

Coaches Summary of CHC/USA Hockey Rules for rostering players:

This summary is intended to provide coaches with a quick overview of the key rules regarding registration classifications and player movement within the CHC framework.

Registration Classifications:

- Teams must be registered with rosters submitted to the CHC Registrar.
 - All rosters/roster changes should be submitted to the PYH Registrar, who will submit for CHC approval.
- Teams must meet minimum standards defined in the USA Hockey Annual Guide for State, District, and National tournaments. [Link to USA Hockey Annual Guide](#)
- Residency follows USA Hockey rules.
- Girl players may be rostered on a boys/youth team or girls team but not both in the same season.

Competitive Level & Alternates - Player Movement:

- Competitive divisions and tournaments are based on USA Hockey age classifications.
- Players shall play at only one age classification. A player may compete in an age classification higher than his/her actual age with written proof of his/her parent's approval.
- Play up / Stay up. Once a player is included on a roster in a higher age classification, he/she may not go back down to play at the lower age classification for the rest of that season. Such players must be added to the roster of the higher age group team prior to playing on that team. The player must be deleted from the roster of the lower age group team.
 - When applying the Play up / Stay up rule to dual rostered female players, Youth teams and Girls teams are viewed separately i.e. it is permissible for a 10U female player to play on a 10U Youth team and a 12U Girls team but may only play in the postseason with one team per above. (approved April 2023).
- Players may be included on Travel Team rosters and House Team rosters within the same program. This applies equally to boys and girls.
- Players shall play on only one tournament-registered team in a season, except that up to five (5) reserves, designated as alternates on the roster of a team of higher competitive strength, may be regular players on another tournament-registered team of lesser competitive strength within the same program. Such alternates may play in up to nine (9) CHC declared games for the stronger team without losing their eligibility on the weaker team. The team roster size is governed by USA Hockey Rules.
 - Once an alternate has played in ten (10) or more games on the stronger team, however, he/she may not compete on the weaker tournament-registered team for the remainder of that season. Such players moving up must be deleted from the roster of the weaker team.

- Any player, on a youth team, who is registered as a regular on a team of lesser competitive strength and as an alternate on the team of next higher competitive strength within the same program, may participate with only one team consistently in State, Regional and National tournaments. "For example, once a boys "B" team player competes in 10 state games as an alternate for his program's "A" team, he is ineligible for any further play on the "B" team for the balance of the season through the National tournaments. He may not play in the State tournament for one team and the Regional (and Nationals) for the other.
- If the players do not compete in the 10 game minimums for the stronger team, they are limited to participating in State, Regional and National tournaments for the weaker team only and are ineligible to participate in any post-season tournaments for the stronger team.
- A player may move down from a team of higher competitive strength to a team of lesser competitive strength at any time prior to playing in his/her seventh (7th) game provided that such re-designation occurs before the December roster amendment deadline. Such a re-designated player must be added as a regular player on the weaker team and must be re-designated as an alternate on the stronger team.

Credentials – State, Regional and National Tournament Credentials

All teams that will represent Connecticut in the New England Regional Tournament or USA Hockey National Tournament must prepare a credentials book that includes:

- Approved Team Roster (Form 1-T).
- A blank Credential Verification form with all players and coaches listed.
 - All players whose age has been properly verified by the State Registrar will show a “ ” on the credential verification sheet. Any player without this symbol will need to submit a valid Birth Certificate or copy of passport.
- Signed USA Hockey Consent to Treat Form for each rostered player, coach and manager.
- Sanctioned game score sheets to verify compliance with the 20/10 (Youth) or 14/10 (Girls)
- minimum number of games for eligibility rule for the team and each rostered player.