster with just the names of any new members that are added to the team. This Roster MUST be printed and signed by either the player or coach. Once this is done a Roster Change Form (found in the Mass, Hockey Guide Book) must be filled out and sent to your District/Division Registrar along with the 4 copies of the signed Roster and the appropriate fee.

D. Team Membership Applications

1. Each Team Roster must be accompanied by a Team Membership Application.

2. Fill out the form completely. Make sure the Coaches and Managers birth dates are filled in. Also be sure they have checked off the coaching level achieved.

3. Make 3 copies of the Team Membership Form and send all 4 copies to your District/Division Registrar along with the Team Roster and 2 checks

a. Check #1 Made out to USA Hockey for \$20.00 per Roster.

b. Check #2 Made out to Mass. Hockey for \$10.00 per Roster

All Paper and Electronic Registration

A. Waiver of Liability Form

1. To take the place of the Parents/Participant signature on the IMR'S they are asking you to get the Parents/Participant (10 years of age and older) signature on a Waiver of Liability Form. After you get this signature, you will keep this Form on file with your Association. Signing this Form is mandatory

B. Consent to Treat Form

1. Use of this Form is optional. If you wish to use this Form you will then keep it on file with your Association.

C. CORI Forms

1. All Association Officers, Directors, Team Coaches, Managers and Initiation Program Instructors MUST complete a CORI consent form. If they filled a Form out for a previous season, they do not have to fill out a new Form. These Forms are to be turned into their Association. The Association Registrar will send them to their District/Division Registrar, along with a certification letter. These Forms should be to your District/Division Registrar before December 1.

D. Coaching Code of Ethics

1. All NEW COACHES must sign the Coaches Code of Ethics. The Forms will be kept on file with the local Association.

E. Dual rostering (Pewee thru Midgets)

1. A player may only be rostered on one (1) National Bound Team

2. In the event a player is dual rostered, (Tier I and Tier II) the team determination will be based solely on the higher classification team.

3. Tier I teams should inform players of this rule before they accept a position and sign the team roster.

GIRLS/WOMEN CLASSIFICATION

NOTE in addition to the procedures below all USA Hockey and Massachusetts Hockey By-laws, Rules and Regulations and Procedures shall also apply.

Team registrations are due November 1st for National tournament bound teams, November 15th for Non-National tournament bound teams, and the balance of teams by December 1st. New Teams, non-tournament bound, may be formed after December 1st of the current season by applying to the Girls/Women's Registrar.

Player Registration

Each player registering for the first time with a Massachusetts Hockey Girls/Women program is allowed to register in any Girls/Women association at their respective age classification or above.

GIRLS — Nineteen years of age and under as of December 31st

GIRLS — Sixteen years of age and under as of December 31st

GIRLS — Fourteen years of age and under as of December 31st

GIRLS — Twelve years of age and under as of December 31st

GIRLS — Ten years of age and under as of December 31st

Any player previously registered with a Massachusetts Hockey Girls/Women association may register for another Massachusetts Hockey Girls/Women association annually provided that she requests and is granted a waiver from the Girls/Women Registrar by following each of these steps.

- a. All previous documented financial obligations are completed from the previous years Youth Town and Girls/Women association(s).
- b. The player has NOT signed the USA Hockey Team Registration (Form 1T) with the original Girls/Women association in the same season.
- c. The waiver form has to be completed and returned to the Girls/Women Registrar or their designee for their approval and signature before the player participates in game competition with the waived to association.

National Bound Player -- the player's qualifying games do not count for State and National tournament play until the waived to association receives signed and dated approval from the Girls/Women Registrar. National Bound Players may NOT participate in sanctioned Non-National Tournaments.

Roster Changes

All applications for a roster change for the National Bound Teams Roster must be returned to the Girls/Women Registrar before December 31st with the proper fee for their approval and signature before the player is eligible to participate with the association and specific team.

Dual Registration

Girls who register with more than one Team must declare in writing to her USA Hockey District Registrar, or his/her designee, by December 31 which tournament bound team she wishes to be eligible to advance to the District, State and National Tournament. If the player does not indicate which team she wishes to be eligible for District, State, and National Tournaments, the District Registrar shall have authority to certify the eligibility of any such player solely on the basis of the date of the earliest Team Roster Registration form is received.

Select Girls Team

Select Girls/Women Teams may be formed with the direction and approval of the Girls/Women Registrar and the Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors. Select Girls Teams may NOT participate in sanctioned National and Non-National Tournaments.

Classifications for Massachusetts and USA Hockey National Championship Tournaments Section 1 National Bound Girl's Teams

National Bound teams must belong to associations that meet the following requirements:

1. Field the following minimum number of teams:
 - a. 12 & Under 1 team &
 - b. 14 & Under 1 team &
 - c. 16 & Under 1 team or 19 & Under 1 team
2. Provide a minimum of one (1) weekly on ice training session
3. Appoint a Coaching Director
4. Meet and maintain full compliance with Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey By-Laws and Rules & Regulations
5. Notify players at time of signing of the Massachusetts Hockey rule covering Dual Registration.

Section 2 National Bound Senior Teams

Teams that are properly registered and are in full compliance with Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey By-Laws and Rules & Regulations are eligible to compete in National Bound Tournaments.

Section 3 State Bound Teams

All other teams that are properly registered and meet all other Massachusetts Hockey and USA Hockey By-Laws and Rules & Regulations are eligible.