

**ENFIELD HOCKEY**  
**ASSOCIATION TRAVEL TEAM**  
**RULES**

**Version: 2025-2026**

**Amended by the Board of Directors 2/6/2026**

**SAFETY**

-All players must stay off the ice until the Zamboni is finished and the door has completely closed.

-All doors to the ice surface must be closed while the Zamboni machine is on the ice.

-During games and practices, all doors to ice surface are to remain closed.

-As recommended and approved by USA Hockey all players must be fully equipped with proper protective equipment before being allowed on the ice

-All players are required to have fastened chin straps and neck protectors from Learn to Skate to Midgets. Mouth guards are required at Pee Wee, Bantams and Midget levels **at all times** during games and practices.

-At no time shall a skater ever play in Goal for an extended period of time without the proper goalie equipment.

-Each coach must have a complete medical kit prior to their team's first scheduled ice session.

-In the case of minor injuries, apply first aid and immediately notify the parents. It is the parent's responsibility to decide further treatment. In case of a more serious injury, notify the local police for medical assistance. Under no circumstances is the injured player to be removed from the ice by means other than his/her own power. The coach must report all injuries to their Division Director immediately and a report is to be filed with the Board of Directors. In the event a skater is injured in a practice or game and warrants seeing a doctor to evaluate (head contact, etc.), a doctor's note must be provided before the skater is to be allowed back on the ice. It is the discretion of the Head Coach whether to allow the skater back on the ice or not. EHA will support the Head Coach in this decision based on all available information.

## GENERAL RULES

**Enfield Hockey Association Tuition Payment Policy:** Check, money order, cash, MasterCard, Visa, and Discover credit cards shall be the approved method of payment for EHA. If the VP Finance or in his/her absence the President or his/her appointed designee is not successful in receiving payments he/she will turn to the Division Director of the identified family/player to follow up. Any player who is more than thirty (30) days delinquent in his or her payment without an approved payment plan will not be allowed to participate in any EHA game or practice. If a payment plan is necessary, please contact the EHA President and/or VP Finance to review the request for approval.

**Tournaments:** EHA travel teams will be expected to host EHA Tournament(s) if planned by the EHA Board of Directors and/or a Tournament Committee. This includes CHC Tournaments EHA may host. The only exception will be when there is a CHC tournament conflict.

**Dual Rostering (Amended 1/8/2026):** Dual rostering is prevalent in all youth sports. To accommodate those skaters wishing to dual roster, these rules have been implemented for the start of the 2026-2027 season. They will be reviewed each season and can be updated, based on the needs of the Association, for the following season. Any edits or updates will be communicated to families prior to evaluations for that applicable season to ensure decisions can be made with updated information.

1. Any skater or goaltender is able to dual roster with another NON-CHC team.
  - U8 Mites can dual roster with a half or full ice NON-CHC team
  - U10-U18 can dual roster with any NON-CHC team
    - Note: Per CIAC high school rules, any U14-U18 skater who is rostered on their High School JV or Varsity team cannot also be a rostered member of EHA. Please note that the CIAC prohibition of dual rostering does not apply to GIRLS high school teams. Girls who play on CoEd high school teams are subject to the dual participation prohibition. Girls are allowed to dual roster with EHA while playing on a Girl's High School team. Players should always check with their secondary school coach or athletic director prior to returning to any youth team.
2. A skater may only roster with ONE other NON-CHC team in addition to EHA per season.
3. If dual rostering, that skater's EHA tuition must be paid in full before the start of season unless other arrangements are made via board approval.
4. Families may request to dual roster after the start of the season (in writing) pending board approval. If teams are made prior to the request, a modified payment plan will be required to fulfill any outstanding financial obligation to EHA.
5. Attendance Expectations & Playing Time: Dual-rostered skaters are expected to maintain consistent attendance at EHA practices and games. If a dual-rostered player routinely misses EHA practices or games in a manner that leaves the team

short-handed or impacts team readiness, the head coach has the discretion to limit that player's ice time. This decision is fully supported by the EHA Board, and coaches will be empowered to apply this policy in the best interest of team development, safety, and competitive balance.

**Age Requirements:** It is Enfield Hockey Association by Law that each registered player will play in his/her age group as set forth by USA Hockey rules. However, individual requests to play up shall be considered. The Board of Directors recognizes it may be appropriate and even beneficial to a participant's development for him or her to play-up to the next age classification.

1. A participant will not be permitted to move up more than one year in age. For example, a first-year Squirt cannot be moved to the PeeWee (U12) level. A second year Squirt (U10) may advance to PeeWee (U12). This will apply at Squirt (U10), PeeWee (U12) and Bantam (U14) levels.
2. Only requests submitted by the participant's parents or legal guardians will be considered.
3. The affected President, Division Directors, Vice President of Operations and Vice President of Player/Coach Development will evaluate each request. Criteria for allowing a person to play-up will be based on the evaluation of the participant's skill and ability to contribute to the older team, the participant's maturity level compared to the older team's participants, physical size and number of players at each level.
4. Allowing participants to move from a non-checking division to a checking division represents the greatest risk and will receive the greatest scrutiny.
5. The President, Vice President of Operations, Vice President of Player/Coach Development and affected Division Directors will make the final decision on allowing a participant to play- up. In case of a tie, the President will cast the deciding vote.
6. Per Connecticut Hockey Conference Rules, once a player has participated on a team at a higher USA Hockey age level, the player is not permitted to play for a team at his actual USA Hockey age level for the remainder of the season (Play-up Stay up rule).
7. As a result of any movement into another age classification the affected player will be charged the fees for the division in which they will participate.

**Transportation Policy:** EHA has 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 player safety and improve the player's experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

- Players and/or their parents/guardians are responsible for making all arrangements for travel. The team and its coaches, managers or administrators should avoid responsibility for arranging or coordinating travel. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the minor player maintains proper safety and legal requirements, including, but not limited to, a valid driver's license, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with applicable state laws
- The coaches, and/or volunteers of EHA or one of its teams, who are also not acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor player and should only drive with at least two players or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor player's parent.
- Where a coach and/or volunteer is involved in an unrelated minor player's local travel, efforts should be made to ensure that the adult personnel are not alone with the unrelated player, by, e.g., picking up or dropping off the players in groups. In any case where a coach and/or volunteer are involved in the player's local travel, a parental release should be obtained in advance.
- Coaches, and volunteers who are also a player's parent or guardian may provide shared transportation for any player(s) if they pick up their player first and drop off their player last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.
- It is recognized that in some limited instances it will be unavoidable for a coach or volunteer of EHA or one of its teams to drive alone with an unrelated minor player. However, efforts should be made to minimize these occurrences and to mitigate any circumstances that could lead to allegations of abuse or misconduct.
- Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a minor player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player).

## **DISCIPLINE and SUSPENSIONS**

**Disciplinary Committee:** EHA Board of Directors has established a Disciplinary Committee consisting of President, Vice President of Operations, Vice President of Player/Coach Development, Referee Director, and the respective Division Director. The purpose of the committee is to review any infractions by participants, which require suspension or other judgment in accordance with USA Hockey, and/or CHC, and/or GSL and/or EHA rules or other league affiliations. The committee is responsible to the Board of Directors for its actions in imposing or modifying suspensions in conjunction with, or in addition to the game referee.

**Discipline:** Any player who disrupts the team, fails to follow the instructions of the coaches or who continually misses practices and/or games without a proper excuse is hurting their team. Severe or repeated infractions will be reported to the Division Director and/or the Vice President of Player/Coach Development who will confer with the player's parents. In the event that after such a

conference the infractions continue or are still unresolved, the matter shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for resolution.

**Game Misconduct:** In the event a player or coach incurs a game misconduct, match penalty or any other penalty that results in the ejection from that game or a suspension from the following game(s), the coach shall notify his/her Division Director and Referee Director within twenty-four (24) hours and provide specific details of the Incident. The Director shall immediately notify the President, Vice President of Operations, Vice President of Player/Coach Development and/or the Referee Director. Failure to report an incident shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

**Abusive Language and Behavioral Issues:** Abusive language and behavioral demeanor to coaches, referees, spectators, teammates, fighting as describe by USA Hockey, or attempt to injure will not be tolerated. Infractions will be reported within twenty-four (24) hours from the Head Coach or in his/her absence from the acting or Assistant Coach to the Division Director and Referee Director who will provide details immediately to the President and Vice President of Operations further action if necessary. EHA will not tolerate fighting. Any player assessed a fighting major penalty (first occurrence) during the current season is suspended from league play for a determined set of scheduled games per USAHockey and CHC rules. Any player assessed a second major penalty (second occurrence) shall be suspended according to USA Hockey /CHC rules. After the 2nd occurrence EHA Disciplinary Committee will conduct a hearing within 14 days to impose supplemental discipline as necessary. Any disciplinary hearing shall follow the disciplinary procedures of USA Hockey, CHC or other league affiliations.

**Bench Minor-Ejection:** In the event a coach receives a "bench minor penalty-ejection" under the rules of the USA Hockey Official Playing Rules, the coach must serve a one game suspension. The coach shall notify his Division Director within twenty-four (24) hours. Failure to report an incident shall be grounds for disciplinary action. Repeated offenses can lead to a disciplinary committee hearing.

**Additional Information:** Under USA Hockey Rules "In addition to the suspensions imposed under these rules", by USA Hockey, "Any incident that occurs prior to, during, or after a game is subject to review regardless of whether the action was penalized by the referee". This incident will be assessed by the EHA Disciplinary Committee for further review that may result in an addition suspended period.

It is the coaches' responsibility to maintain discipline on their teams and to adhere to the EHA rules and guidelines. Severe or repeated infractions shall result in a hearing before the Disciplinary Committee. If after such a review the infractions continue or are still unresolved, the coach(s) may be removed from the team.

**Parent/Spectator Ejection:** A game will be stopped by on-ice officials when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate or disruptive behavior interfere with other parents/spectators or the game. The on-ice officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the parents'/spectators' viewing and game area and providing the identity and affiliation of the subject parent/spectator. Once removed, play will resume. Lost ice time will not be replaced. As a result, a game may have to be shortened or move to running time. If a parent/guardian is ejected, the head coach is to notify the Board of Directors immediately after the game. The Board will conduct an investigation and speak to those involved. Repeated incidents can lead to a disciplinary committee hearing.

**Removing Players-Coaches-Parents-Families from EHA:** Any violation of USA Hockey, Connecticut Hockey Conference (CHC), and Greater Springfield Hockey league (GSHL), Other League Affiliates, Enfield Hockey Association policies, and not limited to Safe Sport, Code of Conduct or legal allegations will be reviewed by the EHA Disciplinary Committee.

The Disciplinary Committee (President, VP Operations, VP Player/Coach Development, Referee Director, and respective Division Director) will convene no less than thirty days when any violations described above has been brought to their attention. The Disciplinary Committee will submit their findings to the EHA Executive Board for review and recommendation with no further action by the full board membership.

**EHA Coach & Student Coach Policy:** No parent(s), guardian(s), family member(s) or other party (ies) will be permitted to participate on the ice. Only certified EHA Coaches and approved student coaches will provide on-ice instructions.

## **LOCKER ROOM POLICY**

**Locker Room Supervision:** It is the policy of USA Hockey that all USA Hockey Member Programs have at least one responsible screened adult present monitoring the locker room during all team events to assure that only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room and to supervise the conduct in the locker room. Acceptable locker room monitoring could include having locker room monitors in the locker room while participants are in the locker room or could include having a locker room monitor in the immediate vicinity (near the door) outside the locker room that also regularly and frequently enters the locker room to monitor activity inside. If the monitor(s) are inside, then it is strongly recommended that there be two monitors, both of which have been screened. A local program or team may impose or follow stricter monitoring requirements. Any individual meetings between a minor participant and a coach or other adult in a locker room shall require that a second responsible adult is present. Further, responsible adults must also secure the locker room appropriately during times when minor participants are on the ice.

It shall be permissible for a team to prohibit parents from a locker room. However, in doing so the team shall be required to have properly screened adults monitoring and supervising the locker room as required above. With younger players, it is generally appropriate to allow parents to assist the player with getting equipment on and off

before and after games or practices and they should be allowed in the locker room to do so.

The use of a mobile device's recording capabilities in the locker rooms is not permitted at any USA Hockey sanctioned event. It may be acceptable to take photographs or recordings in a locker room in such unique circumstances as a victory celebration, team party, etc., where all persons in the locker room are appropriately dressed and have been advised that photographs or recordings are being taken.

A sample locker room policy form may be found at [www.usahockey.com/safesport](http://www.usahockey.com/safesport). For each team, the coach and/or team administrators shall be responsible for compliance with the locker room supervision requirements of this Policy. A coach and/or team administrator that fails to take appropriate steps to ensure the Locker Room Policy is adhered to, and any USA Hockey participant or parent of a participant who otherwise violates this Policy is subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

**Co-Ed Locker Rooms:** If the team consists of both male and female players, both female and male privacy rights must be given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. It is not acceptable under USA Hockey's Sexual Abuse Policy for persons to be observing the opposite gender while they dress or undress. There are a variety of ways to comply with the above tenets, and what works may depend on the locker rooms that are available at a particular facility. Where possible, the male and female players should undress/dress in separate locker-rooms and then convene in a single dressing room prior to the game or team meeting. Once the game is finished, the players may come to one locker room and then the male and female players proceed to their separate dressing rooms to undress and shower (separately), if available. If separate locker rooms are not available, then the genders may take turns using the locker room to change and then leave while the other gender changes. Where possible, when both male and female players are together in the locker room, there should be at least two adults in the locker room that have been properly screened in compliance with USA Hockey Screening Policy.

The USA Hockey SafeSport website ([www.usahockey.com/safesport](http://www.usahockey.com/safesport)) contains sample approaches that may be used by a local program depending on the facilities available at a particular arena. Additionally, reference USA Hockey's Co-Ed Locker Room Policy set forth in the USA Hockey Annual Guide, which also addresses gender equity and the need to provide equal exposure to coaching and instruction as it may be impacted by a program's Co-Ed Locker Room Policy.

**Concussion/Injury Protocol:** (<https://www.usahockey.com/safety-concussions>) In the event a skater receives an upper body contact injury (head contact, neck/back injury), a coach should take the following steps:

1. Remove athlete from play
2. Do not try to judge the seriousness of the injury yourself. Inform athlete's parents or guardians about the known or possible concussion
3. Allow athlete to return to play **only** with permission from an appropriate health care professional.

## **Travel Team Tryout Policies and Procedures**

**Tryout Defined:** A tryout is defined by the selection of players made in a fair and impartial process. The Enfield Hockey Association (EHA) has implemented the below policies and procedures that govern our travel team tryouts, as applicable. The goal of the tryout is to be run in a challenging and upbeat manner to bring out the best in all those trying out for an EHA travel team.

Tryouts will be used as a process to select travel teams Mites through Midget Divisions (where applicable). All players who would like to play for an EHA Travel Team, where applicable, will go thru a designated tryout process to evaluate a complete set of hockey acumen. The following criteria will be evaluated by the committee:

- a. Skating (Balance, Mobility and Quickness/Speed)
- b. Puck Skills (Stickhandling, Passing, Receiving)
- c. Shooting (Form, Accuracy, Velocity)
- d. Competitiveness (Work Ethic, Intensity, Consistency)
- e. Game Awareness (Anticipation, Offensive Awareness, Defensive Awareness)
- e. Goaltending Skills

All players wanting to be selected for an EHA Travel Team are encouraged to attend all assigned sessions. If you cannot make a tryout session, it will be a missed opportunity to be evaluated by the tryout committee.

- a. The tryout format established by the tryout committee will consist of the following:
  - Skills
  - Scrimmage/Game Play
- b. The on-ice staff running the tryout will consist of:



- Impartial designee
- Current, approved and certified EHA

coaches **Evaluation Forms:**

1. Evaluation forms will be collected from the evaluators after each tryout session and held by the current President of EHA (or the highest-ranking official on the Board).
2. Evaluation forms will need to be completed entirely by the evaluator by the end of that tryout session.
3. Evaluation forms will be held by the current EHA President (or the highest-ranking official on the Board) for one year after the selection of teams and then destroyed.

Evaluators:

1. The tryout committee will select the tryout evaluators from a list of the following areas:
  - a. Certified Coaches
  - b. Impartial board member(s) or designee(s) with an in-depth knowledge of hockey
2. No evaluator can evaluate a division tryout in which he/she has relative(s) participating in that tryout. A relative is defined as a son, daughter, niece, nephew, cousin, grandchild or stepchild.
3. The evaluators will consist of a minimum of three and maximum of a five-person committee evaluating per session. Evaluators are recommended to attend all three sessions. If an evaluator cannot commit to this, the tryout committee will then replace that evaluator with another that meets the requirements of the above list.
4. The selection of players will take place in a closed conference room. The only people allowed in the selection room will be the
  - a. Evaluators of that division
  - b. VP of Player Development
  - c. VP of Operations
  - d. Current President of EHA
5. The President, VP of Operation, and/or VP of Player Development will facilitate the selection process. The President, VP of Operations, and VP Player Development will determine the team split based on the evaluation scores.

6. After all tryout sessions have been completed and the selection committee has made their selections team rosters will be posted for each team on the EHA website within seventy-two (72) hours after the last tryout session. Each team will list the roster of players, and the name of the head coach. Assistant coaches will be selected at a later date.

7. At the time of the selection process, a player(s) may be denoted as a practice player(s) at the Mite, squirt and PeeWee level. This player(s) will be placed on the lower team and the head coach will need to contact the player(s) within twenty-four (24) hours after the last tryout session to discuss the situation. A practice player(s) will only be charged for half the amount of a full year. Prior to 12/31 of that year, the player(s) will be re-evaluated to determine if then the player(s) can move to a full-time player(s).

8. The composition of a full team will consist of a maximum of 20 players, in which not more than 18 are skaters, shall be permitted to play in the game. The minimum amount will consist of ten (10) skaters and one (1) goalie. An EHA Board of Directors vote will be required if the minimum amount is not met to determine the future of the team.

**Enfield Hockey Association Grievance Policy:** Please observe the EHA twenty-four (24) hour policy before taking immediate action, unless you are reporting an injury or safe sport matter. See below. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Step 1- The Parent(s) schedule a meeting with a member of the Coaching Staff and Head Coach. Decision made. If not go to Step 2

Step 2- If unsatisfied, the Parent(s) should contact the Division Director

Step 3-The Level Director will arrange a meeting with the Parent(s), Manager and Coach. Decision made. If not go to Step 4

Step 4- If unsatisfied, the Parent(s) should contact the President, VP Operations and VP Player Coach/Player Development. They will address at its next regularly scheduled Board of Director meeting. The Parent(s) may attend the meeting, if desired, to present their case in Open Communication Format. Decision made.

Revisions:

Travel Team Rules

5/9/1999-Stephen Sullivan, 9/9/1999- Board of Director3/4/2003-Board of Directors added revisions and spelling corrections

5/4/2004-Michael Silva-formatting clean up,

6/7/2011-Board of Directors added amendments, 11/19/2015-Valerie Breda added revision, 12/8/2015-Valerie Breda added 12/7/15 Amendment,

1/3/2016 Board of Directors eliminated and updated details and board position titles, added payment policy, On-Ice volunteer policy, USA Hockey Locker room policy, CHC Behavioral

12/12/2017-Ed Poremba added fighting policy, removed board position, and added revised payment policy, spelling errors.

9/20/18- Ed Poremba revised 2A General Rules removed VP Operations and inserted VP Finance, Revised 2C-and inserted new board policy adopted on June 6, 2018

11/1/22-Ken Labak—Overall revisions and freshening of content, concussion

protocol Travel Team Tryout Policies and Procedures

- Board of Directors Approved 1/5/17
- Amended by the Tryout Committee 2/23/18
- Amended by Ken Labak 12/2/22

Enfield Hockey Association Grievance Policy

- Adopted by the board- July 13, 2017
- Amended by Ken Labak 12/2/22

1/9/2026-Ken Labak—revised the Dual Rostering language to meet that of what was approved by the Board of Directors on 1/8/2026.

2/6/26-Ken Labak—added approved language for a Transportation Policy that was approved by the Board of Directors on 2/5/26.