Updated from DAHA By-Laws, MN Hockey By-Laws and handbook, District 11 Rules, and USA Hockey Rules
Added or modified in a way that changes meaning or intent
Changed for grammar, spelling, and/or clarity
~~Needs clarification due to staffing changes~~
I want to change the DAHA Playing Rules to DAHA Rules of Play. I want to make this change because this document does not talk about rules for playing the game but the rules of how to place players, make teams, eligibility, and structure of DAHA. Hence rules of play because of structure instead of penalties are discussed.

This cover page's sole purpose is a key for the changes and is not part of the Rules of Play. This page is to be removed before publishing the final copy.

DAHA Rules of Play Update

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THE DULUTH AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement

DAHA aims to provide a safe and positive environment for all youth in the Duluth community to participate and excel through the sport of hockey while learning eight character values: *integrity, commitment, courage, honor, hard work, sportsmanship, teamwork, and dedication.*

Association Organization

The Duluth Amateur Hockey Association began operations in 1963. There are currently 9 sub associations, which include Duluth Denfeld, Duluth East, and the Duluth Icebreakers along with six outdoor rinks (Duluth Heights, Gary-Morgan Park, Glen Avon, Piedmont, Portman and Woodland) and the Duluth Junior Gold program. DAHA is a member of Minnesota Hockey District 11 and follows the rules of the District, Minnesota Hockey and USA Hockey.

DAHA is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of 17 members, which includes four officers who make up the DAHA Executive Committee: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. ~~The fifth member of the Executive Board is the DAHA Executive Director.~~ With DAHA paid staff running day-to-day operations, facilities, and other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee.

Elected board members are elected to two-year terms with annual elections held in April at the Annual Membership Meeting. Each Board member is required to belong to at least one of the following committees:

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- RINK ASSOCIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- RULES, GRIEVANCES, AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
- PLAYER AND COACHES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
- FINANCE COMMITTEE
- FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The Board meets typically on the third Sunday of each month at a location posted in the previous meetings minutes. The general membership is welcome to attend the meetings and those wishing to add an item or items to the agenda must email the DAHA president no later than 72 hours before the meeting. Each Rink Member shall appoint a Rink Director (or other authorized person), who shall serve on the Rink Association Advisory Committee. After two consecutive absences from said committee meetings, the Rink Director (or other authorized person) can be removed from office and the Rink Association Advisory Committee President shall ask the Rink Member President to designate a replacement. If a rink is unable to provide representation at the Rink Association Advisory Committee, the DAHA Board of Directors may consider punitive action following MN Hockey Handbook. The Rink Director shall, in addition to his other duties, be responsible for instructing the Rink Member's coaches on DAHA's rules and regulations.

Association Communication

Association Communication is delivered via email, the DAHA website (duluthhockey.com) and social media accounts (Currently Twitter and Facebook). To ensure members receive all communications, they are encouraged to visit duluthhockey.com frequently, opt-in to receive DAHA emails and subscribe to the DAHA Twitter and Facebook accounts.

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Article 1 **DAHA Administration**

Section 1.01 **Finances**

1.01.1 DAHA Goals

1.01.1.1 The goal of DAHA is to provide the best youth hockey program possible at a reasonable cost to participants. DAHA is a non-profit organization, and its revenue comes via registration fees, sponsorships, Fryberger Arena ice rental fees, and various fundraisers.

Section 1.02 **Registration**

1.02.1 Registration and Fees

1.02.1.1 Registration is available on duluthhockey.com and registration dates and fees will be published on that site. Registration for Bantam, PeeWee, Squirt, 15U, 12U and 10U levels opens in early June and runs into September while registration for Mites and Junior Gold goes through November. The absolute deadline for any player to register for a particular season is Dec. 31 when USA Hockey rosters must be finalized. Registration Fees are to be paid in full no later than the end of November.

Section 1.03 **Registration Requirements**

1.03.1 DAHA player membership is limited to boys and girls residing within the ISD 709 school boundaries. Players may participate in other hockey Associations based on residence, but District 11 and Minnesota Hockey waivers may be required for other circumstances.

1.03.2 In addition to registering with DAHA, each player must register with USA Hockey/Minnesota Hockey. USA Hockey/Minnesota Hockey registration must be completed before a player is allowed to compete in a DAHA activity.

Section 1.04 **Registration Refunds**

1.04.1 Full DAHA registration refunds will be given should a player quit prior to the first preseason tryout session or preseason practice (skills session). Additionally, if a player makes a high school team, experiences a season-ending injury, or moves out of the area. DAHA registration refunds will be prorated based on their ending date. All other DAHA refunds must have DAHA Board approval. USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey registration fees are not refundable.

Section 1.05 **Financial Aid**

1.05.1 DAHA has had a long and proud tradition of never turning away any boy or girl who wants to play hockey but can't because of financial difficulties. Through the Hank Jensen Memorial Fund, financial aid is available to all qualifying families to help offset registration and assessment costs. Information and the application form can be found at duluthhockey.com. All applications for financial aid are confidentially reviewed by the DAHA Treasurer ~~and Executive Director~~. Families granted financial assistance/scholarships are expected to volunteer within the association above and beyond the volunteer/fundraising activities required of all member families.

Section 1.06 Non-Payment of Team Assessments Policy

1.06.1 All outstanding team assessments from players must be paid before the player or any siblings will be allowed to register for next season or be eligible for financial aid. This also includes any participation in any DAHA sponsored pre-season camps/clinics.

Section 1.07 Insurance

1.07.1 Before registering with DAHA, players are required to register with USA Hockey/Minnesota Hockey first. USA Hockey provides all registered players with secondary insurance. For more information on coverage or for claim forms, go to: USAhockey.com.

Article 2 Association Rules

Section 2.01 General.

2.01.1 USA Hockey playing rules, as modified by the Minnesota Hockey playing rules, as modified by MN District 11, shall apply to Duluth Amateur Hockey Association (DAHA) league games, except as herein modified.

Section 2.02 Duluth Girls Hockey Association (DGHA) General Rules.

2.02.1 The DGHA shall also abide by all applicable Minnesota Girls' and Woman's Hockey Association bylaws, rules and regulations.

2.02.2 Practice Schedule. DGHA shall be given equal treatment, regarded in good faith and served fairly beside the DAHA boys teams in the scheduling by DAHA Rink Members as evidenced by non-disparate scheduling that reflects both quality and quantity of ice time and the time of scheduled events.

2.02.3 DGHA will declare the number of teams and the levels of play before the start of the Peewee and Bantam tryouts.

2.02.4 It is strongly recommended that where girls programs exist that girls registered with DAHA shall play on a DGHA team. The only exceptions to such shall be:

2.02.4.1 No DGHA team exists for a girl(s) to register for and play on; or
2.02.4.2 Girls playing on DAHA mites teams.

2.02.5 If a girl chooses to play in the boys program, the decision shall be made prior to the start of the Squirt, Peewee and Bantam tryouts and shall be in effect for the current season. If there is no try-out for a particular level, the announcement of the team and participation in at least 1 practice will constitute placement on a team. Team placement will be determined according to the rules in effect for the boys teams.

2.02.6 The DGHA will be part of all the working groups at the Mite and Squirt levels. DGHA would be able to be involved in player movement to achieve recommended team size in accordance with current DAHA Playing Rules.

Section 2.03 Rink Member Boundaries.

2.03.1 The DAHA Board of Directors shall establish, and from time-to-time revise, the boundaries of each Rink Member.

2.03.2 Such Rink Member boundaries shall be binding upon each Rink Member unless an exception is made by DAHA's Board of Directors.

2.03.3 A map of the Rink Members' boundaries shall be posted at the DAHA office and the annual registration site.

2.03.4 DAHA shall provide each Rink Member with written boundaries of all the Rink Members of DAHA.

2.03.5 The boundaries for Duluth East Youth Hockey, and the Duluth Denfeld Hockey Associations shall be determined by middle and high school boundaries Any player affected by boundary changes due to school redistricting may complete the remainder of that season at the rink/association at which the season was started. Upon completion of that season, or if changes take place before registration opens for the next season, players will play at their new rink/association.

Section 2.04 **Uniform Colors.**

2.04.1 All jerseys, pants and socks shall conform to the color scheme for the respective team shown in Table 1 in the appendixes.

2.04.2 Any color or graphic change to jerseys, pants and socks shall be presented to the Rules and Grievance Committee for review and approval. The changes should be shown on a full-color mockup representing the changes. Jerseys, pants, and socks shall not be ordered until approved by the committee. Failure to follow these rules may result in the loss of use of jerseys, pants, or socks.

Section 2.05 **Gender Equity Policy (Squirt age and above)**

2.05.1 Make certain that two properly screened adults are present in the locker room settings to supervise. Arrange to provide the same sex they are to protect.

2.05.2 Where possible, have the male and female players undress/dress in separate locker rooms (referee room); then convene in a single dressing room to attend the coach's pre-game meeting.

2.05.3 Once the game is finished, hold the coach's post-game meeting, then have the male and female players proceed to their separate dressing rooms to undress and shower (if available).

2.05.4 In those cases where separate facilities are not available, have one gender enter the locker room first and change into their uniforms. That gender then leaves the locker room while the other gender dresses. Both genders would then reconvene in the locker room for the coach's pre-game meeting.

2.05.5 (Where separate locker room facilities are not available) Following the game and the coach's post-game meeting, the second gender group enters the locker room and undresses while the first group waits outside until the second group has undressed and left the room. Once the second group leaves, the first group enters the locker room and undresses.

2.05.6 Taking turns is a means of "reasonable accommodations" so neither gender is favored.

Article 3 **Rules for Players**

Section 3.01 **Residency Requirements.**

3.01.1 Players will be eligible to play with an association only if they reside within the boundaries provided by the Duluth Amateur Hockey Association.

3.01.2 A player will be deemed to reside within the association boundaries if 2.01.1.1 or 2.01.1.2 is met.

3.01.2.1 His/her parents are living together and are residing within such league boundaries,
3.01.2.2 Either of the player's parents (or his/her court-appointed legal guardian) reside within such boundaries.

3.01.3 "Residence," "reside" and "residing" refers to a place of bona fide continuous habitation. A place of residence, once established, shall not be considered changed unless the parents, parent or guardian makes a bona fide change of residence. Residence shall be established and supported by documents from all of the following categories to determine residency of such parent(s) or guardian:

3.01.3.1 Driver's License.
3.01.3.2 Voter's Registration.
3.01.3.3 School Records.
3.01.3.4 Payroll, Welfare or Support Payment Records.
3.01.3.5 Federal, State and Local Tax Records.
3.01.3.6 Homeowner or tenant records.
3.01.3.7 Utility bills.

3.01.4 It is recommended that the association require some proof of residence within the association's boundaries at the time the player registers. Players and their parents/guardians are advised that a false statement of residence may lead to ineligibility to play hockey. Under NO circumstances does ANY person have the authority to grant a waiver that allows a child to play in a local association program IN ANY LEVEL, when that child does not qualify under these residency requirements.

3.01.5 If the claim for residency is challenged, documents from all of the above materials must be submitted to Duluth Amateur Hockey Association's Coaches and Players Development and Rules and Grievance Committees, with an affidavit of residency from the parent(s) or guardian, which shall decide the issue. Residency documents must illustrate that the residence (as defined above) was inside the association's boundaries at the time of registration.

Section 3.02 **Falsifying Address**

3.02.1 If it is discovered that a player has registered for youth hockey using a false address, the following shall occur:

3.02.1.1 The player must provide proof of residency by one or more of the forms listed under DAHA Playing Rules, II - Rules for Players, A(A) - Residency Requirements
3.02.1.2 If it is proven through the proof provided that the player did register under a false address, the player will be removed from the roster in which they have falsely registered and will be enrolled at the rink associated with their legal residency and pay all required association fees. No reimbursement of fees will be required by the first association to which the player falsely registered.

3.02.1.3 If the player refuses to return to the rink associated with their legal residence, then that player is ineligible to play for DAHA for the remainder of that hockey season.

3.02.1.4 After Enrolling at the correct Association, the Rink Director of that Association may - provided that no other player is displaced and no other playing rules are violated as a result - place the player at a lower playing level that the team he/she qualified for originally.

3.02.1.5 Grievance Committees, with an affidavit of residency from the parent(s) or guardian, which shall decide the issue. Residency documents must illustrate that the residence (as defined above) was inside the association's boundaries at the time of registration.

Section 3.03 **Moving from Residence.**

3.03.1 If a player has moved to a residence within the boundaries of a different Rink Member, the player may continue to play with his former Rink Member through the current season the player is playing at the time of such move. The player must play with the Rink Member in which the new residence is located upon the start of the next season.

Section 3.04 **Mite Movement**

3.04.1 All reasonable efforts shall be made to have a player play for the Rink Member in which boundaries the player resides.

3.04.2 The result of any movement from one rink to another shall be to have an optimum of 8 players per team at the mite 1 level, and an optimum of 9 players per team at the mite 2 level.

3.04.3 The Rink Directors of each working group shall declare the number of teams, levels of teams and players per team within the working group no later than October 25 to the DAHA office. All Rink Directors must designate their approval of the combined plan as indicated by their signatures on the plan submitted to DAHA. A DAHA Commissioner must be involved in the process of developing this plan for purposes of recording any movement of players from one Rink Member to another.

3.04.4 In addition to the rink transfer a mite player may request to register with a team and play on a team outside the working group boundaries of the rink member in which he or she resides. Both working groups along with all rink directors must approve and must sign this agreement.

3.04.5 Once a mite player has been transferred to another association, that transfer is final. The player will not be required to ask for a transfer the following year. The player will remain at that association through the playing levels of that association. No additional rink transfer forms are needed for future siblings to also play at the rink they were approved to transfer. This form must be signed by both the Home & Working group rink director in which player is transferring to.

3.04.6 The receiving association must send DAHA a completed copy of the Rink Transfer Request Form and must also retain a copy on file at their Association.

Section 3.05 **Registration on One Team.**

3.05.1 No player shall be registered or play on more than one team except if permitted by Minnesota Hockey Rules, a player may be advanced to a higher level team, but once a player is advanced to such team, he or she may not return to the former team. This rule shall apply from the date of fall registration through the date of the final regular season or league playoff game, whichever is later.

3.05.2 No girl shall be permitted to participate on any DGHA team following participation or membership on a DAHA, Minnesota Hockey, or high school team which season ended prior to that of a DGHA team. Individual player registration with the DGHA prior to December 31st shall not grant any girl waiver of such or exacerbate entitlement to participation in the DGHA. In the event of prior payment of registration fees, the player shall forfeit all said registration fees and costs.

Section 3.06 **Player Age Limits.**

3.06.1 The age limit for players at the playing levels are in Table 2 in the appendixes.

Section 3.07 **Exceptions to Player age Placement**

3.07.1 USA Hockey, Minnesota Hockey, and DAHA age limits for playing levels change on June 1 of each year. Minnesota school age limits for grade change on September 1 of each year.

3.07.1.1 If a player's birth date falls between June 1 and August 31 and the player is enrolled in the grade corresponding to the player's school age, then the player's parents may elect to permit the player to play at the higher playing level, or “peer up”.

3.07.1.2 A written request to have a player move to a higher level must be in the DAHA office no later than September 15 of the playing year and will be addressed by the player and coach development committee on a case-by-case basis.

3.07.1.3 Recommendations will then be forward to the DAHA Board for its approval. The association reserves the right to make this decision any time prior to the first tryout date.

3.07.2 Mite 2/8U player to move-up to Squirts/10U:

3.07.2.1 Skaters must be entering the 3rd grade in the fall or the final year of squirt eligibility.

3.07.2.2 This is primarily for skaters showing the appropriate skill level, game understanding, competitiveness, and maturity to be at the squirt level.

3.07.2.3 The skaters will attend a special evaluation session and if the skater is determined to be a candidate for the squirt level of play, they will be ranked among other move- up candidates and invited to attend the first 6 sessions of the fall Squirt Skills session.

3.07.2.4 After the first 6 sessions and the finalization of the squirt registrations, the squirt committee will review the current registration numbers and determine the appropriate amount of move up skaters to best finalize rosters to an ideal size.

3.07.2.5 The maximum number skaters allowed to move-up will be limited to 10 percent of the total Squirt level players, however, the committee and the evaluators have the right to move-up less than that in any given year. Candidates for move up will be offered based on their rankings from the independent evaluator(s).

3.07.2.6 Skaters moving up from Mite 2’s will be assigned to skate at the Squirt B-2 level. If a skater would show the exceptional ability to play at the Squirt A or B1 level, they would be allowed to do so.

3.07.3 If a player does not have his/her birth date fall between June 1 and August 31, they may have an option to submit a request to move from Squirt to Peewee or Peewee to Bantam if they are in their final year of eligibility at their current playing level, only to try out for the highest level of Peewee or Bantam play that the players association offers. In order to submit a request these guidelines must be followed:

3.07.3.1 Squirt to PeeWee or PeeWee to Bantam - Rink Director seeks approval from the Player Development Committee and the Peewee highest level Coach.

3.07.3.1.1 DAHA or the East Youth Hockey Club or the Denfeld Hockey Association Player Development Committee approves players request to try out.

3.07.3.1.2 If the player does not make the top 50% of the highest level Peewee or Bantam team, they must be placed on the lowest level of play at the level of play the player is trying out for and not allowed to return to their age level team.

3.07.4 In the event that a player moves up and an age eligible player is tied for a spot on the top-level team, the age eligible player will receive the spot on the team. Failure to meet this deadline will result in denial of request. The request will be reviewed by the Rules and Grievance Committee and recommendations presented to the Board of Directors, with a vote to follow. Upon completion of voting, a letter will be sent to the player's parents with the decision.

3.07.5 High School Tryout Policy

3.07.5.1 If a player decides to try out for a high school team after the DAHA tryouts have been completed and he/she has been placed on a team roster, they may remain on that team roster as long as they fully participate in their team activities, including practices, scrimmages and games.

3.07.5.2 If, however, the player does not fully participate in their team's activities including practices, scrimmages, and games, then their roster position will be considered vacated, and another player may be added to the roster.

3.07.5.2.1 If the player does not participate in their team's activities and has his/her roster position vacated and decides to return to a DAHA team, they will be placed on a B team upon their return.

Section 3.08 **Player Equipment.**

3.08.1 All players participating in DAHA league and tournament play shall wear mouth guards and neck laceration protection at all playing levels.

Article 4 **Rules for Teams**

Section 4.01 **Team Registration.**

4.01.1 Each team under the jurisdiction of DAHA shall register and carry insurance as required by Minnesota Hockey Rules.

Section 4.02 **Player Limit.**

4.02.1 A team may not have more than 20 players or the number of players permitted by Minnesota Amateur Hockey Association Rules, whichever is less.

Section 4.03 **Squirt Level Teams**

4.03.1 All squirt aged players living within DAHA boundaries will be placed into one group from which all teams will be chosen.

4.03.2 Levels of play and number of teams at each level will be determined before each season by the PCDC.

4.03.3 At each level, if more than one team is registered, teams will be chosen so that those teams at those levels are even and balanced.

Section 4.04 **Peewee and Bantam B Level Teams.**

4.04.1 If there is a B-2 League, Peewee B-1 and B-2 teams and Bantam B-1 and B-2 teams shall be formed with players residing within the East High School boundaries and players residing within the Denfeld High School boundaries respectively. After team selections are completed including up to two goalies per team, if there are unplaced goalies in one Association and a need for additional goalies in the other, the Rink Directors shall move the extra goalies to fill spots on B-2 (or B-1 if there are no B-2) teams in the other area. This move shall take priority over moving a goalie up in age group and/or placing three goalies from within an Association on the same team. If all teams in an Association have a full (20 player) roster and there are still players without a team, the DAHA Executive Committee has the option of assigning the players to vacancies on B-2 (or B-1 if there are no B-2) teams in the other Association.

4.04.2 If there is a B-2 League, each of such Rink Members shall register a B-1 team before registering a B-2 team in the Bantam and Peewee levels. Upon written request of a Member Rink, the DAHA Board of Directors may permit a Member Rink to register a B-2 team without requiring a B-1 team at the Peewee or Bantam level. The request shall set forth the reasons for the request. The Commissioners from the applicable Peewee or Bantam level shall investigate the request and shall make a recommendation to the DAHA Board of Directors

4.04.3 If a Rink Member registers more than two teams at a Bantam to Peewee level, the Rink Director of such Rink Member shall propose to the DAHA Board of Directors for approval the number of teams to be registered at each playing level using the following guidelines:

4.04.3.1 The goal of the division of players between the B-1 and B-2 level is to provide players of comparable ability to play at the same level if there is a B-2 League.

4.04.3.2 Determining the number of B-1 and B-2 level teams, if there is a B-2 League, should be conducted in accordance with DAHA's tryout process, which is to be by assigning players to teams rather than through an elimination or "cutting" process.

4.04.3.3 In selecting players for such teams, if players are approximately equal in playing ability and there is a B-2 League, the older players shall be selected for the B-1 teams.

4.04.3.4 If a Rink Member registers more than one team at a level, the players shall be divided amongst the teams with the goal that the teams are of equal playing ability.

4.04.4 Peewee B and Bantam B level teams are traveling teams and the scheduling of the number and location of games and the number of practices should be reflective of that fact.

4.04.5 Each team from a Peewee/Bantam Rink Member shall be registered by such Rink Member and that Rink Member shall be responsible to DAHA for that team.

Section 4.05 **Peewee and Bantam A-AA Level Teams.**

4.05.1 Peewee A-AA teams and Bantam A-AA teams shall be formed with players residing within the East high school boundaries and players residing within the Denfeld high school boundaries, respectively.

4.05.2 In selecting players for such teams, if players are approximately equal in playing ability, the older players shall be selected for the A-AA teams.

Section 4.06 **Independent Evaluators for Squirt, Peewee, Bantam and DGHA Teams.**

4.06.1 Players for all Squirt, Peewee, Bantam and DGHA level teams will be chosen by at least three independent evaluators. Coaches for the teams at these levels may provide input to the evaluators and may participate in developing evaluation criteria. A head coach may serve as an additional evaluator for choosing players on a team. If the head coach has a family relationship with any player that is being evaluated he/she must remove himself/herself from the decision process concerning this player.

4.06.2 Evaluators must:

4.06.2.1 Be age 21 or older.

4.06.2.2 Have coaching or playing experience in hockey.

4.06.2.3 Attend all evaluation sessions for the level or team.

4.06.2.4 Not have a family relationship or previous coaching of any player being evaluated.

4.06.3 DAHA will appoint or approve the appointment of all independent evaluators for the Squirt, Peewee, Bantam and DGHA try-outs.

Section 4.07 **Standard of Review.**

4.07.1 In determining whether to grant or deny a Rink Member's Request under this. Section Ill, the Board of Directors shall consider the skill level of the players, the effects on such players and the effects on the other players and teams at the affected playing level.

Section 4.08 **Newly Formed Team.**

4.08.1 When a Rink Member forms a team in playing level in which it did not form a team in the previous year, the players who played at another Rink Member in the previous year are required to play for the Rink Member in which he or she resides.

Article 5 **Rules for Games**

Section 5.01 **League Play**

5.01.1 Squirt, 10U, Peewee, 12U, Bantam, and 15U teams shall play in the District 11 League**.**

5.01.2 All teams will participate in play off or post season games as scheduled.

Section 5.02 **Length of Periods:**

5.02.1 Bantam and 15 U

5.02.1.1 (3) 15-minute periods with 1 resurface. One time out per game per team is permitted. Time stops in the event of an injury. Scheduled game length will be two (2) hours with a resurface of the ice.

5.02.2 PeeWee and 12 U

5.02.2.1 (3) 15-minute period with no resurface. One time out per game per team is permitted. Time stops in the event of an injury. Scheduled game length will be one & one half (1½) hours with no resurface of the ice.

5.02.3 Squirts and 10 U

5.02.3.1 (3) 12-minute periods with no resurface. One time out per game per team is permitted. Time stops in the event of an injury. Scheduled game length will be one (1) hour with no resurface of the ice.

5.02.4 Period Intermission.

5.02.4.1 Rest period in between periods for non-resurfaced intermissions shall be 3 minutes for all levels.

5.02.4.2 For resurfaced intermissions, teams shall return to the ice as soon as the ice resurfacing has been completed, ice resurfacing machine is off the ice, and ice resurfacing machine doors have been closed.

Section 5.03 **Penalty Length**

5.03.1 Bantam & Girls 14 or 15 U

5.03.1.1 Minor: two (2) minutes
5.03.1.2 Major: five (5) minutes
5.03.1.3 Misconduct: ten (10) minutes

5.03.2 PeeWee & 12 U

5.03.2.1 Minor: one & one-half (1:30) minutes
5.03.2.2 Major: three (3) minutes
5.03.2.3 Misconduct: seven (7) minutes

5.03.3 Squirts & 10 U

5.03.3.1 Minor: one (1) minute
5.03.3.2 Major: three (3) minutes
5.03.3.3 Misconduct: seven (7) minutes

Section 5.04 **Overtime.**

5.04.1 Bantams, 15U, PeeWees, and 12U.

5.04.1.1 (1) 8-minute sudden victory overtime period. If the teams remained tied after the 8-minute overtime period, the game will result in a tie with each team awarded 1 point.

5.04.2 Squirts and 10U

5.04.2.1 (1) 8 minute “running time” sudden victory overtime period. If teams remained tied after the 8-minute overtime period, the game will result in a tie with each team awarded 1 point.

Section 5.05 **Priority of Games.**

5.05.1 A team's first obligation is to play in the DAHA league games; these games take precedence over non-league games.

5.05.2 A team failing to play a scheduled indoor game forfeits the game and pays the full fee for ice time and game officials.

5.05.3 If a scheduled indoor game is not played and neither team shows for the game, the game costs will be split equally between the two teams.

Section 5.06 **Postponed Games.**

5.06.1 For exceptional circumstances, games may be postponed and rescheduled by mutual agreement of the coaches of the teams involved, with the approval of the Commissioners. These teams will be charged for the scheduled ice time at an indoor arena unless DAHA is able to sell such ice time. The teams will be charged for the game officials unless they give forty-eight (48) hours notice of the cancellation to the DAHA office.

Section 5.07 **Failure to Show.**

5.07.1 A team failing to show for a game on time automatically forfeits the game and no rescheduling will be permitted. All games must start within 15 minutes of the scheduled time unless otherwise directed by the referee.

Section 5.08 **Referees.**

5.08.1 The referees are scheduled by the Northeast Hockey Officials Association (NEHOA) for all indoor games. Rink Members hosting games will furnish the referees and timekeepers for all outdoor games. The Rink Member hosting the game shall attempt to have certified referees at all games.

Section 5.09 **Score Sheets.**

5.09.1 All league games shall be scored via the GameSheet scoring app. Once the game is complete when using GameSheet the game will automatically update to the league standings on the District 11 websites.

5.09.2 If you are not scoring the game with an internet connection, you will need to obtain a connection with your iPad within 24 hours to complete the upload to the league standings. Failure to report the late game score within 72 hours will result in a forfeit of the game for the home team and they will be awarded zero points in addition to a fine.

5.09.3 If the GameSheet app is not available or unable to be used due to inclement weather, a 4-ply score sheet will be used at all DAHA league games.

5.09.3.1 Score sheets must be signed by each official after the game is complete and before copies are distributed.

5.09.3.2 The game scorer will distribute one copy of the score sheet to each coach, one copy to the DAHA office, and the referees will keep one copy.

Section 5.10 **Rink Condition.**

5.10.1 A reasonable effort should be made on the part of the Rink Member hosting a game to have the rink in as good a playing condition as possible, consistent with prevailing weather. A gross deficiency in rink playing conditions can be a reason for a protest.

Section 5.11 **Other Associations.**

5.11.1 DAHA Rules shall apply to all league games notwithstanding the games that are played against teams from other hockey associations and/or are played at the other hockey association's ice facilities.

Section 5.12 **Disputes and Protests.**

5.12.1 Any team using an ineligible player or carrying an ineligible player on its roster will forfeit the game.

5.12.2 All disputes will be filed with the Rules and Grievance Committee within 48 hours of the game being protested. The protest must be in writing and signed by the coach and the Rink Director of the Rink Member. A copy of the protest shall be provided to the Rink Director of the non-protesting team and the chairman of the Rink Association Advisory Committee. The Rules and Grievance Committee shall, within 7 days, gather the facts and make a decision and communicate the decision in writing to the interested parties, including the Rink Directors of the teams in the protested game and the chairman of the Rink Association Advisory Committee.

5.12.3 In the event of a dispute during a game, the manager or coach of the team will notify the referee that the game is being played under protest and will finish the game. Should the team fail to complete the game; the team will automatically lose the game and forfeit its right to protest.

5.12.4 Any hardship caused by these Rules may be appealed to the DAHA Board of Directors.

Section 5.13 **Number of Games**

5.13.1 The playing rules require that a maximum number of games, to include tournaments, jamborees, and scrimmages be played as follows:

5.13.1.1 Level 1 Mites - 25 games

5.13.1.2 Level 2 Mites - 25 games

5.13.1.2.1 After January 15th up to ten full-ice games are allowed with the District Director's approval.

5.13.1.3 Squirts - 35 games

5.13.2 The definition of a game

5.13.2.1 League or sanctioned tournament games follow District and higher levels rules for time, referees, and penalties. shall be counted towards the maximum number of games allowed.

5.13.2.2 An Exhibition Game is defined as a contest between two teams that is not held in MH sanctioned league or invitational tournament play. To be considered an exhibition game, all applicable rules of USAH and MH, including those pertaining to rest periods and the use of certified officials, must be followed. If either of the participants is subject to a maximum number of games rule, imposed by USAH, MH or the Affiliate Association governing the participant's activities, the exhibition game shall be counted towards the maximum number of games allowed.

5.13.2.3 Coaches-on-Ice scrimmages or “controlled scrimmages” are allowed as a coaching tool for teaching position play and to address various game situations, subject to the following minimum criteria. All of the criteria must be met for the event to be considered a Coaches-On-Ice scrimmage. Does not count towards total games allowed

5.13.2.3.1 At least one coach from each team must be on the ice for the purpose of instruction.

5.13.2.3.2 No official scorekeeper, timekeeper or “game clock” can be used.

5.13.2.3.3 Teams can switch ends at some point, if desired.

5.13.2.3.4 The event is conducted as a practice, with the coaches stopping play from time to time to make observations and provide instruction on player positioning, etc.

5.13.3 The Rink Director for each rink shall be responsible for monitoring the number of games at each level.

5.13.4 Rinks whose teams do not adhere to this rule will be subject to punitive action, in accordance with District 11 League Playing Rules.

Appendices

Team Colors

RINK MEMBER	TEAM COLORS
Glen Avon	Red with White
Portman	Black with Yellow and White
Woodland	Green with Black and Yellow
Piedmont Heights	Maroon with Gold
Gary-Morgan Park	Dark Blue with Gold
Duluth Heights	Black with Green and White
Duluth Squirts	Green with Blue and White
Duluth East Youth Hockey	Black with Red and White
Duluth Denfeld Hockey	Maroon and Gold
Ice Breakers	Black with Red, White and Blue

Table 1 Association Team Colors

Playing Level Ages

Birthday age ranges for youth levels of play per MNH ’25-’26 Handbook page 2 (https://www.minnesotahockey.org/handbook).

Playing Level	Age Limit
Junior Gold	6/1/06 to 5/31/10
Junior Gold 16	6/1/08 to 5/31/10
MN Bantam	6/1/10 to 5/31/12
MN Peewee	6/1/12 to 5/31/14
MN Squirt	6/1/14 to 5/31/16
MN Mite	6/1/16 and younger
MN Mini Mite	6/1/18 and younger
19 & Under Girls	1/1/06 to 5/31/09
Girls MN 15U (13/14/15)	6/1/09 to 5/31/12
Girls MN 12U	6/1/12 to 5/31/14
Girls MN 10U	6/1/14 to 5/31/16
Girls MN 8U	6/1/16 & younger

Table 2 Playing Level Age Limits

Duluth Amateur Hockey Association
Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

As a parent or legal guardian of a Duluth Amateur Hockey Association (DAHA) youth hockey player, I agree:

1. Parents should make sure all fees and assessments are paid on time as indicated by the team manager and/or Board.
2. Parents must turn in all necessary forms (e.g., birth certificates) promptly.
3. Parents must equip their player properly so they can participate in all practices, scrimmages and games.
4. Parents should keep abreast of all information pertinent to their player's team.
5. Parents should notify the head coach in advance when their player cannot make a scrimmage or game, stating the reason.
6. Parents will encourage good sportsmanship through their actions by demonstrating positive support for all players, parents, coaches and officials at every game and practice.
7. Parents will promote the emotional and physical wellbeing of all the skaters, ahead of any personal desire to win or any personal-reflected glory. This includes, but is not limited to, providing support for coaches, officials and all others, to provide a positive experience.
8. Parents need to remember that the game is for the players and not for the parents and win or lose, will appreciate the efforts of all players and coaching staff.
9. Parents will treat all other parents, players, coaches and officials with respect, including attitude, language and mannerisms.
10. Parents will inform the coach of any physical or medical ailment that may affect the safety of their player or any other player.
11. No parent/legal guardian or other relative of any DAHA player, in a fit of frustration or anger, shall contact the Coach, Assistant Coaches, Association Board, or any member of the DAHA Board of Directors, regarding a player's ice time, position, game time or practice time discipline, coach's strategy decisions regarding a player, and/or a player's team selection/status during try-outs, until 24 hours have expired from the incident in question. This 24-hour waiting period applies to any communication whether in-person, or via email, phone call, text message, written/typed letter or any means of social media. After 24 hours have passed from the conclusion of said event or incident, the parent/legal guardian is to contact the Coach with the issue if the parent/legal guardian decides. If communication with the Coach is not possible, or not advisable due to extenuating circumstances contact the appropriate DAHA staff or Association Board is advised. If such an event or incident occurs, and the 24-hour rule is not followed by the parent/legal guardian, the parent/legal guardian will be sanctioned by the DAHA Board of Directors. In situations involving safety concerns, or the need to report issues of abuse, harassment, bullying, or other misconduct, including possible SafeSport violations, the 24-hour rule does not apply, and the DAHA or Association Board should be contacted immediately.
12. Parents are not allowed to physically, emotionally or psychologically abuse any other parent, player, coach, game official, volunteer, staff, or directors.
13. Parents/Guardians agree to abide by all the rules set forth by USA Hockey, Minnesota Hockey, District 11 and the Duluth Amateur Hockey Association. Violations will be sanctioned by the DAHA Board of Directors in accordance with the Leveled Discipline Policy.

LEVELED DISCIPLINE POLICY: If any occurrence takes place as detailed above the sanctions will be as follows:

FIRST OFFENSE: will be a MINIMUM two-week suspension from all DAHA events, including team events, home and away practices, games and tournaments.

SECOND OFFENSE: will result in a MINIMUM one-month suspension from all DAHA events, including team events, home and away practices, games and tournaments.

THIRD OFFENSE: will result in a MINIMUM one calendar year suspension from all DAHA events, including team events, home and away practices, games and tournaments.

FOURTH OFFENSE: will result in the parent/guardian and/or players being considered “a member not in good standing.”

At any time, due to the severity of the said offenses, the disciplinary action can be elevated from the leveled discipline matrix in this section.

Any suspension will start as quickly as possible after a discussion between the appropriate DAHA Board Member(s) and the involved parent(s) or guardian(s) and/or after any applicable hearing process is completed.

The DAHA Board of Directors, or any committee appointed by the DAHA Board of Directors, will enforce all violations and notify the individual(s) in writing, after any applicable disciplinary hearing, outlining the sanction that is being set forth. This will be done in a timely manner.

All conduct determined to be in violation of the Parent Code of Conduct, and resulting sanctions will, to the extent possible, be maintained in confidence by the DAHA Board of Directors and be cumulative throughout the families’ participation in DAHA. If appropriate, all sanctions will be forwarded to Minnesota Hockey and District 11 for enforcement at any away games and tournaments.

Failure to sign and follow the code of conduct will result in an incomplete registration status for tryouts and the start of the season.

_____

Parent / Guardian #1 Printed Name

_____

Parent / Guardian #1 Signature

Date Signed: _____

_____

Parent / Guardian #2 Printed Name

_____

Parent / Guardian #2 Signature

Date Signed: _____

Duluth Amateur Hockey Association
Player Code of Conduct

The intent of the Duluth Amateur Hockey Association (DAHA) Player Code of Conduct policy is to adhere to the USA Hockey Zero Tolerance Policy and the SafeSport Handbook and make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants. As a DAHA hockey player, I want to help create a fun and positive environment and become the best player and person that I can be. Therefore, I agree:

1. Players are not allowed to abuse any other player verbally, physically, or psychologically, coach, parent, game official, volunteer, or staff. All players will treat each other, parents, coaches and officials with respect and dignity, regarding language, attitude, behavior, and mannerisms.
2. Players will refrain from any form of hazing or the initiation of other players regardless of how insignificant it may seem.
3. Players will adhere to the DAHA and SafeSport policies regarding social media. 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.
4. Players will not use social media to make inappropriate or disrespectful comments or convey disregard towards others.
5. Players will take pride in their team and contribute to the team's unity. Players will adhere to the coach's rules and be supportive of the coach's practice plans, game plans, and other decisions. Players will be at the rink by the appointed time as set by the coach; participate in all games and practices unless properly excused; and notify the coach or manager in advance when the player will be absent.
6. Players will respect the property and equipment used at any sports facility, both home and away.
7. Players will not throw equipment.
8. No attempt should be made to deliberately injure another player(s). Any player incurring a MATCH PENALTY for "Attempt to Injure" or other offense deemed equally serious by the coach shall be subject to suspension beyond the USA HOCKEY rules as deemed appropriate by the DAHA Board. The appropriate Association will be notified as soon as possible of the incident.
9. Players on the players' bench and penalty bench must wear a helmet while in those bench areas.
10. No player shall criticize referees. The only individuals who may speak to officials are the coaches and/or designated captains under the instructions of their coaches. Players will not openly dispute or argue any decision by an official and will not use obscene or vulgar language or gestures at any time. There is zero tolerance for disrespectful conduct toward referees and officials.
11. Players will express any concern through proper channels in a respectful manner.
12. Players will adhere to the DAHA policies regarding Alcohol, Substance Use and Weapons.
13. Players will respect and adhere to all rules and Code of Conduct of DAHA, District 11, Minnesota Hockey, and USA Hockey.

Player Behavior Discipline Guidelines

DAHA was created to promote competition and good sportsmanship for all children wanting to play hockey. The discipline policies contained in this Code of Conduct conform to USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey Rules. In some cases, stronger rules may exist within DAHA.

DAHA adopts USA Hockey and SafeSport's zero tolerance against physical and emotional misconduct, abusive behavior, bullying, threats, and harassment. Additionally, obscene language or gestures, and other detrimental behavior directed toward teammates, coaches, other DAHA members, referees, opponents, or spectators will not be tolerated and will have the following consequences:

First Offense: The player will be verbally warned by the coach with the parent/guardian present. The appropriate Association will document the action with an email sent to the parent/guardian and the DAHA Board.

Second Offense: The player will be removed from the game, practice, or other team event. In the case of a game or practice the player will be required to sit in the stands until a parent/guardian arrives. The appropriate Association will be notified as soon as possible and will document the incident with an email sent to the parent/guardian and the DAHA Board.

Third Offense: The player will be removed from the team following resolution of a Code of Conduct hearing. Penalties will range from a three-game suspension to removal from the team for the remainder of the season. Any player's misconduct not specifically addressed above will be dealt with on an individual basis by the DAHA Board.

All conduct deemed to be in violation of the Player Code of Conduct, and resulting sanctions will, to the extent possible, be maintained in confidence by the DAHA Board of Directors and be cumulative throughout the families' participation in DAHA. If appropriate, all sanctions will be forwarded to Minnesota Hockey and District 11 for enforcement at any away games and tournaments.

Players agree to abide by all the rules set forth by USA Hockey, Minnesota Hockey, District 11, and the Duluth Amateur Hockey Association. Violations will be sanctioned by the DAHA Board of Directors or designated committee in accordance with the Player Behavior Discipline Guidelines.

The DAHA Board of Directors, or any committee appointed by the DAHA Board of Directors, will enforce all violations and notify the individual(s) in writing, after any applicable disciplinary hearing, outlining the sanction that is being set forth. This will be done in a timely manner.

Any DAHA member witnessing or involved in a violation of the DAHA Player Code of Conduct can bring the issue forward, after the 24-hour rule, to the Board of Directors by emailing the Player and Coaches Development Director, Vice-President, and/or President. Issues can also be brought to the monthly scheduled board meeting. In situations involving safety concerns, or the need to report issues of abuse, harassment, bullying, or other misconduct, including possible SafeSport violations, the 24-hour rule does not apply and the appropriate Association, Player and Coaches Development Director, Vice-President, or President should be contacted immediately.

Failure to sign and follow the code of conduct will result in an incomplete registration status for tryouts and the start of the season.

Player Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____