

TWIN BRIDGES LIGHTNING AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Granite City Amateur Hockey Association, hereinafter referred to as Twin Bridges Lightning (TBL), is a not-for-profit, IRS 501 3-c Corporation, registered in the State of Illinois. The Association was established to foster good sportsmanship and fair play in individual as well as team competition and endeavors to provide a fair share of ice time for all players in the program. TBL does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, creed, or ethnic origin. Teams organized and which play for TBL are known as the Twin Bridges Lightning. Locally TBL is a member of the Missouri Amateur Ice Hockey Association – Youth Division (MAIHA –YD) and USA Hockey. At times where TBL rules are in conflict with MAIHA – YD and USA Hockey, those organizations' rules shall prevail.

1) PLAYERS RULES OF CONDUCT

- a) **RESPECT:** All players are encouraged to show proper respect and good manners to their teammates, coaches, spectators, and opposing teams.
- b) **SPORTSMANSHIP:** Though ice hockey is a competitive and physical game, players must display good sportsmanship in all practices and games.
- c) **PRIDE:** In wearing the team colors and jersey, all players accept that their deeds and actions reflect upon their team and the association.
- d) **RESPONSIBILITY:** As a member of the team, the individual player should make every effort to attend all team activities, and share in their team's successes and failures.

Excessive major penalties, profanity, vulgarity, and conduct unbecoming the sport of hockey, malicious behavior or vandalism will not be tolerated. Players so involved may be suspended or expelled by the Board of Directors with no refund of their fees.

The MAIHA – YD requires each organization to be responsible for the behavior of its parents and children, on or away from the rink areas and organization premises. Those regulations not only allow sanctions to be imposed upon the organization, but also authorize the organization to discipline their own members.

2) PROPER CONDUCT FOR TBL PARENTS AND/OR SPECTATORS AT GAMES, PRACTICES, AND ALL CLUB AND/OR TEAM ACTIVITIES.

- a) No person shall behave in a manner which is offensive or objectionable to a reasonable person.
- b) No person shall be allowed to blow whistles or make sounds which can be mistaken for those of the game officials.
- c) No person shall use objectionable or offensive language or gestures.
- d) No person shall verbally or physically abuse a player, coach, or official on the ice during a game, after a game, in the locker room, in the parking lot, and at all team activities.
- e) The areas behind the goals and the player's benches are to be free of any spectators during games.
- f) No parent or spectators may set foot on the ice surface, under any circumstances, including injury to their own child during a game without the specific permission of one of the game officials.

- g) No parent or spectator is allowed on the bench or in the bench area unless they are a TBL approved and/or rostered coach.
- h) No parent or guardian is allowed in the locker room at any time unless authorized by the coach.
- i) No parent or other family member will address a TBL employee, coach, team manager, Director or any other TBL official in any insulting or degrading manner. This includes any communication that may happen over the phone, electronically or otherwise away from the ice rink.
- j) Any person who violates any of the above guidelines may be removed from the rink property and further disciplinary action may be taken by the TBL Board of Directors.

IF A REFEREE DETERMINES THAT AS PER USA HOCKEY RULES ANY SPECTATOR CONDUCT IS INAPPROPRIATE, AND IF THEY CAN REASONABLY DETERMINE THE RESPONSIBLE TEAM, THEY SHALL:

- 1) Issue a warning to the responsible team.
- 2) If the conduct continues, assess a bench minor against the responsible team.
- 3) If the conduct continues, order the responsible team to remove the spectator.
- 4) If the conduct continues, order the players off the ice and declare a forfeit against the responsible team.
- 5) Offenders shall be reported to the TBL Board of Directors and/or MAIHA – YD Executive Board and will be subject to disciplinary action. Any incident requiring the removal of a spectator or forfeiture of a game shall be reported by the officials on an Incident Report and forwarded to the MAIHA – YD Rules and Disciplinary Committee for action. The MAIHA – YD Rules and Disciplinary Committee may assess a two-point penalty in the standings against a team for failure to perform its duties under these rules.

3) PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

In the Greater St. Louis Metropolitan area, as covered by the MAIHA – YD rules, players are assigned to various associations, such as TBL, based on their geographic place of residence. These rules are covered under the DISTRICTED TEAMS section of the MAIHA – YD rules. Parents and the Registrar of the TBL shall make every effort to ensure that a player is registered with his/her appropriate association.

- a) Failure to pay in full will result in suspension of the player from all TBL activities. See VII Participation, Article F (Fee Schedule).
- b) A player's age by calendar year determines in which age category they are eligible during the entire season.
- c) False information on registration regarding players age, date of birth, or residence shall result in suspension.
- d) A copy of each player's birth certificate must be on file with their respective team manager and be available for inspection within 72 hours of a request being made.
- e) Players may only participate at the level that their age dictates. The only exception as determined by the discretion of the TBL Board of Directors.
- f) No player may play for a team that they are not properly rostered on (USA Hockey Roster

Form) during the MAIHA –YD League Season, as well as any; tournaments, exhibition, or practice games. No player can play on a travel team and rec team simultaneously.

- g) A player and their family shall be considered a member of TBL by completing and signing all required forms, paying all fees, and participation in all TBL activities.
- h) Those players with a physical or mental infirmity, which by its nature could allow for them to be seriously injured, or injure someone, in the course of participation in ice hockey, may be excluded or their participation restricted as approved by the Board of Directors.
- i) If injury/health forces a player to sit out for a prolonged period of time (4 or more weeks) and this is documented by a physician, a refund would be pro-rated according to lost ice time.
- j) Any player who is found damaging any property at an ice rink or locker room will be charged for the property damaged and will face disciplinary action by the TBL Board of Directors. Payment for damages, forfeitures of fees paid, suspension for the entire season and expulsion from TBL, are potential penalties at the discretion of the TBL Board of Directors.

TBL has no ownership or management rights to the local ice skating rink or surrounding facilities. TBL pays for the ice time at the local ice skating rink in a rental agreement as other associations do at other community rinks. TBL is, however, held responsible for damage to the facility not only by the members, but also for any damage incurred by visiting teams and parents.

CLAIMS AGAINST TBL FOR DAMAGES TO ANY FACILITY THAT THE ASSOCIATION RENTS:

Upon receipt of an incident report and/or bill for damages, the Board of Directors upon finding that the claims are in order shall:

- 1) Present said claim to the offending members of TBL for immediate payment.
- 2) At the discretion of the Board of Directors said claims may be paid by TBL immediately and then seek reimbursement from the offending party or parties forthwith or negotiate a payment schedule.
- 3) If a member or members involved refuse to pay or discontinue payments of said claims, that member shall be suspended from all participation in TBL activities until claims are paid in full.
- 4) If a visiting team or visitor is found responsible, every effort will be made to seek reimbursement of said claim.
- 5) Because of the serious nature of major damages to property, the TBL Board of Directors reserves the right to bar and if necessary, remove the offending party or parties from attending any and all TBL activities. This suspension could be in addition to the monetary claims listed above.

4) TEAM ASSIGNMENTS

- a) All players will be evaluated at the beginning of each session.
- b) All players will be assigned to the appropriate level of team, by virtue of age, skill level, and athletic determining factors as found in the evaluation process.
- c) No player will automatically be assigned to a team, by virtue of the fact that the player was on that league or recreational team in a prior season.
- d) Part time goalies will play in 20% of league games. Playing time for part-time goalies during tournaments and playoffs will be at the head coach's discretion. There will be no part time

goalies for 12U and older.

- e) Player evaluations will be conducted in a format presented by the Player Development Committee annually and approved by the Board prior to the start of evaluations.
- f) The Player Development Committee will hold the individual player scores and discussions concerning player assignments in strict confidence.
- g) Final Roster Cut-Off: Some players may be re-evaluated again by their coaches during the first weeks of game play. The deadline for the final roster movement is dictated by MAIHA – YD rules.
- h) All teams shall be selected in progressive order from the most skilled to the least skilled.
- i) Team Declarations, for the purpose of informing the MAIHA – YD of the associations' intent for the upcoming season. Administration of teams within the TBL shall be the responsibility of the President of the Board of Directors with consultation from the Coaching Directors and Division Commissioners in each division.

5) **PLAYER MOVES TO DIFFERENT DIVISIONAL LEAGUE TEAMS WITHIN TBL**

- a) **6U:** Any player wishing to play in an older classification than they would normally qualify for based on birth year **MUST:**
 - 1) Parent makes request to the president for 6U player to move up to 8U
 - 2) Player must register with 6U prior to player evaluation
 - 3) 6U Coordinator and 6U player's coach shall evaluate the player's ability and recommend 8U practice in consultation with the hockey director or the board's designee.
 - 4) 6U player attends an 8U practice as a white level player.
 - 5) 8U Coordinator and white team coaches will evaluate player ability for the following criteria:
 - Player must practice and play at the white level in a way that provides value and impact immediately
 - Player must show maturity and hockey sense that meets 8U white level players
 - 6) 8U coordinator and 8U white level coaches make recommendations regarding player movement in consultation with the hockey director and/or board designee
 - 7) The Player Development Committee and/or board approves player movement
- b) **8U-14U:** Any player wishing to play in an older classification than they would normally qualify for based on birth year **MUST:**
 - 1) Submit in writing, to the Board of Directors, a request to move to the older age division at least 30 days prior to the start of evaluations.
 - 2) The written request will include why the player wishes to move up. The player's parents may be requested to attend a Board of Directors meeting to answer questions concerning the player's movement.
 - 3) Player attends both the regular divisional evaluations and those held by the higher division.
 - 4) Be selected to the top team in their regular division. For Goalies they must be on the top team in their division. If a AA team is not fielded in their regular division, players scoring in the top five in their regular division will be allowed to play on the top team of the higher division if they are evaluated in the top six forwards or top four defenseman.

For the duration of the Central States pod system, the St. Louis Sting will be our AA team.

- 5) In the event of a goalie shortage, movement may occur at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- c) 16U-18U: Teams will be evaluated and selected by the head coach with the assistance of the hockey director and subject to final approval by the Board of Directors.
- d) All player movements are at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- e) If the move is denied, and the player refuses to play, no refund will be given.

6) PLAYER MOVES WITHIN DIVISIONAL TEAMS WITH TBL BY PARENTAL REQUEST

Once a player has been selected to a team, transfers to other ~~league or recreational~~ teams in the division will only be considered under the following conditions:

- 1) A transfer player cannot replace a player on the other team. Any approved transfer player will be added to that team's roster.
- 2) The player must be capable of playing on the transfer team.
- 3) Both head coaches will be consulted on the transfer request.
- 4) Parents must submit in writing to the Board of Directors, a request to transfer to the other team in a timely manner.
- 5) The written request must include the reasons why the player wishes to transfer.
- 6) The Player's parents may request to attend a Board of Directors meeting and answer questions concerning their transfer request.
- 7) All transfers are at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- 8) If a transfer is denied and the player refuses to play, no refunds will be given.

7) PLAYER MOVES AS SUBJECT TO MAIHA – YD RULES

- a) Within an Organization at the same age level: During the first few weeks of League Play, when it may be difficult for coaches to determine in which Division to place individual players, and how to best balance teams entered in the same age level, team rosters will not be fixed. However, during this trial period, a free shuttle of players between teams might conceivably be used by an unscrupulous coach to produce an unfairly good early record for certain of his teams by the unrestricted use of his best players.

Consequently:

- 1) Through December 31st, a player may be moved to a different team, but once a player has participated in a league game, the player will not be allowed to switch teams without first having been rostered on the same team for at least three consecutive league games.

Likewise, the player having been rostered on the same team for three consecutive league games must similarly precede any later switch. No player may play for a team on which he is not rostered and no player may be rostered with more than on team at the same time.

- 2) From January 1st to the end of the season (End of the MAIHA – YD Program play-offs

or while participating in the USA Hockey Regional or National Tournaments), all team rosters will be fixed.

- b) Within an Organization at different age levels:
 - 1) A player may not play on a team in an age level lower than the one for which he normally qualifies, without the written approval of MO Hockey - YD.
 - 2) If a player plays with a team of an older classification for one league game in a given season, he shall be ineligible to participate in league games with a team of a lower age classification.
- c) All transfers are at the discretion of the hockey director and/or board designee.

8) PARTICIPATION

- a) Teams will have equal ice time for all members or the team as is reasonably possible. (Playoffs follow Non AA Travel section)
- b) 16U/18U or CSDHL – Win, play players as you see fit as the coach
- c) All other TBL teams objective is to skate all players equally over the course of the season. Exceptions are the last five (5) minutes of a game when the score is within three (3) goals, or when a coach may use a set power play and/or penalty killing line again if the score is within three (3) goals.
- d) Any team representing the organization (registering under the name of, wearing jerseys, etc.) in non-league sanctioned games (tournaments, friendly weekends, friendship games, etc.) after the Missouri Hockey Youth Division season ends are required to complete and submit an online Tournament Form for approval by the Coaching Director, President, or Hockey Director prior to participating. (Adopted: March 14, 2017). Teams will wear board approved TBL uniforms.
- e) **TEAM RULES:** At the beginning of the season, every team should make available to all players and their families a copy of the team rules. A coach does not have the singular authority to suspend indefinitely or permanently a player from the team.
- f) **DISCIPLINE:** Coaches may discipline players for excessive missing of practices or for conduct detrimental to the team. Penalties may include reducing a player's ice time during games. Furthermore, a player's participation in team activities can be limited in the short term to discourage rule violations. If this action is taken (more than 1 period of a game or removal of a player for a practice or team function), the coach shall communicate his justifications for the disciplinary action to either the parent and/or the player as the circumstances dictate. A notification must also be sent to both the Coaching Director and Division Commissioner, outlining the short term disciplinary action, reason for the action and document notification to the parent and/or player.

9) REGISTRATION

- 1) Registration is to be conducted via the online registration.
- 2) At registration, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, certain fees must be paid. These fees, as set by the Board of Directors, may include, but not limited to: Jersey fee, USA Hockey Membership Fee and Insurance Fee. Payment will be accepted by personal check, cashier's check, money order, or VISA and MasterCard. If a family has developed a history of returned checks with TBL, the Treasurer reserves the right to stipulate payment only by cashier's check or money order and/or the board may issue discipline up to and including MO Hockey's "No Pay, No Play" policy.
- 3) No player's registration is complete, nor can a player participate in any TBL activities without all forms, participation requirements and applicable fees being paid. Receipt of

forms and fees at registration cannot be construed as a guaranteed or binding acceptance or admission to a team, or membership in TBL.

- 4) A special category of "LEARN TO PLAY" is available. The Board of Directors will approve those participants' age and skill level eligibility. The Board of Directors will also set fee structure, equipment requirements and ice time. A "LEARN TO PLAY" participant shall be considered a member of a playing team. Thus, those participants and their families shall be considered as part of TBL, "LEARN TO PLAY" members DO NOT however have voting rights at the annual meetings.
 - 5) If it is found at any time, that a player is improperly registered with TBL, the Registrar will notify the parent or guardian and the player's membership will be terminated. Pro-rated ice time and fees may be refunded. Other fees may not be refunded.
- g) **FEE SCHEDULE:** All applicable fees (as stipulated above) must be paid by the deadlines set forth by the Board of Directors. Invoices will be handed out at registration and payment due on or before the above stated date of September 1. If registering by mail, send payment based on whether your child will be playing travel or recreational. If after evaluations are over, and your child makes a different team than expected, an invoice or credit will be issued and payment, if due, will become due immediately. If a credit is due, a check will be issued to refund any paid fees. Arrangements for hardship cases may be made with the Treasurer for a payment plan if full payment cannot be made. In some situations, grants, fee waivers, or gifts may be solicited on behalf of the hardship player. The Board of Directors must approve any hardship case or payment plan. If a payment plan is instituted, all fees must be paid in full before December 15 of the playing year. Failure to pay in full or arrangement of a payment schedule will result in suspension of the player from all TBL activities. Non-payment of fees will be carried forward into subsequent seasons and must be paid in full prior to being allowed to register. Those players who do not fulfill their fee obligations may find their names forwarded to MAIHA – YD for exclusion from other association's activities. Any returned checks will carry a \$25.00 returned check fee.
- h) **VOLUNTEER SUPPORT:** Our organization operates primarily on a volunteer basis. It relies on its members to keep it running smoothly, to keep our programs affordable, and to continue to provide better opportunities for our children. For these reasons, we encourage each family to provide 5 hours of service to the club every season. Each season, the board of directors will provide opportunities for the membership to participate in and will also consider any other activity submitted to them for approval.
- i) **TEAM SUPPORT:** In operating and providing for individual team activities, the coaching staff, team representatives, and parents may choose to collect funds for the benefit of their team. In most cases, the funds collected should be equally assessed. The team funds will be under the direction of the Team Representatives. All funds should be used/disbursed in that playing season. Team fundraising activities involving general, raffles, bake sales, car washes, etc., should involve all members. No team fundraising activity shall conflict with fund raising activities operated by the TBL organization in general. Parents and guardians should be aware that supporting their team's fund raising activities does not release them from support of association's activities.
- j) **FUNDRAISING SUPPORT:** It is recognized that the cost of operating the association's activities exceed those fees as collected through membership. Consequently, participation in fundraising events such as raffles, ad book sales, etc. is an obligation of all family members. The Board of Directors encourages everyone's support, to be fair to all members, family members may be assessed a minimum dollar amount to collect via the fund raising activities. In the event that the family does not actively participate, that minimum assessment will be collected via invoice and payable within 15 days of receipt. Failure to make the payment will cause those charges to be included in the subsequent year's registration fees.

- Families may not participate in TBL fundraisers unless they are a current member of TBL or a TBL affiliate. Families who moved up from TBL to a non-affiliated AA or AAA hockey club may participate in TBL fundraisers with prior approval from the Board of Directors.

10) COACHES FOR TBL

- All coaches at all levels of play will be required to participate in the USA Hockey Coaching Achievement Clinics as conducted in the St. Louis area based on the requirements that have been established by Missouri Hockey.
- All coaches shall be current with USA Hockey Standards for Coaches.
- All coaches will be approved by the TBL Board of Directors.
- All returning head coaches and returning assistant coaches will be afforded the opportunity to apply for head coach positions for the upcoming season. The application, as well as, those applications from other interested individuals shall be forwarded to the President of the Board of Directors.
- The President of the Board of Directors, along with the Coaching Directors and Division Commissioner, shall develop a timely and orderly process for collection and review of coaching applications. Those compiled applications shall be distributed along with other applicable information to the Board of Directors as part of the head coaching selection process. All coaches must be approved in advance by the Board of Directors.
- Head coaches will select their assistants subject to approval of the TBL Board of Directors.
- All coaching equipment, such as medical kits, pucks, and whiteboards, may be provided by the club. Additional equipment may be provided with approval from the Board of Directors.
- Coaches listed on the official team roster, may be compensated up to the fee assessed for the division if that coach has no child registered on the team that is being coached.
- Coach's reimbursement for travel, lodging, and dining are only as follows – receipts must be provided and subject to the approval of the board.
- Head Coaches that do not have a child or other family member on the team they are coaching, but has a child on another team - will have their children's ice fees reimbursed up to the level the coach is coaching. Stipends will be as follows: head coach \$2,500, assistant coach \$1,500.
- Head Coaches that do not have a child or other family member in the organization - The TBL Board of Directors will annually review Non-Parent Coaching Compensation.

11) TEAM MANAGERS FOR TBL

- All teams are expected to have a team manager. The team manager will be selected from one of the parents of the players rostered on that team. Subject to board approval
- If no one volunteers to be a team manager, the head coach will appoint a parent and/or family to serve in this position. Subject to board approval.
- The team manager is responsible for the following:
 - Assisting the coach in scheduling games and practices.
 - Securing game officials (referees) from approved referee list for practice, exhibition, and rescheduled league games.
 - Securing minor game officials (score and timekeeper) which will be parents from the team's roster.

- 4) Collecting money from players/parents from fund-raisers.
- 5) Their team members and parents are following rules ensuring proper conduct.
- 6) Contacting the Division Commissioner (if appointed) on all team matters.
- 7) Coordinating team travel to other cities for games and tournaments.
- 8) Handling ice rink damages that may occur and report any such damage to the Board of Directors.
- 9) Communicating TBL policies to the coaches and parents.
- 10) Appoint or act as team reporter for the news releases.
- 11) Assisting the head coach and staff with any paperwork necessary to the team's organization.
- 12) Reconciling the team account at the end of each season and ensuring reimbursement of any remaining funds to members.

12) DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- a) The Board of Directors will handle all infractions involving disciplinary action throughout our organization for players, coaches, and parents.
- b) Disciplinary action would include actions to suspend a player, coach, or parent from attending any TBL game, practice, organization activities, or team event for conduct detrimental to TBL hockey or any violation of TBL and/or MAIHA-YD and/or USA Hockey Rules and Regulations.
- c) Any player, parent, or coach may be suspended for their own conduct and for the continual violations of a related individual or failure of a related individual to abide by a disciplinary action.
 - 1) There shall be NO appeals of suspensions of non-players for three (3) games or less.
 - 2) No player shall be suspended for more than three (3) games without being afforded a hearing or waiving the opportunity to have a hearing.
- d) Appeals to decisions by the TBL Board of Directors begin by:
 - 1) Filing a written appeal that contains all pertinent details of the case to the President of the TBL Board of Directors.
 - 2) The appeal must be filed within seven (7) days of the date of the decision being rendered.
 - 3) The TBL Board of Directors has the right to consider a written appeal. There will not be an oral hearing on any such appeal.
 - 4) If any further appeal is required, an appeal can be made to MAIHA-YD Rules and Disciplinary Committee through the TBL Organization Representative to MAIHA-YD.
 - 5) Any person who is aware of a violation of the TBL by-laws and/or TBL Rules and Regulations should report that violation to the President of TBL.

13) PROTECTED OR RESERVED PROPERTIES

- a) All general membership mailing lists, rosters, and personal member information and statistics are locally reserved. The Board of Directors, its President, Registrar, or Treasurer may deem release of reserved information as found to benefit the operations of the association.
- b) Equipment and supplies purchased by the association shall remain the property of the TBL

unless disposed of by the authority of the Board of Directors, the President, Treasurer, or (as appointed) Equipment Manager.

- c) The person who is in possession of said items must maintain equipment and supplies that are loaned to players or teams. TBL will not be held responsible for any claims of personal injury or damage involving the use or misuse of loaned equipment and supplies. The loaned equipment and supplies are offered by TBL in good faith and for the benefit of our teams. By accepting loaned equipment and supplies, the user assumes all liabilities.
- d) Authorized possession of loaned equipment and supplies shall not exceed the normal playing season. Equipment and supplies must be returned in a timely manner for repair, restocking, or redistribution.
- e) A deposit fee may be assessed for the privilege of using loaner equipment and supplies. Should the loaned items be returned in good condition, the deposit will be returned. Those items lost or damaged while in the possession of the user shall be replaced with items of like quality or payment to TBL for its replacement.

14) LOCKER ROOM POLICY

TBL is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all of our members both on and off the ice. As part of this commitment, TBL has compiled a list of activities that are deemed detrimental to both TBL and its respective teams. Any detrimental conduct occurring in the locker rooms, in or around the rink, face to face or via verbal and/or written communications between player/player, player/coach, player/parent or coach/parent will be reported immediately to the respective Rules & Discipline (R&D) Committee Representative. This report must be completed and submitted in writing on the R&D Complaint form that is available on our web site, from your team manager or directly from the R&D Committee. The R&D Committee will investigate all complaints submitted to them, and present their findings to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will then make a ruling based on the findings of the R&D Committee. These rulings can result in player, coach and/or parent disciplinary actions including but not limited to:

- 1) Short term suspension from the team (for player and/or coaches)
- 2) Long term suspensions from the team (for players and coaches)
- 3) Removal from the team for the remainder of the season (for players and coaches)
- 4) Termination from the membership of TBL (for players and coaches)
- 5) Short term suspension from USA Hockey Events (parents)
- 6) Long term suspension from USA Hockey Events (parents)

Detrimental Activities include but are not limited to:

- 1) Verbal harassment
- 2) Physical harassment
- 3) "Locker Boxing"
- 4) Inappropriate conduct as determined by the board of directors.
- 5) Failure to follow the below policy on mixed gender locker rooms

Findings and or disciplinary actions by the R&D Committee can be appealed to the board of directors following the process outlined in 11) DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS as listed above.

15) MIXED GENDER POLICY

TBL follows USA Hockey and MO Hockey guidelines. It is not acceptable under USA Hockey/Missouri Hockey By-Laws – Policies on Physical and Sexual Abuse – for members to be observing the opposite gender while they dress/undress.

To provide an enjoyable and safe experience for all players, please make certain that proper adult supervision is present in locker room settings at all times, including the provision for having more than one adult supervisor present in the locker room, and arrange to provide supervisors who are of the same sex as the children they are to protect. ('In the locker room' means being inside the locker room and/or standing right outside the door, not at the concession stand or somewhere nearby in the lobby area).

Please follow these Coaching Ethics Guidelines:

- a) Where possible, have the male and female players undress/dress in separate locker rooms; then convene in a single dressing room to hold the coach's pre-game meeting.
- b) 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.
- c) In cases where separate facilities are not available, have one gender enter the locker room and change into their uniforms, that gender would then leave the locker room, while the other gender enters the locker room and gets dressed. Both genders would then assemble in the locker room and hold the coach's pre-game meeting.
- d) Following the game and the coach's post game meeting, where separate facilities are not available, the second gender group enters the locker room and undresses/showers, while the first group waits outside until they have undressed/shower and left the room. Once the second group leaves, the first group enters the locker room and undresses/showers.

This should be done on a rotating basis (taking turns) so neither gender is always "last" to dress/undress and shower. Taking turns is a means of 'reasonable accommodation' so neither gender group is favored.

- e) Have a minimum attire policy of sharing one locker room. All players should be required to arrive at the rink wearing their base layers or shorts and t-shirts under their street clothes. All members of the team must have the minimum attire before entering a co-ed locker room so that no player of one gender has the opportunity to see players of the opposite gender in a state of dress/undress.

Reinforce to all players, coaches, officials, volunteers and parents at the beginning of each season at your organization's parent's meetings that your organization takes this issue seriously and has adopted a fair and equitable Co-Ed Locker Room Policy.