

Cadillac Area Hockey Association

Travel Hockey Policy

The Cadillac Area Hockey Association (CAHA) recognizes that some players may want to play "travel", or tier II, hockey. CAHA's priority is placing players and teams in competitive divisions that maximize long term player development and experience. CAHA will consider creating tier II teams when there are an appropriate number of players with commensurate skills.

CAHA's primary purpose and focus is the development of sportsmanship and hockey skills at the tier III (house) level. While CAHA will consider supporting teams at the tier II level, those teams may never displace minimize the importance of the tier III program.

The following requirements must be met before CAHA will approve rostering a tier II team;

- 1) At least one tier III team, consisting of no less than 12 skaters and 1 goalie, exists within the association in the age division being considered for a tier II team; unless approved by the board.
- 2) The tier II team is formed utilizing a public and open tryout. The tryout will be posted through all official CAHA channels by the CAHA director of public relations, and may be shared accordingly. The selection of players will be made by a five-member tryout committee. The committee will consist of 1) The head coach of the tier II team. 2) An assistant coach or designee of the head coach. 3) The CAHA coaching director or his/her designee. 4) Two (2) evaluators appointed by the CAHA board of directors. The evaluators will have an appropriate level of experience as a coach and/or player.
- 3) Head coach preference will be given to non-parent candidates when practical. All coaching staff, including head and assistant coaches will be appointed by the CAHA coaching director and confirmed by the CAHA board.
- 4) The team will practice at scheduled times as set by the CAHA scheduler and board.
- 5) All tier II teams will utilize the Cadillac Vikings team name, or an appropriate version thereof. (ie. Lady Vikings). Team colors will be that of CAHA (blue & gold) unless otherwise approved by the board.
- 6) The tier II team is willing to share ice and utilize shared practice sessions such that all players at the respective age level will benefit from exposure and interaction with coaches and players of a higher level of skill. Shared practice sessions will be coordinated between head coaches of all included teams under the direction and authority of the CAHA coaching director.
- 7) The additional cost(s) associated with tier II hockey will be paid by the players on the team. Teams must fully participate in CAHA fundraising programs, and may not seek team specific fundraisers or sponsors. CAHA is committed to keep hockey affordable for all players at all levels of hockey, including tier II.

- 8) The team manager of all tier II teams will provide written monthly budget updates to the CAHA treasurer a minimum of three days prior to the monthly board meeting.
- 9) Players at the tier II level are ineligible for CAHA scholarship funds. Any player with ice fees more than 14 days past due will be ineligible to play until their fees are current. Any exception to this rule must be approved by the CAHA board prior to participation resuming.
- 10) Non-parent head coaches may be awarded a yearly stipend. This stipend will be determined on a yearly basis by the CAHA board, and if awarded, will be designed to help cover the cost of travel, hotel expenses, etc. incurred by the non-parent head coach.
- 11) The tier II team must comply with all out of district and rostering rules set forth by MAHA and/or USA Hockey.

Policy Adopted 3/11/2026.