



Snake River Youth Hockey Association

Handbook

2025-2026 Season

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Introduction

The Snake River Youth Hockey Association (SRYHA) Handbook provides the SRYHA policies and information that is relevant as a guide for parents/guardians and players participating in the Yetis program. The SRYHA Board of Directors will review and revise this Handbook on a regular basis.

The purpose of this document is to familiarize you with the policies, procedures, expectations, and guidelines of SRYHA. It is our hope that every youth participating will enjoy their hockey experience. For that to happen, it is important for participants to understand the framework and details of our program. SRYHA is proud of the dedication and hard work that our volunteer board members, coaches, committee members, parents, and family members provide. We value our hockey community's input and suggestions for continuous improvement. Please feel free to contact the SRYHA Board of Directors SRYHA.Yetis@gmail.com with your feedback regarding this handbook or any aspect of the Yetis program. Additional information about SRYHA and the Board of Directors can be found in our By-Laws.

Purpose

The purpose of the SRYHA is to foster, promote, and improve amateur hockey in the Eastern Idaho geographical area. To further that purpose, SRYHA shall:

1. Foster, develop, and promote competitive youth ice hockey programs providing opportunities for players to reach their maximum potential.
2. Foster, develop, and promote a program which stresses yearly measurable improvement in the areas of individual skills and team play.
3. Provide a fun and encouraging environment for all SRYHA youth under the direction of qualified adult leadership.
4. Provide a transparent management structure to encourage member participation and to ensure that member focus can be on the development of players instead of concerns over transparency of Association operations.
5. Promote sportsmanship amongst SRYHA coaches, players, and parents.
6. Develop the technical and teaching skills of the coaches.
7. Strive for a low coach to player ratio based upon player skill level.
8. Use fund raising and volunteer resources to minimize costs to individual participants.
9. Develop character, sportsmanship, and physical fitness among the SRYHA youth.
10. Promote, encourage, and improve the standards of youth amateur ice hockey and to introduce the sport of ice hockey to the youth of the geographical area.
11. Pursue affiliation with a nationally recognized amateur athletics organization.

Vision

The vision of the SRYHA is to provide a youth hockey association that is founded on the principles of being the model for a youth sports organization. To that end, the SRYHA has three driving values:

1. The SRYHA values providing a safe opportunity for Eastern Idaho youth to learn and participate in the sport of hockey. Fairness and safety shall be at the core of this value and shall be adopted in all activities undertaken by the Association. Issues that challenge this value shall be dealt with swiftly by the Association in as transparent of a manner as possible.
2. The SRYHA values conducting its business in a fully open and transparent manner. To the maximum extent possible, all Association records, including financial information, shall be made available for review by Association membership at any time. Similarly, all Association business shall be conducted

in a fully open manner and the participation of Association membership in Association business shall be encouraged.

3. The SRYHA values inclusion of all Eastern Idaho families in the sport of ice hockey. SRYHA is committed to keeping costs as low as possible by offsetting Association and membership costs through fundraising in the communities across the Eastern Idaho region. SRYHA wants to ensure that all youth who are interested in learning to play hockey have a home with the Yetis regardless of financial resources.

Concerns

SRYHA encourages all volunteers, players, parents, and participants to bring problems or complaints concerning the program to the attention of the SRYHA Board of Directors without fear of recrimination. SRYHA encourages that every effort should be made to resolve complaints at a team level before coming to the Board, however complaints/concerns may also be reported to the SRYHA Board of Directors in writing no later than one week after its occurrence by emailing us at SRYHA.Yetis@gmail.com or by sending written concerns to:

Snake River Youth Hockey Association, Inc
2184 Channing Way PMB 500
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83404

Questions

SRYHA values member participation in the operation of the business as well as in your player's growth and development. If a member has any questions or concerns, please refer to the list below for the most appropriate party to assist you.

- Hockey or On-Ice Questions – Contact
 - Player's head coach
- General Questions – Contact
 - President President.SRYHA.Yetis@gmail.com
 - Vice President VicePresident.SRYHA.Yetis@gmail.com
 - Secretary Secretary.SRYHA.Yetis@gmail.com
- Financial Questions – Contact
 - Treasurer Treasurer.SRYHA.Yetis@gmail.com

Expectations

Your player's hockey experience will be influenced by many factors, but nothing will influence that experience more than you. As a parent, you are the most influential figure in your child's development, both as a hockey player and as a person. SRYHA encourages you as parents/guardians to embrace that opportunity by keeping the following things in mind.

- Let kids be kids. Fun should be paramount.
- Be supportive, our kids are looking to us to be their biggest cheerleaders and to support them as they learn and grow.
- Be disciplined. Manage your emotions and set a good example that teaches your child to do the same.

- Be positive, and when adversity comes, be constructive not destructive. If you must be critical, don't get personal. Direct your comments at the action, not the person.
- Before critiquing what you noticed from the sidelines, consider waiting 24 hours to see if it still seems worth mentioning.
- Be proactive. Getting involved as a volunteer can give you an even greater influence on your child's hockey experience. As a parent, being a proactive communicator with coaches and administrators can help avoid frustration and conflict.
- Be respectful, especially in situations of disagreement or conflict.
- Don't bully or harass and speak out if you see bullying or harassing behavior from others.
- Focus on the process, not the outcome, and teach your child to do the same.
- Kids learn best by doing. Praise your child's effort more often than their performance. Praise helps them develop the confidence to meet new challenges and overcome obstacles.
- Keep hockey in perspective. Maintain a healthy balance of hockey and non-hockey activities and encourage your child to be well-rounded.
- Enjoy the youth hockey experience with your child. Life moves fast and time passes quickly. Soon your child will be grown, and you'll wish you could return to these days, if just for a moment. Savor these seasons, don't rush them, and try to make the experience one that you'll remember fondly together years from now.

Registration and Fees

Registration

Registration typically opens in the Fall prior to the start of the season (watch the website and social media). To register, please visit our website at <https://yetishockey.com>.

Fees

Fees payable to SRYHA represent the players practice ice and other fixed costs of the SRYHA program. These fees do not include jerseys or equipment. Fees depend on many variables such as the number of practices during the season, the cost of SRYHA expenses such as ice rental, and the number of players enrolled. All registered players are expected to pay an initial fee payment (50% of the total cost as shown on our website) by September 30. Players must pay any remaining fees by October 31st. You can make payments of Fees through the SRYHA website.

If your fees are not paid within 14 days of the payment date, your player will not be allowed to skate or practice with the team until your account is in good standing. A penalty of \$35 will be assessed on all "returned checks." Failure to reimburse SRYHA for the check amounts plus the penalty fee will result in player becoming ineligible for registration until paid in full.

SRYHA may provide an option for partial refunds of fees if more revenue is collected than necessary to cover organizational expenses. If partial refunds are offered, you will be given the option to receive a refund to your original payment method, or to donate the balance as a tax-deductible donation to the SRYHA. Fundraised money, due to the non-profit rules and regulations, cannot be paid out but they can be held over for the next season.

Age Verification

New players will be required to provide SRYHA a copy of their birth certificate for age verification purposes.

Health Conditions and Injury

Any health or physical impairment which will affect performance in any way must be noted on the registration form. Examples include asthma, epilepsy, visual or auditory impairment mental or psychological disorders, etc.

SRHYA carries insurance to cover liability for the organization, the facilities we use, and our volunteers. Parents/guardians of participants will be expected to sign a release of liability to acknowledge the risk of injury or illness during their participation. All injuries must be reported to the Coach immediately who will evaluate whether a player can continue to participate or needs to be removed from the ice for evaluation. Any child who exhibits signs of concussion will be removed from practice and other on-ice activities until the SRHYA coaching staff is provided with a signed medical release from a physician.

Player and Parent Agreement

Please read and review the current season Player/Parent Agreement (see Appendix A) for details on expectations. This document must be read and signed before the season begins.

Volunteering

The SRHYA is operated by volunteers who donate many hours of time. Your active support is needed, and any help is greatly appreciated and expected. Contact us at SRHYA.Yetis@gmail.com to learn how to help.

Conduct

In addition to the development of our hockey players and enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our participants is central to the Yetis goals. The Yetis adheres to the Abuse Prevention Systems to help protect its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse, and other types of misconduct, including emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment, and hazing.

Zero Tolerance

SRHYA is committed to creating a safe and fair environment for all participants. Respect for the game, the opponents, coaches, and officials are critical components of a safe and fair environment. This Zero Tolerance Policy summarizes required actions to address violations. All players, coaches, officials, administrators, and parents/spectators are required to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all SRHYA activities.

Locker Rooms

To help prevent abuse or misconduct from occurring in our locker rooms, the Yetis have adopted the following locker room policy designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms.

1. SRHYA volunteers will conduct a sweep of the locker rooms and changing areas before players arrive.
2. If the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, either a coach or voluntary locker room monitors (each of which has been screened and certified through APS) will be posted directly outside of the locker rooms and changing areas during periods of use.
3. Locker room doors will be left open when adequate privacy is still possible.
4. Only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and parents/guardians will be permitted in the locker room.
5. All persons over the age of 18 who enter the locker rooms will be required to have been screened and certified through APS.

6. Team personnel will secure and monitor the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

Parent/Guardian Locker Room Access

1. SRYHA discourages parents from entering locker rooms unless it is truly necessary, and only if the parents have been screened and certified through APS or arrangements for a screened/certified escort are made in advance.
2. If a player needs assistance with his or her uniform or gear, if the player is or may be injured, or a player's disability warrants assistance, then we ask that parents let the coach know beforehand that he or she will be helping the player. SRYHA will work with the parents to make accommodations for locker room access in these scenarios such as providing screened and certified escorts for parents who are not screened/certified.
3. Naturally, with our youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players in getting dressed. We encourage parents to teach their players as young as possible how to get dressed so that players can dress independently.
4. In circumstances where parents are permitted in the locker room, coaches are permitted to ask that the parents leave for a short time before the game and for a short time after the game so that the coaches may address the players.
5. As players get older, the coach may, at his or her discretion, prohibit parents from a locker room.

Mixed Gender Teams

Some of our teams consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all our players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Where possible, the Yetis will have the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room before the game or team meeting. Once the game or practice is finished, the players may come to one locker room for a team meeting and then the male and female players proceed to their separate locker rooms to undress and shower.

If separate locker rooms are not available, then the players will take turns using the locker room to change. We understand that these arrangements may require that players arrive earlier or leave later to dress but SRYHA believes that this is the most reasonable way to accommodate and respect all our players.

Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be taken outside of the locker room.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

The Yetis prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment, and hazing. Participants, employees, or volunteers in the Yetis will be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the APS policies. Reports of any actual or suspected violations should be made to the coach or any SRYHA Board Member.

Abuse Prevention Systems

The safety of its participants is of paramount importance to SRYHA. Abuse Prevention Systems (APS) is the organization's program related to off ice safety. APS is in place to protect participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse, and other types of abuse and misconduct that can be harmful to youth hockey players and other participants. These include without limitation Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Screening, Locker Room

Supervision, and Hazing Policies, in addition to Codes of Conduct applicable to administrators, coaches, officials, parents, players, and spectators.

SRHYHA has a ZERO TOLERANCE for abuse and misconduct. For application of this policy, SRHYHA will follow the guidelines and requirements described in the APS. SRHYHA ZERO TOLERANCE policy addresses:

- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Bullying, Threats and Harassment
- Hazing

SRHYHA also addresses areas where misconduct can occur and are intended to reduce the risk of potential abuse, including:

- Locker Room Policy
- Electronic Communications Policy
- Travel Policy

In addition to the above listed policies, the SRHYHA website and APS websites include information about:

- The available and required training of employees, volunteers, administrators, coaches, parents and players on recognizing and reducing circumstances for potential abuse to occur.
- Information on the SRHYHA requirements for background checks and screening.
- The availability for any person to report suspected abuse or misconduct (including protections from any retaliation or repercussions for such reporting).

Code of Conduct

General Conduct

SRHYHA expects Board Members, Coaches, Officials, Visitors, Players, and Parents to conduct themselves in an ethical and responsible manner that is consistent with good sportsmanship and that reflects well on SRHYHA.

SRHYHA players, parents, and volunteers are expected to always maintain the highest standards of conduct. We ask that you remember that you are representing the entire SRHYHA organization while participating in team activities. All violations of this code of conduct will be subject to investigation by SRHYHA and ultimately may result in suspension or dismissal of the offending member, parent, visitor, and/or player.

Players and parents are expected to follow and abide by all SRHYHA rules and regulations. SRHYHA has a zero tolerance of abuse for all representatives, members, and participants. Abuse includes, but is not limited to verbal, physical, mental, sexual, and all forms of neglect.

Players and parents are expected to always practice good sportsmanship during participation in SRHYHA activities including, practices, camps, and team games/events. SRHYHA has a zero-tolerance policy for poor sportsmanship, including but not limited to use of offensive language or gestures, use of abusive or sexually explicit language, bullying or hazing, arguing with or shouting at officials, coaches, volunteers, or opponents.

Players and parents are expected to treat our host facilities and organizations with the utmost respect. SRHYHA has a zero-tolerance policy for improper behavior that would be detrimental to our relationship with host facilities and organizations. This includes respectful use of facility equipment and spaces, respect of the instructions and policies established by host facilities, cleanup of locker rooms and other shared spaces in host facilities.

Parent Conduct and Responsibilities

1. Be good ambassadors of our program, city and state.
2. Parents/spectators will promote the SRYHA philosophy of good sportsmanship. The challenge to all parents is to remember that enthusiastic encouragement of a positive nature will strengthen their child's character as well as his/her hockey skills. Negative actions can promote undesirable emotional stress, poor sportsmanship, and possibly, ugly physical confrontations.
3. 24 Hour Rule: Always allow 24 hours to pass after a game or practice before approaching the coaching staff about any gameplay or coaching issues that may have occurred, safety issues or injury should be reported immediately.
4. Parents must recognize that their child's coaches are responsible for developing team play, as well as individual player skills. If you have a concern about ice time, discipline, or personal problems, please discuss it in private and spare the team, yourself, and your child the problem of divided loyalties. Any serious or unresolved problems should be brought to the attention of the SRYHA Board.
5. In the event you disagree with any decision or policy issued by the SRYHA Board of Directors or our coaches, please contact the person you disagree with and discuss it in private.
6. No parent is permitted on the ice at any time, unless a medical emergency exists, and they are summoned by an official. Parents are not allowed on the player bench during games or practices.
7. In the event of vocal or physical provocation of referees, coaches, players or other spectators the individual will be asked to leave the arena, and the matter will be referred to the SRYHA Board of Directors.
8. Players are expected to attend all games and practices. If your player is unable to attend, you must give reasonable notice to one of the coaches. Coaches at all levels of play will establish time guidelines for when players are expected to arrive and when they should be ready to play. Players who do not adhere to time guidelines will risk curtailed ice time, benching, or other sanctions at the coach's discretion.
9. Parents are responsible for the custody and transportation of their children. They are also expected to supervise them appropriately to ensure the rules of the rink, and hotels and restaurants are observed.
10. SRYHA reserves the right to ban offending parents from future games and practices. Failure to comply with this ban may also result in suspension or termination of the player.

Player Conduct and Responsibilities

1. SRYHA expects that all students will maintain the academic standards of their specific school. Failure to maintain academic standards could result in player suspension from SRYHA participation.
2. At no time, on or off the ice, shall a player use disrespectful, abusive, or obscene language, including toward coaches, parents, officials or teammates. Unsportsmanlike conduct in the form of gestures, slapping boards with sticks, or other dramatic displays of individual anger are prohibited.
3. Players will conduct themselves respectfully while at any facility they visit while playing for the Yetis. Floor hockey, running around, abuse of facility property, and rough housing are not permitted while inside any rink.
4. While on travel, players will conduct themselves respectfully while staying in hotels. Players are not allowed to run the hallways or disrupt other hotel guests. Remember that you represent the Yetis, and our reputation is very important to us.
5. The use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs is strictly forbidden while participating in any SRYHA related activity.
6. Each player shall always respect the property of others.

7. Cell phone use is forbidden in restrooms and locker rooms.
8. All players are responsible for their jerseys and equipment and must maintain it in clean and good condition. Jerseys should always be stored properly.
9. Coaches shall have the authority to bench any player for any part of the game, or any part of a future game, for anything that they deem to be unsportsmanlike conduct, regardless of any action or lack of action by game officials. The coaches have sole discretion over this determination. Discipline problems shall be referred to the Board for action.
10. Any player who intentionally damages a rink, locker room, or other personal or public property while participating in any SRYHA related activity, will be automatically suspended and will be referred to the Board for action.

Attendance

Consistent attendance is crucial for both individual development and team cohesion. By participating in the SRYHA the parent/legal guardian and player present agree that every effort will be made for the player to be at all practices, camps, and team games/events. Parents/Guardians must agree to the following.

- Notify the coach at least 24 hours in advance if a player is unable to attend practice; except in cases of emergency.
- Ensure that athletes arrive on time and be prepared for the start of practice.
- Consistent tardiness will be handled in a similar manner to unexcused absences.
- Excused absences may include illness, family emergencies, academic commitments, and previously scheduled medical appointments. Absences for other reasons must be discussed with and approved by the coach in advance.
- Unexcused absences may result in reduced playing time, or other consequences as deemed appropriate by the coaching staff.
- Repeated unexcused absences can affect an athlete's standing on the team.

Discipline

Disciplinary Committee

Issues that are referred to the SRYHA Board for discipline will be evaluated by the Disciplinary Committee before a final determination is made. The Disciplinary Committee will include a minimum of four members as defined in the SRYHA Bylaws.

The Disciplinary Committee is charged with evaluating all information available to provide a fair and impartial recommendation to the SRYHA Board. Disciplinary Committee evaluations will include the following at a minimum:

1. Review of applicable policy and procedure.
2. Consideration of the role of the individual i.e. as a spectator, a volunteer, a parent, or a player or coach.
3. Conduct of a hearing involving all parties involved to collect statements.

When it is found that a member has violated any of the SRYHA Code of Conduct, APS Code of Conduct, and/or the Rules and Regulations the Disciplinary Committee will make recommendations for discipline to the SRYHA Board.

Discipline

The SRYHA Board will have the final say in any disciplinary actions that are taken. The SRYHA Board will evaluate and consider the recommendations of the Disciplinary Committee in making its final determination. The SRYHA Board may call for additional investigation and/or hearings as it determines necessary.

Whistleblower Policy

Whistleblower protections are designed to cover two important areas: confidentiality and retaliation. As far as possible, the confidentiality of the whistleblower will be maintained. However, identity may have to be disclosed in certain instances such as to comply with the law. The SRYHA is committed that there shall be no retaliation against a whistleblower. Retaliation could include, but is not limited to, any adverse action such as suspension, fines or threats of physical harm. Any whistleblower who believes he or she is being retaliated against should contact the SRYHA Board immediately at SRYHA.Yetis@gmail.com or

Snake River Youth Hockey Association, Inc
2184 Channing Way PMB 500
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83404

A whistleblower is defined as an SRYHA member, volunteer, executive committee member, or board member who reports an activity that he or she considers to be illegal or dishonest (including violations of APS policy). The whistleblower is not responsible for investigating the activity or for determining fault or corrective measures; appropriate management officials are charged with these responsibilities.

Examples of illegal or dishonest activities are violations of federal, state or local laws; billing for services not performed or for goods not delivered; and other fraudulent financial reporting. If a member or volunteer has knowledge of or a concern of illegal or dishonest fraudulent activity, the member or volunteer is to contact any member of the SRYHA Board. The right of the whistleblower for protection against retaliation does not include immunity for any personal wrongdoing that is alleged and investigated. Members or volunteers with any questions regarding this policy should contact the SRYHA Board.

The SRYHA Board shall be responsible for investigation and coordinating corrective action. A member or volunteer who intentionally files a false report of wrongdoing will be subject to discipline up to and including suspension.

On-Ice Policy

Uniform

Jersey numbers are assigned to players at the beginning of the season. Players returning from last season will be given the option to retain their jersey numbers from the previous season. Every attempt will be made to ensure that players have a number that they desire, however, no guarantees can be made.

All players will be required to purchase Yetis jerseys and game socks that make up our uniform package. Pricing and requirements will be established at the beginning of each season. SRYHA intends to make every effort to provide fundraising to minimize the players' out of pocket costs for uniforms, but we cannot guarantee that there will be zero cost for these items.

All players will be expected to wear the Yetis uniform for participation in camps and games. Uniforms are not required during practice.

Equipment

Participants of SRYHA programs must wear the standard minimum protective gear described below. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to ensure that their child is furnished with and wears the required equipment to all practices and games. A player that is not wearing proper equipment will not be allowed to participate in on-ice activities. The following equipment is required:

- Helmet with Cage with current HECC sticker (Black preferred)
- Hockey Gloves (Black and White preferred)
- Shoulder Pads
- Elbow Pads
- Shin Guards
- Hockey Pants (Black required)
- Athletic Supporter with Cup (Males) or Jill Pad (Females)
- Mouth Guard
- Neck Guard
- Hockey Skates
- Hockey Stick
- Game Jerseys (Games Only)
- Practice Jersey (Practices Only)
- Game Hockey Socks (Games Only)
- Practice Hockey Socks (Practices Only)

Hockey equipment is expensive and an investment in a player's safety and protection. SRYHA may occasionally provide loaned equipment for registered players. This will provide for some hockey gear to be borrowed free of charge, including some loaner gear specifically for goalies (chest, arm and shoulder pads, leg pads, catcher and blocker gloves). Loaned equipment is expected to be maintained properly. Lost or damaged equipment will result in charges to the player to cover the repair and/or replacement of the lost or damaged equipment.

Training

All athletes are encouraged to strive to improve their performance through proper strength and conditioning during the season as well as the off-season. Three principles to consider when athletes include:

1. Long-Term Approach: The long-term approach refers to developing an athlete over time with proper periodization (progressions in the workout program) and adequate rest between training sessions and sport practices. Houses aren't built on sand, and athletes shouldn't be training for strength and power without proper movement mechanics. Core stabilization, single leg drills, and proper landing mechanics are a few of the components SRYHA coaches look for in an athlete's ability before we progress.
2. Injury Reduction: Teaching a young athlete how to move his or her body properly through all planes of motion is very beneficial. Enhanced body control through balance and stabilization exercises can lead to greater strength and power improvements than strength training alone. A great strength coach will never sacrifice technique for increased resistance. Additionally, balancing challenges and successes optimally leads to youth embracing the benefits of strength and conditioning. Injury prevention is the number one goal of SRYHA strength and conditioning.

3. Balance of Practice and Training: Athletes of all ages rely on their coaches for an ideal balance of sport practice and sport training. We encourage athletes to avoid early specialization in a sport and more importantly focus on the development of their physical and mental capabilities. Early specialization can lead to over-use injuries as well as burnout. Regardless of the sport, athletes need endurance, strength, and power; they also need to spend adequate time training to enhance those. Plainly stated, stop shooting hundreds of hockey pucks per day and get into the weight room and become a better athlete!

Play

SRHYHA will follow national standard rules for competition. Coaches and officials will be certified and will enforce rules in competition play.

SRHYHA requires players to play at their level as determined under the nationally standardized age brackets. Our belief in adhering to standard age bracket is that youth hockey, especially at the younger levels, is developmental and coincides with the SRHYHA Mission: to provide a positive learning environment for young players to gain the maximum benefits of participating in a competitive sports program. The SRHYHA goal is to develop great people as well as players - setting and achieving goals, not just scoring them.

Rosters

Rosters will be established by the head coach in coordination with the coaching committee. Rosters will be established by age level. In certain circumstances, such as based on the number of eligible players, the Coaching Committee may determine that a need exists to move a player(s) up from the next lower level in order to fill out rosters. In the event the Coaching Committee makes such a determination, players will be moved up, based upon an evaluation session conducted at the beginning of the season. In the event desired team configurations present a need for additional goaltenders, a qualified goalie may be moved up from the next lower level, as determined by the Coaching Committee. In the event one or more such goalies exist, priority will be given to the player in the highest grade first, then birth date.

- All players must be registered with SRHYHA prior to being on the ice.
- House teams will be created in the 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, Girls, and High School divisions when player numbers allow.

Practice

SRHYHA will follow standard guidelines for practice and skills development activities. Coaches will implement the principles of age-appropriate hockey standards and guidelines.

Coaches and Officials

SRHYHA is interested in the growth and development of strong coaches in addition to players. Coaches are expected to grow and improve their skills year after year. In the interest of developing its coaching staff, the Yetis coaches are all expected to be certified and are encouraged to grow and develop in their coaching education.

A Coaching Committee will be assembled to include no fewer than three members. Members of the committee, including the committee chairperson will be selected by the SRHYHA Board in consultation with current and former coaches and directors. The Head coach will oversee all aspects of their team following the organizational policies set by the Coaching Committee. The head coach will determine practice, camp, and game locations, player lineups, player positions and playing times.

Coaches Certification

Any individual interested in volunteering as a coach in any capacity will be required to submit an application. Coaches will be selected by the members of the Coaching Committee. All coaches that submit an application will be notified of the decision and coaches not selected are not permitted on the ice. At a minimum, all coaches must have completed age-specific certification through a nationally recognized provider PRIOR to being on the ice. Each coach should be certified at the proper level for the age he/she is coaching. Coaches with preexisting certifications must adhere to paragraphs A and B below. All Coaches are required to have a current background screen and APS training. All coaches are required to wear properly fastened helmets on the ice.

Coaching Ethics Code

All coaches and instructors must abide by the ethics standards of the SRYHA and understand that violations may result in full or partial forfeiture of coaching privileges.

Helmets

On-ice hockey coaches who are observed on the ice without properly fastened protective helmets will be subject to the following disciplinary action.

- First offense – coach is suspended 30 days for all games, practices & meetings.
- Second offense – coach may be subject to additional disciplinary actions including suspension.

Any hockey coach observed on the ice should be reported immediately. The required information to be reported includes coach's name, team, date, time, rink, and names of any witnesses to the incident. This information should be sent as soon as possible via email to the SRYHA Board.

Officials

The hosting association is responsible for ensuring that properly certified on-ice officials are available for every game. In addition, off-ice officials will be trained to fulfill their responsibilities.

Appendix A: Parent/Player Agreement

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2025-2026 PLAYER AND PARENT AGREEMENT

Player's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Please read each box and sign to indicate consent to the 2025-2026 SRYHA Player and Parent Agreement

OVERVIEW: This document is meant to help outline and set the expectations for all members who choose to commit to playing for the Yetis (SRYHA) organization. Please read this document carefully before signing because it includes useful information to ensure that participation is a positive experience for both the player and the parents.

Playing hockey at youth level is a great opportunity to achieve personal goals, team goals, and have fun. However, for the program to be successful, there are requirements that must be followed. These requirements exist to maintain the safety of our players and fans, and the integrity of our program and teams to ensure we have a successful season.

AAU REGISTRATION:

AAU MEMBERSHIP: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I understand that SRYHA is a member of the Amateur Athletic Union, and all players, coaches, and volunteers must be registered as members of AAU to participate. I agree to register my player as a member of the AAU and associate them with SRYHA. The AAU Membership year runs from September 1 through August 31. You are not required to complete AAU registration prior to registering with SRYHA if you register prior to August 31, however you will be required to provide documentation of your player's AAU membership prior to participating in SRYHA practices or games. Register for AAU at <https://aausports.org/>, using club code W4T9ED.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

FINANCIAL AGREEMENT: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I agree to pay the SRYHA Yetis fees associated with my child's age group for the 2025-2026 season. The SRYHA fees are \$350 for children 3-8 years of age, and \$450 for children 9 and over; the AAU fees are \$22 per child.

PAST DUE BALANCES: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I agree that if my child's SRYHA fees are past due, he/she will not be allowed to attend practices, camps, or play in any team game/events until the accounts are made current. If a payment transaction is declined due to insufficient funds, a service fee will be charged.

REFUNDS: By completing this registration, as parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I understand that SRYHA has a NO REFUND policy. Members are encouraged to select the option for registration insurance during the registration process, all refunds will be handled through the registration insurance provider. Any exception to this policy requires the submission of a written request to the SRYHA board. Refund requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and will be considered at the sole discretion of the SRYHA board.

PLAYER ATTENDANCE POLICY



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COMMITMENT TO THE TEAM: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I agree to have my player present at all practices, camps, and team games/events. Consistent attendance is crucial for both individual development and team cohesion.

NOTICE OF ABSENCE: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I agree to notify the coach at least 24 hours in advance if my player is unable to attend practice; except in case of emergency.

PUNCTUALITY: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I agree that my athlete is expected to arrive on time and be prepared for the start of practice. Consistent lateness may also result in consequences like unexcused absences.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I agree that excused absences may include illness, family emergencies, academic commitments, and previously scheduled medical appointments. Absences for other reasons must be discussed with and approved by the coach in advance.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I agree that unexcused absences may result in reduced playing time, or other consequences as deemed appropriate by the coaching staff. I also agree that repeated unexcused absences can affect an athlete's standing on the team.

PLAYER AND PARENT BEHAVIOR

CODE OF CONDUCT: By completing this registration, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, I agree to follow and abide by applicable SRYHA rules and regulations as outlined in the SRYHA Handbook <https://www.yetishockey.com/parent-resources/documents/>. SRYHA has a zero tolerance of abuse for all club representatives, members and participants. Abuse includes, but is not limited to verbal, physical, mental, sexual, and all forms of neglect. All violations of this code of conduct will be subject to investigation by SRYHA and ultimately may result in suspension or dismissal of the offending member; parent and/or player.

ABUSE PREVENTION & BACKGROUND CHECK: If you plan to volunteer, coach, or are a player born in 2006 or earlier, you MUST complete Abuse Prevention certification and pass a background check prior to being allowed to attend or participate in any/all SRYHA organized events, games or training.

CONCUSSION INFORMATION: I, as the parent/legal guardian of the above-named child, hereby acknowledge the receipt of the concussion information provided below. I further understand that a child who exhibits signs of concussion will be removed from practice and other on-ice activities until the SRYHA coaching staff is provided with a signed medical release from a physician.

I have read the above paragraphs and fully understand the terms contained herein. I understand that I agree to assume certain responsibilities and commitments to release SRYHA from certain possible future liabilities.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____



RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR MINOR PARTICIPANTS

READ BEFORE SIGNING

IN CONSIDERATION OF my child/ward being allowed to participate in any way in the Snake River Youth Hockey Association related events and activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

The risks of injury and illness (ex: communicable diseases such as MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19) to my child from the activities involved in these programs are significant, including the potential for permanent disability and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce these risks, the risks of serious injury and illness do exist; and,

1. FOR MYSELF, SPOUSE, AND CHILD, I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my child's participation; and,
2. I willingly agree to comply with the program's stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If I observe any unusual significant concern in my child's readiness for participation and/or in the program itself, I will remove my child from the participation and bring such attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
3. I myself, my spouse, my child, and on behalf of my/our heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS the Snake River Youth Hockey Association; its directors, officers, officials, agents, employees, volunteers, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("Releasees"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, ILLNESS, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property incident to my child's involvement or participation in these programs, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
4. I, for myself, my spouse, my child, and on behalf of my/our heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS all the above Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my involvement or participation in these programs, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
5. I, the parent/guardian, assert that I have explained to my child/ward: the risks of the activity, his/her responsibilities for adhering to the rules and regulations, and that my child/ward understands this agreement.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR MINOR PARTICIPANTS CONTINUED

I, FOR MYSELF, MY SPOUSE, AND CHILD/WARD, HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT WE HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

Name of Player: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____



24 HOUR RULE FOR PARENTS AND COACHES

In order to provide a positive environment for our players SRYHA is requiring all parents and coaches to abide by a 24-hour rule.

Parents/guardians/spectators are not permitted to question or confront a coach, referee, or league official to discuss any “negative” game or practice situation until at least 24 hours have passed from the completion of the game or practice. We understand that it can be emotionally charging to watch your child play, but directly after the game/practice is not the proper time to discuss a game or practice.

If after the 24-hour cooling period has passed and you still feel like the grievance needs to be discussed you may email, call, or have a conversation with the head coach. It is not appropriate to reach out to an assistant coach or helper for this discussion. All conversations must be respectful, held away from children and discontinued if voices become raised or tempers flare. If you feel that you need to speak to someone other than the Head Coach after the 24-Hour Rule, please feel free to contact SRYHA President via email.

Issues such as the safety of any child, bullying, threats or any possible abusive concerns should be directed to the Head Coach, SRYHA President, or any SRYHA board member immediately. The 24-Hour Rule is only for issues in which you may have a grievance or are upset about a situation with a coach. We encourage you to talk to your coach at any time if you have any questions about games, practices, or any other questions you may have concerning your child. Feel free to contact the SRYHA President at any time if you have questions and concerns.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action levied by the SRYHA board of directors that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal Warning
- Written Warning
- Parental suspension for games
- Parental season suspension
- Parental removal from all league activities

The Snake River Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors retains the sole authority to determine what, if any, disciplinary action is appropriate for any conduct infraction.

As a side note, the 24-hour rule can often be helpful when talking to your own child after their games and practices. Before critiquing what you noticed from the sidelines, consider waiting 24 hours to see if it still seems worth mentioning. Our kids are looking to us to be their biggest cheerleaders and to support them as they learn and grow.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____



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SEASON SOCIAL MEDIA RELEASE

I hereby authorize SRYHA to use my photo related to my experiences with the Yetis. I understand this information may be used in publications, including electronic publications, audiovisual presentations, promotional literature, advertising, and community presentations.

I understand that I can revoke this release any time in writing to the SRYHA board of directors.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____



CONCUSSION IDENTIFICATION FOR PARENTS

WHAT IS A CONCUSSION? A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury. Concussions are caused by a bump or blow to the head. Even a “ding,” “getting your bell rung,” or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious. You can’t see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussion can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days or weeks after the injury. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms yourself, seek medical attention right away.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF CONCUSSION? If your child has experienced a bump or blow to the head during a game or practice, look for any of the following signs of a concussion:

SYMPTOMS REPORTED BY ATHLETE:

- Headache or “pressure” in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Double or blurry vision
- Sensitivity to light
- Sensitivity to noise
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion
- Just not “feeling right” or is “feeling down”

SIGNS OBSERVED BY PARENTS/ GUARDIANS:

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about assignment or position
- Forgets an instruction
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes

DANGER SIGNS: Be alert for symptoms that worsen over time. Your child or teen should be seen in an emergency department right away if s/he has:

- One pupil (the black part in the middle of the eye) larger than the other
- Drowsiness or cannot be awakened
- A headache that gets worse and does not go away
- Weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination
- Repeated vomiting or nausea
- Slurred speech
- Convulsions or seizures
- Difficulty recognizing people or places
- Increasing confusion, restlessness, or agitation



- Unusual behavior
- Loss of consciousness (even a brief loss of consciousness should be taken seriously)

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU THINK YOUR CHILD HAS A CONCUSSION?

SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION RIGHT AWAY: A health care professional will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for your child to return to regular activities, including sports.

KEEP YOUR CHILD OUT OF PLAY: Concussions take time to heal. Don't let your child return to play the day of the injury and until a health care professional says it's OK. Children who return to play too soon - while the brain is still healing - risk a greater chance of having a second concussion. Repeat or later concussions can be very serious. They can cause permanent brain damage, affecting your child for a lifetime.

TELL YOUR CHILD'S COACH ABOUT ANY PREVIOUS CONCUSSION: Coaches should know if your child had a previous concussion. Your child's coach may not know about a concussion your child received in another sport or activity unless you tell the coach.

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD PREVENT A CONCUSSION OR OTHER SERIOUS BRAIN INJURY?

- Ensure that they follow their coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Encourage them to always practice good sportsmanship.
- Make sure they wear the right protective equipment for their activity. Protective equipment should fit properly and be well maintained.
- Wearing a helmet is a must to reduce the risk of a serious brain injury or skull fracture.
- However, helmets are not designed to prevent concussions. There is no "concussion-proof" helmet. So, even with a helmet, it is important for kids and teens to avoid hits to the head.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL SAFELY AFTER A CONCUSSION? Children and teens who return to school after a concussion may need to:

- Take rest breaks as needed
- Spend fewer hours at school
- Be given more time to take tests or complete assignments
- Receive help with schoolwork
- Reduce time spent reading, writing, or on the computer Talk with your child's teachers, school nurse, coach, speech-language pathologist, or counselor about your child's concussion and symptoms. As your child's symptoms decrease, the extra help or support can be removed gradually