

Arapahoe Youth Hockey League (AYHL) Arapahoe Hockey Inc. (AHI)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES 2025-2026 Season

Arapahoe Youth Hockey League

Arapahoe Warriors 4810 E. County Line Road Littleton, CO 80126 (303) 754-0560

www.Warriorhockeyclub.com

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1 ABOUT US
- 1.2 MISSION STATEMENT
- 1.3 AYHL PHILOSOPHY
- 1.4 MEMBERSHIP
- 1.5 POLICIES

CHAPTER 2: REGISTRATION

- 2.1 AYHL PLAYER REGISTRATIONS AND DEPOSITS
- 2.2 NO-PAY/NO-PLAY POLICY
- 2.3 AYHL REFUND POLICY
- 2.4 PAYMENT PLANS
- 2.5 PLAYER FINANCIAL RELEASE
- 2.6 USA HOCKEY REGISTRATIONS

CHAPTER 3: HOCKEY OPERATIONS

- 3.1 HOCKEY OPERATIONS
- 3.2 CODE OF CONDUCT
- 3.3 COACH/MANAGER REMOVAL POLICY
- 3.4 PLAYER REMOVAL POLICY
- 3.5 SELECTION OF COACHES/PROCESS
- 3.6 VOLUNTEER COACHES
- 3.7 VOLUNTEER TEAM MANAGER

CHAPTER 4: TRAVEL PROGRAM

- 4.1 TRAVEL PROGRAM OVERVIEW
- 4.2 NUMBER OF TEAMS
- 4.3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM
- 4.4 TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUT PROCEDURE
- 4.5 TEAM PLACEMENT EVALUATIONS/TEAM TRYOUTS
- 4.6 TEAM EVALUATION PROCEDURE
- 4.7 PLAYER MOVE-UPS

CHAPTER 5: RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

- 5.1 RECREATIONAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW
- 5.2 NUMBER OF TEAMS
- 5.3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM
- 5.4 SELECTION OF COACHES/PROCESS
- 5.5 PLAYER EVALUATIONS
- 5.6 PLAYER MOVE-UPS

CHAPTER 6: 8 & UNDER PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- 6.1 8 & UNDER PROGRAM DETAILS
- **6.2** NUMBER OF TEAMS
- 6.3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM
- 6.4 PLAYER EVALUATIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 ABOUT US

The Arapahoe Youth Hockey League (AYHL) are affiliated with the Rocky Mountain Hockey League (RMHF), the Colorado Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA), the Colorado Recreational Hockey League (CRHL) and USA Hockey. AYHL is owned and operated by South Suburban Park and Recreation District (SSPRD) and conducts all of its programs at facilities owned by SSPRD. SSPRD, in its sole discretion, may designate an outside hockey organization to assist in the administration and operation of all or a portion of the AYHL hockey programs. (As used herein, SSPRD shall mean South Suburban Park and Recreation District, and/or its appointed designee(s) and hockey directors). All teams are registered with CAHA and USA Hockey. In partnership with parents, coaches, and SSPRD, AYHL strives to ensure that children are provided with a meaningful and enjoyable hockey experience. AYHL is an athletecentered organization that places the needs of the child first. AYHL gives each member the opportunity to participate to the best of their ability and develop as young athletes. AYHL is guided by the values of good sportsmanship, honesty, respect for all individuals and personal integrity. AYHL's success today and in the future will be measured by involving more children who enjoy playing and participating in hockey.

1.2 <u>MISSION STATEMENT</u>

AYHL's Mission is to promote, develop and administer a hockey program implemented through skill development and competition. AYHL recognizes that there is a broad range of ability and commitment among our participants therefore we offer both a competitive and recreational league. AYHL strives to provide appropriate instruction and competition to provide athletes the opportunity to participate and develop in a competitive hockey environment.

1.3 AYHL PHILOSOPHY

The consistent demonstration of good sportsmanship by all players, parents, coaches, and fans at the ice rink is the guiding principle of our mission. AYHL is committed to giving these young players a positive experience in ice hockey. AYHL will encourage and promote the true competitive spirit while focusing on players' personal development.

It is the policy of the AYHL that all of its members, employees, coaches, and any other individual participating in the activities of AYHL exhibit the qualities of good sportsmanship, civil behavior and abide by the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules, Code of Conduct and decisions of AYHL.

1.4 <u>MEMBERSHIP</u>

AYHL is owned and operated by SSPRD, and therefore does not have board membership, nor does it hold annual meetings or have any voting within the hockey association.

1.5 **POLICIES**

1.5.1 GRIEVANCE RESOLUTION

AYHL shall provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of grievances of its members, including fair notice and opportunity for a hearing to any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, or official before declaring such individual ineligible to participate

1.5.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

The conflict-of-interest policy defined in the USA Hockey Annual Guide is intended to help SSPRD, its directors, officers, and certain other persons identify situations that present possible conflicts of interest and to provide a procedure whereby such potential conflicts may be reviewed by an appropriate party when necessary. AYHL and CAHA have adopted the USA Hockey conflict of interest policy.

1.5.3 WHISTLER BLOWER POLICY

A whistleblower, as defined by this policy, is a member, volunteer, executive committee member, or board member of AYHL who reports an activity that he or she considers to be illegal or dishonest to one or more other parties specified in this 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 AYHL. The member or volunteer must exercise sound judgment to avoid baseline allegations. A member or volunteer who intentionally files a false report of wrongdoing will be subject to discipline up to and including suspension.

Whistleblower protections are to cover two important areas: confidentiality and retaliation. Insofar as possible, the confidentiality of the whistleblower will be maintained. However, identity may have to be disclosed to conduct a thorough investigation, to comply with the law and to provide accused individuals of their legal rights of defense. There shall be no retaliation against a whistleblower. This includes, but is not limited to, protection from retaliation in the form of an adverse action such as suspension, fines or threats of physical harm. Any whistleblower who believes he or she is being retaliated against must contact AYHL. The right of the whistleblower for protection against retaliation does not include immunity for any personal wrongdoing that is alleged and investigated.

1.5.4 ABUSE

AYHL prohibits sexual and physical abuse. The USA Hockey Safesport program (Safesport) is implemented at AYHL and requires every member to read and accept Safesport policies which can be found in the AYHL Code of Conduct & Safesport Manual

1.5.5 DOCUMENT PUBLICATIONS

AYHL Policies and Procedures and other governing documents and all amendments are available on the AYHL website at www.Warriorhockeyclub.com.

REGISTRATION

2.1 <u>RETURNING PLAYER REGISTRATIONS AND DEPOSIT</u>

To hold a space for the upcoming AYHL hockey season, a **NON-REFUNDABLE** and **NON-TRANSFERABLE** deposit is required at the time of registration. A player **IS NOT** considered registered until this deposit is received. Registration for players who participated in AYHL the previous season will be open on or around June 1st of each year.

All players must also be registered with **USA Hockey** and **CAHA** for the current season. You will be required to enter your current season's **USA Hockey confirmation number** at the beginning of the AYHL online registration process.

By completing registration with AYHL, you are making a full-season financial commitment to the Arapahoe Youth Hockey League. This commitment stands regardless of a player's team placement upon completion of tryouts. A position in AYHL is reserved for your player at the time of registration.

It is AYHL's policy that players may not be rostered with any other association or tournament team (travel or recreational) while participating with AYHL during the same season without director approval.

2.2 NO PAY – NO PLAY POLICY

If it is determined that a registration payment has not been made by an AYHL player, the "no pay-no play" policy takes effect, and the delinquent family will be notified. Payment compliance must be made at that time, or the player will not be allowed to skate until the bill is paid in full. In addition, per CAHA rules, any player who has an outstanding balance with a CAHA team cannot be transferred, registered or rostered on another CAHA team until the outstanding balance is paid to the previous team. Any player that has been removed from AYHL with an outstanding balance will be placed on the CAHA Delinquent list until the payment is received in full.

2.3 AYHL REFUND POLICY

- i. AYHL fees and deposits are non-refundable and non-transferable.
- ii. AYHL may offer a third-party insurance at time of registration. If offered this is at the discretion of each registrant and all claims must be handled directly with such if purchased.
- iii. AYHL players who pay registration and then tryout and make a team that is part of a
- iv. boarding school or junior team will be refunded upon a written request sent to AYHL.

2.4 PAYMENT PLANS

The AYHL deposit that is due at the time of registration cannot be split into payments. The deposit is to be paid in full at the time of registration. Upon completion of Tryouts/Evaluations and team selection, the remaining balance due can be paid in full or split into 2 or 3 payments, with all payments due by December 31st of that year.

2.5 EXISTING AYHL PLAYER FINANCIAL RELEASE REQUESTS

Players seeking release from AYHL must fill out and submit the release letter to the appropriate hockey director. Upon verification of past and present financial obligations paid in full, letters will be approved within 3 business days. Players requesting releases will relinquish their position with the AYHL organization.

2.6 <u>NEW PLAYER TO AYHL FINANCIAL RELEASE REQUIREMENTS</u>

Players who have been accepted as a NEW PLAYER to AYHL per the AYHL Travel Hockey New Player Application, and who played for another association, need to submit a financial release from their previous association prior to completing the AYHL formal Registration process.

2.6 USA HOCKEY REGISTRATIONS

AYHL will comply with Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules, and decisions of CAHA and USA Hockey.

All teams, coaches, players, volunteers, directors, and board members are required to be registered with USA Hockey.

All AYHL approved teams will have a USAH 1-T roster and will comply with USA Hockey and CAHA rules regarding rosters.

2.7 AYHL NEW PLAYER APPLICATION

- Players who are looking at joining AYHL Travel Hockey must apply to the AYHL Program. New player applications will be available on the website on or around June 1st of each year.
- ii. New Players who did not play for AYHL the previous season and who fill out a New Player Application will be notified no earlier than July 1st of the current season in regard to their acceptance or denial into the AYHL Program.
- iii. Prior to registering with AYHL, all new accepted new players are required to send a CAHA "Financial Release" letter stating that all fees due to the previous organization have been paid in entirety.

2.8 AYHL YOUTH TRAVEL HOCKEY NEW PLAYER TRANSFER POLICY

AYHL is fully committed to the development of athletes within their home associations and communities. We prioritize **player development over recruitment**, and our policies reflect this philosophy.

- i. Each year **AYHL Travel Hockey** will only accept up to ten (10) transfer players at the 10U and 12U age Divisions that were part of another RMHF association the previous season.
- ii. Each year **AYHL Travel Hockey** will only accept up to twelve (12) transfer players at the 14U age Division that were part of another RMHF association the previous season.
- iii. Of the ten (10) / twelve (12) potential transfers at a Division, **AYHL Travel Hockey** will only accept up to three (3) players from an existing small RMHF Member organization and up to five (5) players from a large existing RMHF Member association. Organizations labeled as a small organization are those who have player membership under 449 players registered in their program.
- iv. Of the ten (10) potential transfers in a Division, AYHL will only accept 25% or four (4) transfers to the top (AA) team within the division.
- v. If AYHL decides to host a second AA team during any season, AYHL will only accept two (2) transfers to such team.
- vi. Exceptions to the AYHL Youth New Player/Transfer Policy:
 - a. 16U and/or18U Players do not apply
 - b. CRHL Transfers do not apply
 - c. Non-RMHF Transfers do not apply
 - d. Out-of-State Transfers do not apply
 - e. The Player Transfer Rule does not apply for a 140/130 Tier 1 Player or Junior player desiring to be rostered on any RMHF team

2.9 AYHL GIRLS TRAVEL HOCKEY NEW PLAYER TRANSFER POLICY

- i. Each year **AYHL Lady Warriors Travel Hockey** will only accept up to four (4) transfer players at the 10U and 12U age Division that were part of another RMHF association the previous season.
- ii. Of the four (4) potential female transfers at the 10U and 12U Divisions, **AYHL Lady Warriors Travel Hockey** will only accept up to three (2) players from an existing RMHF Member association.
- iii. Exceptions to the AYHL Girls New Player/Transfer Policy:
 - a. 16U and/or18U Players do not apply
 - b. CRHL Transfers do not apply
 - c. Non-RMHF Transfers do not apply
 - d. Out-of-State Transfers do not apply
 - e. The Player Transfer Rule does not apply for a 140/130 Tier 1 Player or Junior player desiring to be rostered on any RMHF team

HOCKEY OPERATIONS

3.1 HOCKEY OPERATIONS

AYHL, which is overseen by SSPRD, is a member of the Rocky Mountain Hockey Federation (RMHF), Colorado Recreational Hockey League (CRHL), Colorado Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA); USA Hockey, and AYHL rules and regulations, and have full power and authority over all AYHL teams. All AYHL teams will abide by all the rules of the RMHF, CRHL, CAHA and USA Hockey in addition to the AYHL rules. Any decisions regarding, but not limited to, organization of programs and divisions, specifications of formats and local playing rules, screening of coaches, any discipline to any member of AYHL, and evaluation and placement of players and coaches are the responsibility of SSPRD.

3.2 CODE OF CONDUCT

ALL MEMBERS ARE BOUND BY THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF USA HOCKEY AND AYHL. THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS MAY BE AMENDED OR REPEALED AT THE DISCRETION OF SOUTH SUBURBAN PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT.

The Code of Conduct is based on the rules of the USA Hockey, CAHA, RMHF and the CRHL Hockey League. A breach of any of the following points constitutes a violation of the Code of Conduct of AYHL. This list includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Making physical contact with any player, coach, an on or off-ice official, an association or league representative, arena personnel, spectator or parent.
- Taunting or threatening any player, coach, official, association or league representative, arena personnel, spectator, or parent.
- Going onto the ice surface for any reason, unless directed by a coach or other official.
- Entering the bench area during a game.
- Entering the locker room of any opposing team or obstructing their access or exit from said room or arena.
- Entering the locker room of any official or obstructing their access or exit from said room or arena.
- Using profane and/or vulgar language or mannerisms that are offensive to other persons.
- Throwing of any object onto the ice surface, into the player's area, or at another individual.
- Pounding or climbing on the glass.
- Defacing or damaging property belonging to any individual, team, association, or arena.
- Violating SSPRD rules, including, but not limited to:
 - O Damage to the facility and/or vandalism of any sort
 - Theft of any kind
 - Violation of the floor hockey rule
 - o Being involved with any activity that would warrant the summoning of law enforcement officials.
 - o Being involved with drugs or alcohol in and/or around the Family Sports Center
 - o Inciting other persons to become involved in any of the above listed activities.
 - Any other conduct deemed inappropriate by the officials, representatives, and Board members of AYHL, and rink personnel.

It is the intent of AYHL to provide a fair and impartial review procedure to determine whether a member has been involved in misconduct while participating in activities sponsored by AYHL, USA Hockey, CAHA, RMHF, the CRHL League, or any other participating event. An

individual is a member participating in any sponsored activity if he or she is a spectator, a volunteer minor game official (time-keeper, score keeper, penalty box supervisor, or other office official), a player or coach on an association team or in attendance at any event sponsored by AYHL.

When it is found that a member has violated the Code of Conduct, AYHL will discipline the individual in accordance with the procedures and penalties set forth in this policy and guidelines and with Safesport, if applicable.

Discipline

SSPRD and its designated Safesport representative shall:

Review allegations of misconduct;

- Determine if an individual has violated the code;
- Issue penalties commensurate with the severity of the offense when it is determined that a violation has occurred.
- Convene, if deemed necessary, a hearing to allow input from the individual who violated the offense to state their case on the matter.

3.3 <u>COACH/MANAGER REMOVAL POLICY</u>

All coaches and team managers will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the spirit of the Code of Conduct. Any inappropriate behavior may result in disciplinary action by SSPRD and its designated Safesport representative. This may include removal of the individual from their position. They will be informed of their dismissal in writing, which will include an explanation for the action.

SSPRD and its designated Safesport representative will select the replacement coach or team manager.

3.4 PLAYER REMOVAL POLICY

All players will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the spirit of the Code of Conduct. Any inappropriate behavior may result in disciplinary action. This may include removal of the individual from the team or AYHL. The player and his/her parents will be informed of their dismissal in writing, which will include an explanation for the action. No refund will be given to any player that has been dismissed from AYHL.

3.5 SELECTION OF COACHES /PROCESS

At the end of each season, AYHL families will have the opportunity to submit "Coach Evaluations" for their teams' coaches to SSPRD. These will be reviewed ONLY by SSPRD management and will be used in helping to determine a coach's status for the following season. A review will be done on the evaluations received by the deadline and exit interviews will be conducted with each coach at the end of the season. SSPRD will then compile all of the information from the new coaching applications, the coach evaluations, and the exit interview to determine the coaches for the next season. This list will be posted on the AYHL website when final coaches have been determined.

3.6 **VOLUNTEER COACHES**

USA Hockey Coaching Certification is required for any coach who wishes to coach in our Association and is required before any coach is added to the roster. All coaches will go through a background check with CAHA before they can be placed on a team. AYHL encourages a

developmental philosophy among our coaches to teach the game, improve players' skills, emphasize player development and playing the game not necessarily for the win but for team growth. It is important to remember that the majority of our coaches are volunteers. Without their dedication and commitment to the growth and development of our players, AYHL could not operate at the level we currently enjoy.

3.7 **VOLUNTEER TEAM MANAGERS**

Each team is required to assign one team manager to its roster. It is up to the head coach to name the team manager for the team. All team managers will go through a background check with CAHA before they can be placed on a team. It is important to remember this is a volunteer position. Without their dedication and commitment to the teams they support, AYHL could not operate to the level we currently enjoy. Please take the time this year to thank your team managers for their time and effort in supporting the team during the season. This is a huge commitment from all of our team managers.

TRAVEL PROGRAM

4.1 TRAVEL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Travel hockey is the most competitive level of hockey offered at AYHL. Travel players can expect to pay more, travel more, and receive more ice time. As such, expectations placed on the families and players are high. Players are expected to attend all practices, games, and tournaments. Although absences are understandable and will occur, it is expected that absences will be the exception rather than the rule.

- Players who are registered for AYHL Travel Hockey and are placed on an AYHL team are not allowed to play for another association during the Fall/Winter playing season. If players are double rostered with another association or tournament team without director approval, they may be dismissed from AYHL and forfeit their fees.
- Be prepared to travel over holiday breaks (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Martin Luther King Day and President's Day) to attend tournaments.
- Practices may be as many as 2-3 times a week with additional time for off-ice (dry land) training sessions. Weekday morning practices may be part of the competitive travel commitment
- Expect to travel out-of-state for tournaments. The AYHL travel director, along with the team coaches, approves all decisions regarding travel and tournaments.
- By committing to a travel team, players agree to attend all practices, games, tournaments and team meetings.
- Each team's expectations and standards will be set by that team's coaching staff in coordination with the travel director. Players who miss scheduled team events may jeopardize the opportunity to participate in future team events, including practices, games and/or tournaments.
- It is fully understood that due to the nature of travel hockey, AYHL does not guarantee equal ice time during travel games. The head coach has discretion when determining the amount of playing time each player receives.
- There are other costs associated with travel participation in addition to the initial registration and league fees, including but not limited to: transportation, lodging, meals, tournament fees, coaches travel expenses, assistant coaches travel expenses, additional ice time, clothing and miscellaneous costs which are outside the scope of the basic

registration fees. Participants are responsible for all additional fees regardless of participation in specific events.

4.2 **NUMBER OF TEAMS**

SSPRD, subject to approval by the RMHF Board of Directors, shall determine the number of teams to be fielded each year. The number of teams fielded by AYHL may vary from year to year based on enrollment and the landscape of Colorado Youth Hockey

4.3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM

The number of players on any team may vary. There does not have to be an equal number of players on each team within any age division.

4.4 TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUT PROCEDURE

The AYHL website will list the schedules for all tryout dates and times. All players properly registered with AYHL may try out for any travel team at their respective age level as determined by USA Hockey guidelines.

All players must register for each level of tryouts through the online AYHL League registration prior to tryout dates. There will be a tryout fee associated with each tryout level.

4.5 TEAM PLACEMENT EVALUATIONS/TEAM TRYOUTS

AYHL offers a travel program for 10U, 12U, 14U and 16U divisions. Our principal purpose is to provide the athletes in the appropriate age group the opportunity to participate in a competitive hockey environment by offering high quality coaching, adequate ice time for practice and skill development, and exposure to advanced competition through participation in high caliber games and tournaments.

Tryouts will be held prior to the start of each season in order to place each player on the appropriate team. There is not guaranteed placement on any particular travel team. If a player tries out for a travel team and does not make any travel team, he/she will be placed on an AYHL recreational team.

The coaches along with appointed evaluators and travel hockey director will first select the top team for each level of play.

4.6 TRYOUT EVALUATION PROCEDURE

At a minimum, players shall be evaluated by the head coach, at least one additional qualified onice evaluator, SSPRD and a neutral observer. Additional evaluators may be utilized, if desired. The evaluators selected by the coach should be approved by SSPRD. Each evaluator should attempt to make a written evaluation of each player and determine the overall skill level of each player. Players shall be selected by the head coach and SSPRD, after review and consideration of the evaluation scores. Coaches need not select players solely on their written evaluation scores, but may also factor in other consideration such as; team chemistry, the players' heart, desire, temperament and level of commitment; whether the player is a good fit for the team, the "coachability" of the player; the players' prior history with AYHL, etc. The coach of the higher skill level team in each age division shall choose his/her team first. Any player not chosen for a travel team will be guaranteed placement on a recreational AYHL team. Players will be notified within 24 hours to the team placement and/or additional tryout dates and times.

4.7 PLAYER MOVE-UPS

- Any player wishing to play at a higher age group must contact SSPRD and submit the request in writing prior to travel tryouts.
- Sign a waiver releasing AYHL from any claims of injury.
- The player must make the highest-level team at the age division (i.e. 10UAA-12UAA-14UAA-16UAA) and must be an "Impact Player" at the next level.

CRHL RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

5.1 <u>RECREATIONAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW</u>

The recreation program offers an alternative to the highly competitive environment of travel hockey. USA Hockey and AYHL encourages a competitive environment, in which players can learn the skills of hockey without the distractions that are often associated with competitive travel hockey. Families participating in the recreation program can expect less demands of the program. The recreation program is a member of the CRHL Hockey League and includes games against other recreational teams from other associations in and around the Denver metro area.

SSPRD, in its sole discretion, may allow AYHL recreational teams to participate in tournaments other than the AYHL Mile High Meltdown. All recreational teams are expected to participate in the Mile High Meltdown and are allowed to participate in 2 additional in-state tournaments.

Players who are registered for AYHL Hockey and are placed on an AYHL team are not allowed to play for another association during the Fall/Winter playing season. If players are double rostered with another association or tournament team without director approval, they may be dismissed from AYHL and forfeit their fees.

10U, 12U, 14U and 18U Groups:

- AYHL will follow the game and league guidelines of the CRHL league.
- Practices will be 60 minutes of half-ice with 2 teams sharing the ice.
- All Games will be full ice.
- Scores and league standings will be kept on Gamesheets
- AYHL recreation players cannot be rostered with another association.
- Teams are limited to two per season in addition to the Mile High Meltdown.

5.2 NUMBER OF TEAMS

SSPRD, subject to AYHL registrations, shall determine the number of teams to be fielded each year. The number of teams fielded by AYHL may vary from year to year as circumstances warrant.

5.3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM

The standard recreational team may consist of a maximum of 16 skaters and 2 goalies. The actual number of players on any team may vary at the discretion of the recreational hockey director. There does not have to be an equal number of players on each team within any age division.

5.4 <u>SELECTION OF COACHES / PROCESS</u>

At the end of each season, AYHL families will have the opportunity to submit "Coach Evaluations" for their teams' coaches to the appropriate hockey director. These will be reviewed ONLY by the appropriate hockey director and SSPRD management and will be used in helping to determine a coach's status for the following season. A review will be done on the evaluations received by the deadline and exit interviews will be conducted with each coach at the end of the season. SSPRD will then compile all the information from the new coaching applications, the coach evaluations, and the exit interview to determine the coaches for the next season. This list will be posted on the AYHL website when final coaches have been determined by SSPRD.

5.5 PLAYER EVALUATIONS

Each year all recreation coaches are required to conduct an on-ice evaluation of the respective registered players to rate hockey skills and playing ability. These ratings are used to assign players to teams for the next season in order to achieve balance throughout the divisions when teams are assigned the following season. Players who are not placed on a CRHL team, due to their skill level and safety concerns will be placed on an AYHL Junior Warrior House League team.

8 & UNDER PROGRAM OVERVIEW

USA Hockey and AYHL promote a developmental environment, in which children can learn the basic skills of hockey. The AYHL U8 program consists of 3 levels: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced.

AYHL 8 & Under teams can participate in jamborees other than the AYHL Frozen 8's Jamboree. Participation must be approved by SSPRD, and may be denied at SSPRD's sole discretion. All 8 & Under teams are expected to participate in the Frozen 8's Jamboree.

6.1 <u>8 & UNDER PROGRAM DETAILS</u>

- Players will be placed on teams according to age and/or ability
- Practices will be cross ice and follow the USA Hockey ADM (American Developmental Model)
- Increase opportunities for players to touch and handle the puck.
- Stress participation, fun and skill development.
- Provide a positive environment for learning the fundamental skills of hockey.
- Encourage creativity with and without the puck.
- AYHL in-house hockey director must approve all jamborees and rosters.
- AYHL 8 & Under players cannot be rostered with another association. Players who are
 registered for AYHL Hockey and are placed on an AYHL team are not allowed to play
 for another association during the Fall/Winter playing season. If players are double
 rostered with another association or tournament team without director approval, they may
 be dismissed from AYHL and forfeit their fees.

6.2 NUMBER OF TEAMS

SSPRD, subject to AYHL registrations, shall determine the number of teams to be fielded each year. The number of teams fielded by AYHL may vary from year to year as circumstances warrant.

6.3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM

The actual number of players on any team may vary at the discretion of the recreational hockey director. There does not have to be an equal number of players on each team within any age division.

6.4 PLAYER EVALUATIONS

Each year all recreational coaches are required to conduct an on-ice evaluation of the respective registered players to rate hockey skills and playing ability. These ratings are used to assign players to teams in order to achieve balance throughout the divisions when teams are assigned the following season.

Last Revision 6/18/2025