

Elk River Youth Hockey Association

Policies and Procedures Handbook

Revised: October 2025

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Letter from the ERYHA President	5
Mission Statement	6
Affiliations	6
ERYHA Board of Directors	7
ERYHA Voting Board Members	7
Appointed Board Members	7
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting	8
Conflicts of Interest	8
Board of Directors Election Process	9
ERYHA Board Member Responsibilities	9
ERYHA Background Screening	9
ERYHA Enforcement Policy	10
ERYHA Registration & Move Up Policies	11
Late Registrations	11
Player Requested Move-Ups	11
Rostering Originated Move-Ups	12
Goaltender-specific Rostering Originated Move-Ups	13
ERYHA Refund Policy	13
ERYHA Residency Policy	14
ERYHA Fundraising Policy	14
ERYHA Volunteer Policy	15
ERYHA Ice Scheduling Procedures	17
ERYHA Team Policies	18
Age Participation Levels	18
MN Hockey Team Registration Rule	18

MN Hockey Player Registration Rule	18
Number of Players	18
Mood Altering Chemicals	18
Individual Team Checking Accounts	19
ERYHA Teams Participating in the State Tournament	19
ERYHA Coach Pay Reference	19
ERYHA Playing Standards	20
ERYHA Skater Playing Standards by Level	21
Mite & Girls U8 Level	21
Squirt & Girls U10 Level	21
PeeWee B/C, Bantam B2/C, and Girls U12B Level	21
PeeWee A/AA, Bantam B1, Girls U12A, and Girls U15B Level	22
Bantam A/AA, Junior Gold, and Girls U15A Level	22
ERYHA Goalie Playing Standards by Level	22
Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam B2/C, Girls U10, Girls U12, and Girls U15B Lev	el 22
Bantam A/AA/B1, Junior Gold, and Girls U15ALevel	22
ERYHA Awards	23
Minnesota Hockey Awards	23
ERYHA Sportsmanship Awards	23
Team Definitions	23
ERYHA Tournaments Policies	23
ERYHA Jersey Policy	25
Deer Hunting Opening Weekend	25
ERYHA Policy and Procedures Addendums	25
ERYHA Injury Credit Policy	25
ERYHA Abuse Policy	25
ERYHA Grievance Procedure	25

	ERYHA Tryout Policy	. 26
	ERYHA Parent Code of Conduct	. 26
	ERYHA Player Code of Conduct	. 26
	ERYHA Coaches Code of Conduct	.26
	ERYHA Locker Room Policy	.27
	ERYHA Photographic Devices Policy	. 27
	ERYHA Attendance Policy	. 27
E	RYHA Policy and Procedures Change History	.28

Letter from the ERYHA President



Welcome Parents and Players to the Elk River Youth Hockey Association!

The Elk River Youth Hockey Association (ERYHA) is comprised of dedicated and hard-working players, parents, coaches and volunteers. The ERYHA Board of Directors goal is to make the association the best it can be. Please feel free to contact any Board Member with your feedback regarding this handbook or any aspect of ERYHA. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome and will only improve our association.

On behalf of the ERYHA Board of Directors, we hope you and your family enjoy your hockey experience this season.

#GoElks #ElkPride

Mission Statement

ERYHA is a community-based program which provides growth and development of our players through the sport of hockey. ERYHA works to promote a competitive, fun, challenging and safe environment that improves players' skills while developing sportsmanship, teamwork, friendship, accountability, community bonds and self- confidence.

Affiliations

- The ERYHA is a member of District 10 of Minnesota Hockey and USA Hockey.
- We adhere to the D10, MN Hockey and USA Hockey rules on rink features, conduct, teams, equipment, penalties, officials, and playing rules.

ERYHA Board of Directors

Elected Board of Director positions are voting members with exception of the President who only votes in the event of a tie. All other Board Member positions are appointed.

ERYHA Voting Board Members

POSITION	NAME	ELECTED	TERM	ELECTION
PRESIDENT	RYAN EASON	2019	2 YEAR	2027
VICE PRESIDENT	MIKE POSSIN	2023	2 YEAR	2026
TREASURER	AMANDA TUKEY	2018	2 YEAR	2026
SECRETARY	KRISTIN MILLER	2024	2 YEAR	2026
REGISTRAR	FRANK MISKE	2024	2 YEAR	2026
BANTAM DIRECTOR	KURT REMICK	2022	2 YEAR	2026
PEEWEE DIRECTOR	JOSH JUNTUNEN	2024	2 YEAR	2026
GIRLS DIRECTOR	CHAD JANSEN	2021	2 YEAR	2027
SQUIRT DIRECTOR	ALYSSA BREU	2025	2 YEAR	2027
MITE DIRECTOR	JAKE KOEHLER	2025	2 YEAR	2027
FUNDRAISING	JENNIFER DAHLSEID	2023	2 YEAR	2027
COORDINATOR				

Appointed Board Members

POSITION	NAME	TERM BEGAN
GAMBLING MANAGER	DESIREE HILLMAN	2010
JUNIOR GOLD DIRECTOR	KRIS HELM	2015
TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR	CASSIE STONE	2023
ICE SCHEDULER	JESS MILLESS	2018
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	CHRIS RUSTAD	2021
ASST VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	MIKE MORRISON	2024
GOALIE COORDINATOR	MIKE GATZKE	2017
EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR	MICHELLE BRANDT	2021

ASST EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR	AMANDA STANLEY	2024
ROSTERING COORDINATOR	KELLEY KLEBS	2024
REFEREE COORDINATOR	MARLIN HANEY	2020
DRYLAND COORDINATOR	TERRY WOODWORTH	2025
LITTLE ELKS COORDINATOR	HEATHER PALUMBO	2018
TEAM MANAGER LEAD & GAMESHEET	LYNN BAUER	2023
COORDINATOR		
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER	MORGAN MOLITOR	2025

Board of Directors Monthly Meeting

- The ERYHA Board strives to meet monthly on the third Wednesday evening of each month and attendance is required.
- Meetings start at 7 p.m. (Monthly Gambling Meetings at 6:45 p.m.) unless noted otherwise, and membership is welcome to attend.
- Notice in writing to a Board member is encouraged for time on the agenda, however, open forum limited time will be provided.
- Please refer to website calendar for location and any changes in scheduling.

Conflicts of Interest

Any ERYHA Board member that may have a potential conflict of interest where
their actions or relationships present the potential for improper personal gain
or advantage, or will have an adverse effect on the interests of the ERYHA, shall
report such incidents to the ERYHA President for further review and
determination.

Board of Directors Election Process

- The ERYHA election ballot for all voting board members is to be finalized at the scheduled March ERYHA meeting by the close of the nominations.
- The nominations must be accepted via online submission through the website or in person by the March meeting annually.
- Once the ballot is finalized, there will be no write-in votes accepted by the ERYHA at the Annual Member Meeting in April.
- The finalized ballot will be posted on the website for view by all members.
- All board positions will be open to all ERYHA members, except for the Treasurer, which will require a vetting process for nomination acceptance.

ERYHA Board Member Responsibilities

• ERYHA Board Member Responsibilities can be found on ERYHA's website in the Policies area.

ERYHA Background Screening

- All personnel of ERYHA are subject to the screening standard adopted by USA Hockey. See the USA Hockey website for additional information as well as SafeSport Handbook for more detailed information.
- The intent of these rules is to reduce the risk of an ERYHA hockey player becoming the victim of sexual or physical abuse.
- SafeSport Training will be a registration requirement for every ERYHA volunteer for the season.
- SafeSport training is required for all parent(s)/guardian(s), board members, coaches, managers, event chairs & event assistants. The training is free of charge.

ERYHA Enforcement Policy

- As elected members of the Elk River Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors, we as a Board, will uphold and enforce all policies, procedures and guidelines that are contained in this manual.
- If a situation occurs, we will follow the appropriate procedures and take the necessary disciplinary actions abiding by the Elk River Youth Hockey Association Policy/Procedure Manual, and in accordance with the Minnesota Hockey Handbook.
- The membership has put faith in each of us, by electing us to hold a position on the Board. We have taken a vow to represent Elk River Youth Hockey Association in the best manner we possibly can. The best way is to follow the policies, procedures and guidelines that enable our Association to function.
- It is very imperative that every board member attends every regular board meeting scheduled. Stipend will be reduced if voting members do not attend at least 75% of the meetings and non-voting members do not attend at least 50% of the meetings. If the role is a co-coordinator role, only one (1) needs to attend to meet the guideline. Exceptions can be made at Board discretion.
- Commitment is a key word when elected by the membership and representing Elk River Youth Hockey Association. If you feel you are unable to fulfill your obligation as a director, you may submit a resignation to the board at the next regular scheduled board meeting.
- ERYHA Board of Directors meeting shall be run according to Robert's Rules of Order.
- ERYHA Reserves the right to make any approved changes to the handbook with notice given to the membership via the ERYHA website.

Investigations of Alleged Reports

 Our codes of conduct, along with District 10, Minnesota Hockey, and USA Hockey policies will be strictly adhered on a case-by-case basis.

ERYHA Registration & Move Up Policies

Late Registrations

- Registration done after the official end date on the ERYHA website will be subject to a \$100 late fee. Move-in players, Mites, U8, and Junior Gold are exempt from this fee.
- If a player attempts to register after High School tryouts are complete, they may be placed on a team if a roster spot is available. However, ERYHA will refuse to register a player who has quit a high school team after trying out and making the roster, except for a move-in player.
- The acceptance of a late registration is at the discretion of the Level Director.

Player Requested Move-Ups Eligibility

- Players can submit a request for a move up to the next age level.
- Move up requests will be approved by the ERYHA Board, based upon a number of factors including, but not limited to, the player's skill level, team rostering needs, MN Hockey rostering requirements, etc.
- Move-up requests are only allowed if there is a need identified by the Board due to numbers and/or team size. All other move up requests will not be allowed with the exception of grade-level move-ups.

- OR -

- Players in their final year at an age-level with birth dates between June 1st and August 31st can apply to move to the next age level to play with their same grade peers. This is referred to as a grade-level move-up.
- If approved to tryout at the next age level by the ERYHA Board, the player may tryout and play for any team at the next age level.

Request Procedures

 All players must initially register with ERYHA at their correct age-based Minnesota Hockey level

- All Players who have requested to move-up to the level above their natural age level must submit a Player Move-Up Request Form for the opportunity to participate in tryouts for the level above.
- All applications must be submitted online, prior to the conclusion of the registration period and should include a letter of recommendation from their previous year coach.
- The Board of Directors will be prompted to review the Player Move-Up
 Request and has final say on any and all player requested move-ups.

Rostering Originated Move-Ups

- Following the close of registration, each **Level Director** should be provided with a count of players at their age-level from the **Registrar**.
- Rostering move-ups are driven by the number of registered players in a given age level (Mite/U8, Squirt/U10, PeeWee/U12, Bantam/U15) and are originated by the Level Director in order to help finalize team rostering process for a given age-level once tryouts have taken place. The Level Director must signal the Board of Directors that a rostering move-up situation will be needed identifying the age-level and the number of open positions needing to be filled.
- The Level Director may seek to move players from a lower level to create a
 proper roster for the number of teams he/she intends to declare. The Level
 Director may also seek to originate a "co-op program" with another association
 in the area to bring in players to play with Elk River Youth Hockey.
- The final list of move-ups will be communicated both to the **Board of Directors** for the proper tryout planning to occur.
- The Level Director will work with the lower-age Level Director to extend moveup offer emails to families of final-year aged skaters of the lower level age group in order of oldest players first until the level director has received an email confirmation in the amount of the number of move-ups needed to fill the age level.
- A player/family will be given 24-hours to confirm/reject the move up offer before the **Level Director** can choose to extend the offer to another player down his/her list. This should be clearly communicated as part of the move-up offer.

- Players who confirm the move-up can participate in any level of the tryout process, however, once a player has signed off on the level move-up, he/she cannot move down to his/her natural age-level based on tryout results.
- The Board of Directors may make exceptions to this rule and will have discretion on final team placement.

Goaltender-specific Rostering Originated Move-Ups

- A goaltender-specific roster originated move-up will follow the same process as
 the standard rostering originated move-up focusing specifically on the goalie
 position and making sure every team has the required number of goaltenders
 per the age-level program cadences.
- Move ups to an age level that is higher than the player's natural age level will be based on the number of goalies available at each level of play.
- These move ups will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

ERYHA Refund Policy

Refunds will only be given to ERYHA members under the following conditions:

- When a letter that has been signed and dated by the member stating intent to leave the team and/or association permanently has been submitted, or;
- When the player has received formal notification that the player will not have a position on one of the ERYHA teams.
- If a player quits after teams are formed, fees will not be returned but additional payments for the season will be canceled, if the account is up to date.
- Refunds for players who elect to leave ERYHA to play for the high school program will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- The Board may, at their discretion, hold up to 50% of total fees for registration cancellations requested after the first day of tryouts.

If the player has not participated in **any** ERYHA activities for the season:

- Registration fees will be refunded in full for the season when the original checks have cleared minus \$200 fee.
- Fundraising fees will be refunded in full if the buyout option was used.
- The USA Hockey fee will NOT be refunded

If a player has participated in preseason skates and/or tryouts, but has not participated in any practices or games with their team (this includes players who have participated in tryouts, but for whom ERYHA does not have a team for them to play on):

- Registration fees will be refunded with the following conditions:
 - All ERYHA equipment has been returned to ERYHA in good condition.
 - Any outstanding negative balance to ERYHA will be subtracted.
 - A \$200 fee will be retained by ERYHA and subtracted from the refund.
- Fundraising responsibilities will remain the responsibility of the member.

ERYHA Residency Policy

ERYHA follows Minnesota Hockey's Residency Policy, specifically Article III, IV

ERYHA Fundraising Policy

Mandatory Fundraiser

ERYHA has one mandatory fundraiser, which helps to defray ice fees for the association. During the registration process, families have the option to buy out of this fundraiser.

Optional Fundraisers

- ERYHA may also offer optional fundraising opportunities for families to offset their ice-fees. Families have the option to buy out of this fundraiser.
- The mandatory and optional fundraisers may vary from year to year, pending the successes of the sales from the past and budget requirements.
- Fundraising options for the current season can be found on the Fundraising page of the website

ERYHA Volunteer Policy

ERYHA depends on the volunteerism of our members. It is critical that we all share in the commitment to the success of our association. The Elk River Youth Hockey Association requires each family to fulfill a certain number of volunteer hours each year as defined by the ERYHA Board of Directors. This volunteer requirement is necessary for the Association to function as well as to fulfill district and regional obligations. It is the ERYHA Board's responsibility to ensure that volunteer opportunities exist to enable each family to fulfill their obligation.

- The annual required volunteer hours requirement is per family and will be published on the Fee Summary document on the Registration page of the website.
- Half of these allotted hours MUST be completed at an ERYHA sponsored tournament and/or District 10 playoff tournament*.
- The remaining hours can be completed at tryouts, fundraising, SKATE banquet, etc. (see volunteer positions for a complete list and additional guidelines).
 *Hours allocation breakdown is subject to change based on ERYHA Board approval.
- Families that do not complete their entire 12-hour volunteer requirements for each season and do not pay the buyout prior to December 31 will be billed \$1,200 via ERYHA Invoice. Volunteer hours will not be prorated if the full amount is not complete. All account balances must be paid prior to registering for the following season.
- During the registration process, families will have the option to buy out of this volunteer requirement for a fee of \$600.
- Our online volunteer system 'Dibs' will allow you to sign up for and track your hours throughout the season.
- Please keep all of your volunteer hours under one "member" account in SportsEngine.
- It is the duty of each family to validate the accuracy of your family account information, hours pending and complete.

- If your family signed up for hours you need to cancel, you may do so via the
 'Dibs' tool based on the cancellation policy noted on each volunteer event.
 Without the required advance cancellation, you will be responsible for finding a
 replacement and notification to Volunteer Co-Coordinator(s). If you are a 'NO
 SHOW' for your shift you will be charged a \$50 fee (per shift as NO SHOW).
- If hours that are not posted on 'Dibs' are completed, please have the Level Director or Board Member approving of the hours notify the Volunteer Coordinator.
- Final approval of non-dibs items is at the discretion of the Volunteer Coordinator(s).

Please note: Due to the shortened season, families with only a Junior Gold player are exempt from the volunteer requirement. Volunteer hours will be posted and tracked via the ERYHA website on the volunteer page (Dibs).

The following positions will fulfill ALL required hours:

- o ERYHA Board Member
- Team Sponsor- Gold Level or above sponsorship or recognized ERYHA approved affiliation
- Rostered Head Coaches
- Rostered Assistant Coaches (max of three per team)
- o Team Manager (one per team)

Approved volunteer opportunities that will apply *towards* the volunteer requirement:

- Tryout volunteer*
- Tournament volunteer
- Fundraising volunteer (Raffle Distribution, Restaurant events)
- Open House and registration volunteer (if applicable)
- SKATE banquet volunteer
- Equipment volunteer
- Approved board member assistants

* Tryout Volunteer Guideline: The Parent/Guardian/Family Member of a skater/goalie is NOT allowed to volunteer for any session in the arena during their player's tryout time.

The following team-specific and other tasks that will NOT apply to the volunteer requirement:

- Non-tournament game scorebook recorder
- Non-tournament game penalty box operator
- Non-tournament game clock operator
- Locker room attendant (game and practice)
- Team photographer
- Team web administrator
- Banner
- Team year end party planning
- Team apparel orders and/or making
- Any other tasks not mentioned above
- Volunteer hours cannot be shared or transferred from one family to another
 without the ERYHA board approval. This request is to be brought to the
 attention of the board at a monthly board meeting. The goal of the volunteer
 policy is to distribute the workload among all the ERYHA families.

ERYHA Ice Scheduling Procedures

- View the ERYHA Ice Scheduling Procedures policy on the website for details.
- The ERYHA Board reserves the right to make changes to this policy in order to serve in the best interest of the entire association. This may be necessary due to the ice time assigned by the Furniture and Things Event Center and/or other local hockey arenas.

ERYHA Team Policies

Age Participation Levels

ERYHA follows MN Hockey's Handbook on levels of play; Youth Rules & Regulations, Article VII Levels of Play.

MN Hockey Team Registration Rule

As a member of Minnesota Hockey, ERYHA follows the team registration rules as found in section I (Team Registration) of Minnesota Hockey's YOUTH RULES AND REGULATIONS handbook. Visit https://www.minnesotahockey.org/handbook for the official rules.

MN Hockey Player Registration Rule

As a member of Minnesota Hockey, ERYHA follows the player registration rules as found in section II (Registration) of Minnesota Hockey's YOUTH RULES AND REGULATIONS handbook. Visit https://www.minnesotahockey.org/handbook for the official rules.

Number of Players

As a member of Minnesota Hockey, ERYHA follows the team composition rules as found in section VI (Team Composition) of Minnesota Hockey's YOUTH RULES AND REGULATIONS handbook. Visit https://www.minnesotahockey.org/handbook for the official rules.

Mood Altering Chemicals

The use of mood-altering chemicals, (i.e. alcohol, tobacco, E-cigarettes, controlled substances defined by law as drugs (including marijuana) is explicitly prohibited by Minnesota Hockey section XIV (MOOD-ALTERING CHEMICALS). Visit https://www.minnesotahockey.org/handbook for the official rules.

Individual Team Checking Accounts

- The only team that is allowed to maintain their own checking account is the-Bantam AA team, due to the VFW sponsorship. If the Bantam AA elect to do so, they must fill out Form #9808.
- If a direct sponsor donates towards a team, this money will go into the ERYHA general fund, and the ERYHA Treasurer will then give the team a check for that amount.
- When obtaining an individual checking account, Form #9808 states the criteria including:
 - o The team
 - o The bank
 - The account number
 - The name(s) on the signature card
 - The date opened
 - The date closed
 - Confirmation that a year-end statement was submitted to the parents
- Confirmation that a year-end statement was submitted to the travel director, with a copy of Form #9808.
- Form #9808 was designed to help keep team accountants honest and to keep ERYHA Board of Directors informed.

ERYHA Teams Participating in the State Tournament

Any team that is participating in the Minnesota State Tournament at their level will be invited to a Minnesota State Participant banquet. The banquet fee will be provided by ERYHA. The banquet will be held prior to the Minnesota State Tournament(s) and information will be sent accordingly.

ERYHA Coach Pay Reference

- ERYHA will pay non-parent head coaches according to the following pay structure:
 - Squirt and U10: \$5,000 base pay
 - PeeWee and U12: \$5,625 base pay

- o Bantam AA and U15A: \$6,250 base pay
- o Bantam B, Bantam C, and U15B: \$5,625
- o Junior Gold: \$5,000
- Non-parent assistant coaches (max. of 3 per team) will each receive \$2,500 for the season.
- Parent Head Coaches (Squirt/10U level and above) get paid \$1,000 and \$500 for parent assistant coaches (max of 3) with no hotel reimbursement, which is payable once per season regardless of how many teams they help on. If two parents co-coach a team, the total paid is \$1,000 so they would split, and each get \$500. An exception to this rule is if a parent head coach coaches the top Bantam or Girls team (ex: BAA or U15A), they will be compensated \$2,000
 - *A maximum of two hotel rooms for two nights will be reimbursed for nonparent coaches per association-registered out-of-town tournament or any out of town league games, unless prior approval is received from the ERYHA Board. Hotels for additional tournaments will be the responsibility of the team's slush fund. It is up to the coach to submit an expense report to the Treasurer for reimbursement.
- Additional Incentive: The ERYHA rostered coaching staff of teams that qualify for a MN State Hockey Tournament will receive a \$500 bonus.

ERYHA Playing Standards

- ERYHA believes and encourages equal playing time.
- This does not mean stopwatches and logbooks are used. It also does not mean play has to be completely equal in each and every game.
- Parents and skaters need to realize that on a per game basis, penalties will play
 a large factor in playing time. There may be other factors that contribute to
 playing time.
- The coach is encouraged to explain to the parents his/her playing time philosophy at the "Parent Meeting".

- If a player or parent feels that a coach is not following this policy, he or she should discuss this issue with the coach.
- Any parent should use discretion when contacting the coach and follow item number 6 of the "Code of Conduct for ERYHA Parents and Spectators" as below:
 - 6. Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child and the sport. Communicate respectfully with them and support them. If you have concerns, please wait an appropriate 24 hours before phoning the respective coach to have a constructive discussion regarding your concern. Never address your concern directly in front of the player(s) or in the arena. If you have additional concerns, contact your level director with your issue.
- If the concerned parent feels that the policy is still being abused, the parent should contact the level director immediately. The level director will discuss the situation with the coach. The level director will then contact the parent.
- If after contacting the level director, the concerned parent still feels that the policy is not being followed, they will need to file a grievance per the ERYHA handbook. At this point the grievance procedure will go into effect.

ERYHA Skater Playing Standards by Level

Mite & Girls U8 Level

• Coaches will provide equal playing time for all players per game.

Squirt & Girls U10 Level

- o Coaches will provide equal playing time for all players per game.
- Coaches will **not** designate power play or penalty kill units.
- Coaches will have discretion as to who plays in the last 5 minutes of a game for the benefit of the entire team.

PeeWee B/C, Bantam B2/C, and Girls U12B Level

- Coaches will provide equal playing time for all players <u>per game</u>.
- Coaches will have discretion as to line assembly and player positions.
- Coaches will **not** designate power play or penalty kill units.
- Coaches will have discretion as to who plays in the last 5 minutes of a game for the benefit of the entire team.
- Postseason Coaches will have discretion as to playing time.

PeeWee A/AA, Bantam B1, Girls U12A, and Girls U15B Level

- Coaches will provide equal playing time for all players through the course of the entire season.
- Coaches will have discretion as to line assembly and player positions.
- Coaches will have discretion as to who plays in the last 5 minutes of a game for the benefit of the entire team.
- Postseason Coaches will have discretion as to playing time.

Bantam A/AA, Junior Gold, and Girls U15A Level

- Coaches will have discretion to coach and manage the team within the guidelines of the code of conduct.
- For Junior Gold, playing time will be at the coaches' discretion.

ERYHA Goalie Playing Standards by Level

Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam B2/C, Girls U10, Girls U12, and Girls U15B Level

- Scrimmages: Goalies will play 50% of each game, and alternate starts.
- District Games: Goalies will receive equal playing time throughout the season.
- Tournament Games: Goalies will receive equal playing time throughout the season.
- Postseason: All playing time will be equal except for PeeWee A/AA/B1, Girls U12B, and Girls U15B; U12A; at these levels (which offer state tournaments), the coach will have discretion as to who plays.

Bantam A/AA/B1, Junior Gold, and Girls U15A Level

• Coach will have discretion as to which goalie plays during the season, and as to how much each goalie plays throughout the season.

Teams With One Goalie (all levels):

- For teams that have only one goalie, that goalie will play in all scrimmages, games and tournaments, unless any of the following apply:
 - The regular goalie is sick
 - o The regular goalie is injured
 - The head coach receives Board approval from the ERYHA Board or Level Director for another player to play goalie.
- When required by D10 policy, the D10 Substitute Goalie Form may also need to be completed.
- In recognition of the shortage of goalies in the game, ERYHA encourages any rostered player that wishes to try goalie, be able to attend and participate in practices as a goalie as long as the head coach approves it.

ERYHA Awards

Minnesota Hockey Awards

The following Player Achievement Awards are awarded from Minnesota Hockey:

- Zero Award: An award presented to a goalkeeper for playing a complete game without allowing a goal.
- Hat Trick Award: An award presented to a player for scoring three goals in a game.
- Playmaker Award: An award presented to a player for registering three assists in a game.

Additional information can be found in the Minnesota Hockey handbook

ERYHA Sportsmanship Awards

 Awards presented annually by the Twaddle & McLaughlin Family. More information can be found on the ERYHA website

Team Definitions

Controlled Scrimmage:

- Two teams utilize the same ice time for instructional competition without a referee, utilizing coaches on the ice for instructional purposes.
- There must always be at least one coach from each team on the ice. No score will be kept.

Game:

- Two teams on the ice in any other fashion than defined as a "controlled scrimmage" with a referee will be considered a game.
- Games may include league, scrimmage and tournament play.

ERYHA Tournaments Policies

- ERYHA provides for three (3) tournaments for each team at AA, A, B and C levels, Squirt/U10 through Junior Gold/U15, with the exception for AA Bantams who will be provided with four (4) tournaments.
- VFW state, which is paid for by the VFW, will be provided for Bantam AA and

Bantam A teams as an additional (5th) tournament

- If ERYHA is hosting a tournament for the level of an individual team, it is mandatory for the Elk River team to participate and that tournament counts as one of the number of tournaments listed above.
- ERYHA will pay the entry fees for tournaments.
- ERYHA will pay tournament gate fees only if the fee was included with tournament registration. If a tournament states they will collect a gate fee upon check-in, it is the responsibility of the team to pay this fee from their slush fund.
- In order to participate in any additional tournaments, the team must have a parent meeting to discuss how many more tournaments and how much the additional tournaments will cost each player.
- The team must agree by majority vote in order to attend additional tournament(s). Any such additional tournament should not be considered mandatory nor negatively impact a player who is unable to attend, and the entry fee should be split among the players who choose to participate.
 - A series of more than two scrimmages in a *round-robin* type setting will be considered the same as a tournament.
- All tournaments that an ERYHA team participates in, whether held in an indoor arena or played outside on natural ice, must be sanctioned by MN Hockey.
- Any out-of-state tournaments require prior approval by the District 10 Director.
 Please refer to D10 Tournament Policy for the most current information.

Teams participating in any unsanctioned tournament will be fined and may be suspended from MN Hockey activities for the balance of that season and the following season. This is not a negotiable penalty. This could result in the entire association being suspended from league play. Any coach or manager who permits this to happen will be immediately removed from his/her position and expelled from the association.

- You must always have your team credentials and registration with you during tournament participation.
- It is a MN Hockey rule that any team that does not have a properly completed credential package is not allowed to participate in the tournament.
- NO BIRTH CERTIFICATES ARE NEEDED FOR ANY TOURNAMENTS SANCTIONED BY USA HOCKEY.

ERYHA Jersey Policy

- ERYHA will provide home and away jerseys for all players Squirt/U10 and above.
 Socks will be provided to players at all levels.
- Additional details can be found in the Manger Handbook.
- An alternate third team jersey design must be approved by the ERYHA Board and must either be paid for by a sponsorship or slush fund and have 100% support from the team.

Deer Hunting Opening Weekend

Effective with the 2019-2020 season, the weekend of the deer hunting opener (typically the first weekend in November), shall be free from scrimmages, games, and tournaments for all teams at the Squirt/Girls U10 levels and above. Practices may be scheduled, but they may not be mandatory. Additionally, no ramifications shall be directed towards players who are absent.

ERYHA Policy and Procedures Addendums

ERYHA Injury Credit Policy

Please see website's Policy area for more information regarding ERYHA's injury credit policy.

ERYHA Abuse Policy

ERYHA follows USA Hockey's SafeSport Handbook implementation.

ERYHA Grievance Procedure

ERYHA's grievance produced follows Article 6 of the Minnesota Hockey handbook.

If you or your player have a complaint regarding an incident or have been violated according to one of ERYHA's policies, you may file a complaint for the appropriate action to be taken.

 All parties should wait 24 hours after a problem occurs. This is a cooling off period so one does not act out of anger. Failure to observe the 24-hour rule may result in disciplinary action.

- After waiting the said time, you may confront the involved party(ies) with the problem for a resolution.
- If you are still not satisfied after the discussion with the said party(ies), you
 may put your complaint in writing and submit the online grievance form.
- The Board will investigate and discuss the complaint and issue any applicable disciplinary action(s).
- A letter will be issued to all persons involved outlining what resolution was decided upon by the Board

If you have any questions regarding any step in the grievance procedure, please contact any of the board members presiding on the current ERYHA Board of Directors.

ERYHA Board Member Code of Conduct

Please see website's Policy area for more information regarding ERYHA's board member code of conduct policy.

ERYHA Tryout Policy

Please see website's Tryout Central area for more information regarding ERYHA's tryout policy.

ERYHA Parent Code of Conduct

Please see website's Policy area for more information regarding ERYHA's parent/spectator code of policy.

ERYHA Player Code of Conduct

Please see website's Policy area for more information regarding ERYHA's player code of conduct policy.

ERYHA Coaches Code of Conduct

Please see website's Policy area for more information regarding ERYHA's coach code of conduct policy.

ERYHA Locker Room Policy

ERYHA adheres to the District 10 policies regarding the locker room and locker room monitors. These policies can be viewed on the POLICIES section of the District 10 website (www.district10hockey.org).

ERYHA Photographic Devices Policy

ERYHA adheres to the District 10 policy regarding photographic devices. This policy can be viewed on the POLICIES section of the District 10 website (www.district10hockey.org).

ERYHA Attendance Policy

- It is expected that ERYHA will be the primary commitment for all traveling players during the hockey season.
- All practices, meetings, scrimmages, and games are considered mandatory unless excused
 or designated as optional by my coach. Excused absences include, but are not limited to,
 injury or illness, religious conflict, family emergency, and/or mandatory school
 activities/events.
- Any conflict arising from participation in other sports/teams during the ERYHA season will be considered an unexcused absence. This includes other club hockey teams. Players with unexcused absences can expect reduced playing time and/or suspension from games.
- Commitments outside of ERYHA are vital to my off-ice development and I will make the
 personal sacrifices necessary to honor these commitments with the understanding I will
 consistently meet all ERYHA attendance expectations.

ERYHA Policy and Procedures Change History

Date of Change	Change Owner	Brief Change Description
11/2024	Kristin Miller	Large update to bring document current for the
12/2024	Kristin Miller	2024-2025 season. Added adjustments approved in Nov 2024 Board
		Meeting, including: Attendance Policy, Adjustment
		to J Gold playing time, mission statement
10/2025	Ryan Eason	Update to tryout policy and coaches pay language