

South Stars High School Hockey Association

**2026 – 2027 Player and Parent Handbook**



**State Champions**

**1993 2A 1998 2A 2023 2A**

**State Finalist**

**2000 2A 2004 3A 2007 1A 2009 2A 2016 2A**





## HISTORY

The South Stars High School Hockey Club started play in the 1979 – 1980 season for the first time. Chuck Crist, Mark Shaver, Charlie Spayd, Rod Volkman, and Linda Cuffle were all instrumental in getting the program on its feet. A youth hockey program was started by Joe Cleary to develop players for the South Stars. Perry Park Ice Rink has been the home of this league and the South Stars since it opened in the 1970's. The Program has been rich in tradition as many of its players have returned to coach or brought their own children into the Program.

## MISSION

To provide eligible student-athletes the opportunity to participate in High School ice hockey in a safe and competitive environment consistent with USA Hockey, Indiana State High School Hockey Association, Hoosier High School Hockey Association, and the student-athlete's respective High School rules, regulations, and guidelines

## GOALS

- To maintain a club system with an elected Board of Directors and other standing committees to assure the best possible overall management of all teams for the benefit of all student-athletes.
- To ensure that all participating student-athletes receive the best possible experience consistent with USA Hockey Seven Core Values: Learn the value of sportsmanship; respect for the individual; integrity; the pursuit of excellence; enjoyment; loyalty; and teamwork.
- Win a state championship at all varsity levels.

## OBJECTIVES

- Establish and maintain competitive teams and provide maximum participation among eligible affiliated High School student-athletes.
- Maximize student-athlete skill development.
- Provide the best possible coaches for all teams.
- Ensure the safety of all student-athletes.
- Provide the best possible competition.

## AFFILIATED HIGH SCHOOLS/HOOSIER LEAGUE TERRITORY ASSIGNMENTS

South Stars territories assigned by the Hoosier High School Hockey Association, for the 2016 – 2017 season includes the following High Schools and geographic areas:

Avon	Beech Grove	Brownsburg	Cascade
Center Grove	Danville	Decatur	Franklin
Franklin Central	Greenwood	Lutheran	Mooresville
Perry Meridian	Plainfield	Roncalli	Southport
Tri West	Whiteland		

Players from outside the territories above may be assigned to the team by the League. Assigned student-athletes play for the South Stars for a single season and revert back to their territorial team the following year. Reference the Hoosier High School Hockey Association By-Laws for additional information.



## ORGANIZATION

The positions of the Board and organization are outlined below but may include additional responsibilities as needed throughout the year. Responsibilities are subject to change to fit the needs of the organization. All Board Members must attend monthly meetings and initial team meetings at the beginning of the season. Board members receive no compensation from the club. Appointed positions may or may not receive compensation.

**Board President** – Leads the activities of the club in conjunction with the rest of the Board. Presiding over all board meetings and coordinates committees. Participates in the development of the Club budget, contracts, and fees. Attends Indiana State High School Hockey Association Annual Meeting and other League and State meetings as needed.

**Board Vice President / Registrar** – Serves duties of President when President is not available. Attends all Board Meetings. Coordinates registering all teams with USA hockey, Mid Am Hockey, and the Indiana State Hockey Association.

**Board Treasurer** – Responsible for the development of team budgets, student-athlete fees, fee payment schedule, sponsor payment records and overall recording of income and expenses. Coordinates, monitors, and makes payment of all invoiced services. Issues monthly payments to all coaches per negotiated club contracts. Monitors fees paid and contacts parents who are behind on monthly payments to develop alternative payment schedules. Provides status of fees paid to Board and Coaches.

**Board Secretary** – Attends monthly meetings and records minutes for the purpose of documentation. Distributes minutes to board members. Maintains an updated email list for all teams and club members.

**Board Representative / At Large** – Maintains contract and attends monthly Hoosier League meetings and monitors issues within the State Association affecting the teams and Club.

**Scheduler** – Develops in conjunction with the Coaching Staff and Board the practice and game schedules for the Teams. Contacts team representatives to schedule game times and locations. Works with facilities to schedule practice times for the teams. Distributes the final schedules to the State Statistician and Officials organization. Monitors schedule placement on various websites and calendars.

**Team Managers** – Works closely with coaches, student-athletes and parents to ensure everything is running well. Handles all required documentation at the team level (consent to treat, medical information, physicals, etc.). Arranges for scorekeeper, timekeeper, penalty box volunteers at all home games. Attends games throughout the season and is available to coaches and parents as needed. Distributes required information to the team in a timely manner. Team managers are typically selected by the Head Coaches. Inputs required team and game data into the State Hockey League website.



## TEAM FINANCES

South Stars High School Hockey is registered with the IRS as a 501c(7) not-for-profit club. Donations to the South Stars are tax deductible as charitable contributions. Tax forms and financial records are kept by the Board as outlined in the Club By-Laws.

The South Stars High School Hockey Association is organized, coached and managed by volunteers for the benefit of the remainder of the Club members. The expenses incurred by the Club and individual teams are the responsibility of each parent/student-athlete. The annual fee assessments for each team are determined by the Board of Directors. Parents are required to sign a fee agreement indicating their willingness and ability to pay the total fees outlined by the Board of Directors. An initial fee assessment is due before a student-athlete is allowed to begin official practice with the team. Parents are responsible for making scheduled payments even in the event of injury, suspension, discipline, or removal from the team for any reason. The Team budgets are based on full fees being paid by all rostered student-athletes.

Fees are considered outstanding if they are not received within 10 days of the payment due date unless other payment arrangements have not been made and approved by the Club Treasurer. The Board understands that finances can vary family to family, and encourages anyone with unique circumstances to discuss alternate payment options with the Club Treasurer.

The preferred payment method is Chase Quickpay ([chase.com\qp](https://chase.com/qp)) which is a free e-pay service. Checks or money orders should be payable to South Stars Hockey, 8063 Madison Ave, PMB 323, Indianapolis, IN 46227. Returned checks will incur a \$30.00 minimum returned check fee. Payments can be made in person to the Treasurer. Cash payments are not accepted. If you must pay in cash you can deposit funds at any Chase Bank branch. Identify the player on the deposit slip at the Bank. The South Stars Chase account number is listed on the fee agreements.



## FUNDRAISING/SPONSORSHIPS

Volunteers are needed to establish a Fundraising Committee that will determine and organize fundraising activities for the Club. The Fundraising Committee will determine what activities will be applied to the Club and what activities can be applied to each individual student athlete account. New fundraising ideas and activities are always encouraged.

Parents and student-athletes are encouraged to seek sponsorships as a means to offset student-athlete fees. Sponsorship forms are available on the Club website. These personal sponsorships are applied directly to the student-athlete account unless specified differently. The benefits sponsors receive from the Club varies by the dollar amount of the sponsorship, refer to the sponsorship forms.

## PARENT/STUDENT-ATHLETE REQUIRED FORMS FOR REGISTRATION

The parent and student-athlete are responsible for turning in the forms listed below to the Team Manager, Board representative or providing the same through the online registration process.

- Player USA Hockey Registration Number for the current season.
- USA Hockey Consent to Treat
- USA Hockey Release
- IHSAA Medical History and Physical information (signed by Doctor)
- Concussion Acknowledgement
- USA Hockey SafeSport Acknowledgment
- South Stars Fee Agreement
- South Stars Team Rules, Parent Code of Conduct, Player Code of Conduct, and Photograph Release
- Previous semester Grade Report

## RETURN TO PLAY AFTER ILLNESS OR INJURY

The Team Manager, Head Coach, or Board President must be notified by the student-athlete or parent if any athlete misses 5 consecutive days of school or athletic participation due to illness or injury. The student-athlete must submit a written permission to return to play from a physician and submit to the head coach or team manager before they are again eligible for participation and on-ice activities. Approval or recommendation from the Training Staff utilized by the Club for minor injuries will also be required when the student-athlete misses participation due to injury incurred during practice or games.

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility in the South Stars program is contingent upon maintaining certain academic standards as established by the Indiana State High School Hockey Association and adopted by the Hoosier High School Hockey Association. These requirements include but are not limited to the following:

- Passing score for school district (usually a grade D or better) in 5 full credit subjects (solids) in the last grading period.



- Student-athletes may count college courses (or dual credit courses at accredited higher education institutions) in combination with high school courses to become eligible (12 credits, usually 4 courses, is a full time college load).
- Home schooled student-athletes must be enrolled in a recognized home-school co-op or association that reports or monitors satisfactory progress in courses.

Academic achievement is an important and integral part of each student-athletes development. Student-athletes and parents are encouraged to take an active and responsible role in maintaining academic requirements. If unsure of eligibility due to grades, the student-athletes High School Athletic Director should be consulted. If the student-athlete would be eligible to play a sanctioned IHSAA sport for their High School they will generally be eligible for High School hockey. A letter from the High School Athletic Director may be required to confirm eligibility.

The Coaching Staff and Team manager are required to collect copies of report cards from all student-athletes at the beginning of the season and at the end of the first semester. Report cards collected prior to the start of the season will determine student-athlete eligibility for the start of the season (2<sup>nd</sup> semester grades). First semester grades will determine eligibility for the second part of the season.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

South Stars Hockey does not want to put any Coach, Player or Parent in a situation where they do not feel safe driving to a game or practice. The rule of them as to whether a game or practice is cancelled is determined if the rink you are traveling to is open or closed. If the rink is open, then the game or practice is still scheduled to occur.

The final decision to practice or play a previously scheduled game lies with the Head Coach and Board President. It is the responsibility of each parent to decide whether, under the circumstances, it is safe to travel to the facility. The South Stars will be charged for home ice time whether the time slot is used or not and may be fined for the cancellation by the opposing team. Referees must be contacted immediately when the decision is made to cancel. A charge for the officials may still be incurred. No disciplinary action will be taken against a student-athlete who elects not to participate in practice or a game due to a legitimate weather related issue.

## **HOCKEY AWARDS**

To earn a Varsity Award from school systems that acknowledge Hockey. Student-athlete must be rostered on the South Stars A or B Team, be academically eligible, in good financial standing, and participate in the State Tournament. The varsity award for each year is a chevron. A letter may be purchased as part of the varsity letter jacket purchase. Parents of seniors are encouraged to apply for various scholarships and awards offered at the League and State Tournaments.

## **DOUBLE ROSTERING**

Double Rostering (DR) is the administrative rostering of a student-athlete on a second Club team. DR is a temporary assignment to a second team, but the student-athlete's primary responsibility remains with their first assigned team, including all practices and games. The primary purpose of DR is to give certain student-athletes additional developmental opportunities. DR allows student-athletes moving to the higher level team to be exposed to a higher level of competition. It also allows student-athletes moving



to the lower level team a greater opportunity to develop their skills with additional ice time. Up to 7 student-athletes may be designated for DR on a single team. DR is permitted through 12/31 of the current season. After 12/31, student-athletes must be assigned to one team's roster.

The process the Club will use to move DR student-athletes is as follows:

- A and B team coaches agree on the list of double rostered student-athletes which is then presented to the Board for approval. The coaches will contact the student-athlete and their parents to discuss the DR process and expectations. A student-athlete or parent may refuse a double rostering assignment without penalty, although it may result in removal from the DR list.
- Coaches must request from the Board the movement of a student-athlete if not already pre-determined through scheduling. The Coach must communicate the duration of assignment, the position the student-athlete will play, and the minimum ice time the student-athlete can expect to receive.
- The Board will review the request with all parties and approve or deny the request.
- The Coach will notify the student-athlete and parents of assignment via email, text, or voicemail.

## PLAYER MOVEMENT

Player movement (PM) involves a student-athlete reassignment to the other Club Team. This PM must occur prior to the submission of the final team roster to USA Hockey on 12/31 of the current season. A student-athlete PM is a permanent change in the student-athletes rostered team and status. The goal of PM is to allow movement of a student-athlete later in the season for developmental reasons or to support the teams in the event of injuries. All requests for PM must include the approval of the Board, Head Coaches, and the student-athletes parents. The process for requesting PM should follow the same steps as the Double Rostering movement. A student-athlete may refuse to be moved for any reasons without penalty from the Club or Teams.

## COMMUNICATION – PLAYER, COACH, STUDENT-ATHLETE

The coaching staff has primary responsibility for administrating and directing the team and student-athletes. The coaching staff has the authority to take whatever disciplinary actions are necessary to fulfill this responsibility and to determine student-athlete participation and ice time during games. Student-athletes and parents should be aware playing time will vary between student-athletes based upon talent, effort, and attitude. As a parent, when your student-athlete becomes involved in the South Stars Hockey program, you have a right to understand the expectations placed on your student athlete. This understanding begins with clear communication for the coaching staff.

You should expect Coaches to provide/communicate the following:

- A sound coaching philosophy
- Expectations of the student-athlete and the team
- Locations and times of practice and games
- Procedure for handling injuries
- Demonstration of the principles of sportsmanship, ethics, good behavior, etc.

The Club Coaches expect the following from parents:

- Concerns about their student-athlete be expressed directly to them
- Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance
- Any concerns about coaching philosophy and or expectations are specific



- Your support for our Club's sportsmanship efforts

If a student-athlete has specific concerns, they should discuss them with the Coach directly. If the concerns are not addressed satisfactorily the student-athlete's parents should contact the Coach and arrange a meeting to discuss appropriate concerns. If those concerns are not addressed satisfactorily or circumstances warrant, parents should contact the Board to discuss next steps.

Parents are encouraged not to confront the Coach before or after a game or practice. These can be emotional times for the student-athlete, parents and Coach. Meetings of this nature do not generally result in a productive outcome. If possible please allow 24 hours before making contact with the Coach to arrange a meeting at a time convenient for both parties. If there are issues that can't be resolved by the Coach and parents then the Board will become involved and act as a mediator until the problem is resolved. Parents are encouraged to maintain an open communication not only with the Coach but the Board of Directors as well.

## **PARENTAL CODE OF CONDUCT**

All parents are expected to act like mature adults at all times when associated with the South Stars Hockey program. Parents are also responsible for making other family members and their guests at South Stars events aware of the Parental Code of Conduct and Club guidelines. Extended family and guests are subject to the same rules and disciplinary schedule.

The following will never be tolerated:

- Verbal abuse of student-athletes, coaches, officials, or other parents (our team or the opposing team).
- Actions resulting in removal from the rink by a game official or removal from the rink/arena by any rink personnel or security.
- Parents in the locker room before or after games.

Disciplinary Schedule – Parent Code of Conduct Violations

- 1<sup>st</sup> Game Ejection – The individual will be prohibited from attending the next South Stars Game (subject to review by the Board).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Game Ejection – the individual will be prohibited from attending the next 3 South Stars games (Subject to review by the Board).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Game Ejection – The individual will be suspended from attending South Stars events pending a hearing with the Board.

## **LOCKER ROOMS**

Players and team personnel are the only members allowed in the locker room unless otherwise instructed by the coaching staff. At Perry Park, players are expected to keep the locker room and their lockers clean and organized. When visiting another rink, players are expected to clean up as they exit the locker room including removal of all trash and personal property. The visiting locker rooms should be left in the same condition as when entered. Refer to the Locker Room Policy for additional information.



## **TRAVEL**

A parent or guardian must accompany student-athletes to all away games. No student-athlete may drive without a parent or guardian to an away game. Games at Perry Park, Fishers Fuel Tank, and Carmel Ice Skadium are not considered to be away games. Refer to the Travel Policy for additional information.

## **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

The Disciplinary Committee's purpose will be to review violations of the Team rules, Club rules and/or Game rules. The Committee will be able to review all information and meet with the student-athlete and student-athlete's parents or guardians to either support, lengthen or reduce game suspensions and discipline administered by the Coaching staff. The Committee may also become involved with USA Hockey rules and off-ice issues requiring disciplinary action. The Committee at all times will be tasked with enforcing the Club and Team rules as outlined in the Handbook.

The Disciplinary Committee is composed of the 5 elected board members. In the event that a board member's child is involved an agreed upon outside member could be substituted.

The Disciplinary Committee process will include the notification of the disciplinary hearing, procedures, and appeal process. Hearings will include the opportunity to present a student-athletes case, information, witnesses, and evidence about the issue or event. The hearing must occur as quickly as possible after an event but no later than 30 days after the event. Written notification must be given approximately 7 days prior to the hearing unless less time is agreeable to all parties and include the grounds for discipline surrounding the issue or event. After the hearing, a decision will be made within 5 business days. Disciplinary Committee decisions are final.

Any suspension or discipline decision shall remain in force and effective until it expires or is modified by the Disciplinary Committee or via the appeal process.

Exclusions from the Disciplinary Committee: Summary suspensions due to law enforcement actions or violations of USA Hockey Policy and playing rule suspension. Refer to USA Hockey Bylaw 10 for additional information on the hearing process.



## **TEAM AND PLAYER RULES AND CODE OF CONDUCT**

The South Stars player code of conduct encompasses the rules players are expected to abide by to remain in good standing with the team. Certain rules such as those related to prohibited substances and Club rules may be administered by any team official. Team rules are those rules developed specifically by the organization and are generally enforced by the coaching staff. Also, included within this section are the USA Hockey rules and policies related to misconduct, major and game misconduct penalties.

Participation in hockey is a privilege that carries with it varying degrees of responsibility, recognition, and reward. In addition to meeting all academic eligibility requirements, student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a manner displaying the conduct becoming a positive role model for others and acting in a manner bringing respect to themselves, their families, their school, the South Stars Club and their community. Players are expected to treat everyone involved in the game of hockey with utmost respect (this includes teammates, opposing student-athletes, coaches, referees, parents and arena staff) and to act in a positive manner at all facilities (ice rink, hotel, restaurant, etc.) during all team activities.

### **EXPECTED BEHAVIOR**

The following behaviors are expected of members of the South Stars:

- Observe all team rules.
- Listen to instruction during practices and games. Listen first, ask questions second and keep nonconstructive comments to yourself.
- Execute all practice drills at game speed unless instructed to do otherwise. Provide maximum effort at all times on and off the ice.
- Be on time for all team functions.

### **UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

The South Stars Hockey Club follows the USA Hockey Safesport Program in regards to hazing, bullying, abuse, and harassment. Any student-athlete, coach, or club member alleged to have engaged in any initiations, hazing, bullying, or any other deliberate act that may result in harm to a fellow student-athlete, will be subject to an investigation by the Disciplinary Committee. If the Disciplinary Committee upholds the allegation(s), the student-athlete may be suspended immediately pending a formal hearing with the Disciplinary Committee, refer to the Disciplinary Committee summary for additional information regarding the hearing process.

### **TREATMENT OF OTHERS**

The treatment of any team member, coach, team official, board member, parent, referee or rink employee in a negative manner is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action.

Any student-athlete abusing anyone else's personal property will result in disciplinary action.

Deliberate damage to home/away facilities or organization property will result in disciplinary action and is subject to replacement cost billing to player.

### **PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES**

The use, exchange, or possession of illegal drugs and alcohol is forbidden. The use of any cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vaping devices, or chewing tobacco during team functions is strictly prohibited. This is to



include locker rooms, facility grounds, official lodging facilities, and official outings. Violation of the substance policy is subject to a 2 game suspension and a meeting with parent, player, and coach. Continued abuse of the policy will result in a hearing in front of the disciplinary committee for further action.

## **ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES**

Acts which are considered a violation of law resulting in law enforcement action will be subject to an immediate Disciplinary Committee hearing.

## **VIOLATION OF SCHOOL RULES**

Any student-athlete serving an out-of-school suspension from their respective school will automatically be suspended from the team and may not participate in any practices or games until the school suspension is lifted. Less serious violations of school rules are to be handled at the discretion of the Head Coach. Players will be expected to attend games and practices with the team, adhering to the team dress code, arrival commitments, and locker room participation both pre- and post-game.

## **DRESS CODE**

The Coaches will determine the appropriate game day dress code. The requirements will be communicated to all players.

## **ON ICE EQUIPMENT**

Game jerseys, socks and pant shells must be kept clean and in presentable condition. This requires regular laundering and repairs. Complete safety equipment must be worn at all times when on the ice. Helmets must be worn, with chinstrap securely fastened, at all times while on the ice or bench. Mouthpieces are mandatory while on the ice. All safety equipment must be properly fitted and within expiration dates.

## **TEAM/PLAYER RULES**

The South Star Hockey Board and Coaches may develop additional player/team rules. The coaching staff will inform players of these additional rules. These rules could be different for each South Stars team. All student-athletes are expected to follow team rules and the coaching staff is expected to enforce those rules. Violation of player/team rules will result in coach chosen in game/practice discipline.

## **Disciplinary Schedule**

Result of player disciplinary action will follow the following schedule unless otherwise stated in the handbook.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Discussion and counseling of the student-athlete by the Coaching Staff.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Discussion of the student-athletes behavior issue with the student-athlete and parent.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Conference with student-athlete, parent, coach, and Disciplinary Committee to establish expectations and results of non-compliance with those expectations.

## **LOCKER ROOM POLICY**



In addition to the development of our hockey student-athletes and enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our participants is central to the South Stars' goals. The South Stars High School Hockey Club adheres to the USA Hockey SafeSport Program as a means to help protect its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and other types of misconduct including bullying, threats, harassment and hazing. To help prevent abuse or misconduct from occurring in the locker rooms, the South Stars has adopted the following locker room policy. This policy is designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in the locker rooms.

At Perry Park Ice Arena there are 2 locker rooms available for the programs use, however our teams regularly travel to play games at other arenas with varying configurations of locker room, restrooms and showers. At arenas for which you are unfamiliar, parents should plan to have extra time and some flexibility in making arrangements for their student-athlete to dress, undress, and shower.

Locker rooms will be monitored by a member of the coaching staff. In the event we don't have a coach to monitor the locker room an appointed non coach monitor will be available outside the door. The locker room monitors or coaches will review the locker room before the student-athletes arrive. Only members of the coaching staff, student-athletes, and medical personnel are permitted in the locker room. Team personnel will secure the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

## **PARENTS IN THE LOCKER ROOM**

Parents are not allowed in the Locker Room. If a student-athlete needs assistance due to an injury or sudden illness, then we ask parents let the coach or team personnel know beforehand that he or she will be helping the student-athlete in the locker room.

## **MIXED GENDER TEAMS**

Our teams consist of both male and female student-athletes. It is important that the privacy rights of all of our student-athletes are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Where possible, the South Stars will have the male and female student-athletes dress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room before the game for a team meeting. Once the game or practice is finished, the student-athletes may come to one locker room for a team meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, male and female student-athletes will proceed to their separate locker rooms. If separate locker rooms are not available, student athletes will take turns using the locker room for changing and showering.

## **CELL PHONES AND OTHER MOBILE RECORDING DEVICES**

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras, and video cameras, are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices are used they must be taken outside of the locker room. Any video, audio or photos posted on social media taken from inside a locker room will be investigated. Anyone identified as having captured audio, video or photos from a locker room and posts them on social media will be subject to suspension pending a hearing of the Disciplinary Committee.

At Perry Park, individual lockers will be provided for player usage and storage of cell phones and personal items. Student-athletes will be required to provide their own combination lock. Cell phones must be stored in the locked locker and not within the locker room area.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**



All South Stars players must keep their social media profile clean, friendly, and positive about themselves, others and the South Stars teams. Discussions, posts or other publicly viewed statements about other teams or players are prohibited. Players are reminded that social media accounts can be viewed and monitored by the Club.

Inappropriate photos shall not be posted on any social media site. Photography is strictly prohibited in the team locker rooms.

All South Star Coaches and Club Volunteers shall comply with the Safesport Programs Electronic Communications Policy. All electronic communication between coach and player must be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. All content between coaches and players should be readily available to share with the public or families of the player or coach. If the player is under 18, any email, text, social media or similar communication must also copy or include the players parents. Coaches are prohibited from having players joined to or connected through their personal social media application.

A volunteer of each Club team is allowed to develop an official team social media account for the purpose of communicating team activities to all team and Club members. This volunteer will be required to complete the Safesport training program.

## **PROHIBITED CONDUCT AND REPORTING**

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

## **TRAVEL POLICY**

The South Stars High School Hockey Club team travel is limited to only a few events per year. The South Stars have established policies to guide our travel, minimize one-on-one interactions, and reduce the risk of abuse or misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase student-athlete safety and improve the student-athlete's experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

The South Stars distinguish between travel to training, practice and local games or practice (local travel), and team travel involving a coordinated overnight stay (team travel).

### **Local Travel**

Local travel occurs when the South Stars club does not sponsor, coordinate or arrange for travel.

- Players and/or their parents/guardians are responsible for making all arrangements for local travel. The team and its coaches, managers, or administrators should avoid responsibility for arranging or coordinating local travel. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the minor student-athlete maintains the proper safety requirements in place and on record, including valid drivers' licenses, automobile liability insurance as required by applicable state law, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with all state laws.



- The employees, coaches and/or volunteers of the South Stars who are not also acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor student-athlete and should only drive with at least two student-athletes or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor student-athlete's parent or guardian.
- Where an employee, coach, and/or volunteer is involved in an unrelated minor student-athlete's local travel, efforts should be made to ensure the adult personnel are not alone with the unrelated student-athlete, by e.g. picking up or dropping off the student-athlete in groups. In any case where an employee, coach, and/or volunteer is involved in the student-athlete's local travel, a parental release should be obtained in advance.
- Employees, coaches and/or volunteers who are also a student-athlete's parent or guardian, may provide shared transportation for any student-athlete(s) if they pick up their student-athlete first and drop off their student-athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangements.

## Team Travel

Team travel is an overnight travel that occurs when the South Stars sponsor, coordinate or arrange for travel so that our teams can compete locally, regionally, nationally or internationally. Due to the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers, and chaperones will often travel with the student-athletes.

- The coaching staff reserves the right to establish a curfew on all trips requiring overnight stays.
- Student athletes will not occupy rooms by themselves during overnight stays without parental or guardian approval and notification of the coaching staff.
- When possible, the South Stars will provide reasonable advance notice before team travel. Travel notice will also include designated team hotel information for overnight stays as well as a contact person within the Club. This individual will be the point of contact to inform your intention to travel and help with travel details.
- The South Stars will post specific travel itineraries when they become available. These will include a more detailed schedule.
- Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a minor student-athlete (unless the coach is a parent, guardian, or sibling of the student-athlete).
- Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, and volunteers will often travel with student-athletes. No employee, coach, or volunteer will engage in team travel without the proper safety requirements in place and on record, including valid drivers' licenses, automobile liability insurance as required by applicable state law, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with all state laws. A parent who has not been screened may participate in team activities and assist with supervision/monitoring of the student-athletes, but will not be permitted to have any one-on-one interactions with the student-athletes.
- Players should share rooms with other student-athletes of the same gender, with the appropriate numbers of student athletes assigned per room depending on accommodations.
- The coach will establish a curfew by when all student-athletes must be in their hotel rooms or in a supervised location. Regular monitoring and curfew checks will be made of each room by at least two properly screened adults.
- The team personnel shall ask hotels to block adult pay-per-view channels.
- Meetings do not occur in hotel rooms, but the team may reserve a separate space for adults and athletes to socialize. Individual meetings between a student-athlete and coach may not occur in hotel speeding rooms and must be held in public settings or with additional adults present.
- All student-athletes will be permitted to make regular check-in phone calls to parents. Team personnel shall allow for any unscheduled check in phone calls initiated by either the student-



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

- The team will make every effort to accommodate reasonable parental requests when a child is away from home without a parent. If any special arrangements are necessary for your child, please contact the team personnel who can either make or assist with making those arrangements.
- If disciplinary action against a student-athlete is required while the student-athlete is traveling without his/her parents, then except when immediate action is necessary, parents will be notified before any action is taken or immediately after the action.
- No coach or chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- In all cases involving travel, parents have the right to transport their minor student-athlete and have the minor student-athlete stay in their hotel room.
- During team travel, coaches, team personnel and chaperones will help student-athletes, fellow coaches and team personnel adhere to policy guidelines, including, without limitations, the Travel Policy, Locker Room Policy and Reporting Policy.
- Prior to any travel, coaches will endeavor to make student-athletes and parents aware of all expectations and rules. Coaches will also support chaperones and/or participate in the monitoring of the student-athletes for adherence to curfew restrictions and other travel rules.