

BY-LAWS
OF
MICHIANA HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE, INC.

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ARTICLE 1

Identification

1.01. NAME

The name of the Corporation is MICHIANA HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE, INC. (The "League").

Section 1.02. PURPOSES

The League is a Public Benefit Corporation under the Indiana Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1991 (the "Act") organized for the following purposes:

- (a) To coordinate and support high school hockey teams from the Michiana area.
- (b) Engaging generally, as a Nonprofit Corporation, in other lawful endeavors consistent with the foregoing specifically stated purposes.
- (c) The Corporation, its Directors, Officers and members of its Committees shall not exercise any power or authority, engage in any activity, perform or take any action that would prevent, endanger or jeopardize the League's tax exempt status as an organization described in Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and Regulations promulgated thereunder as such Section and Regulations may, from time to time, be amended.

Section 1.03. LIMITATIONS

Notwithstanding the foregoing or any other provision of these Bylaws:

- (a) This Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for the educational and charitable purposes described above and no part of the net earnings of the League shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its directors, officers, or other private persons, except the League shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth above.
- (b) The Corporation shall not carry on any propaganda, or otherwise attempt, to influence legislation and shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.
- (c) The Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (i) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue statute or (ii) by a corporation,

contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Code or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue statute.

ARTICLE 2

Board of Directors

Section 2.01. FUNCTIONS

The business, property and affairs of the League shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Directors (“Board”) as from time to time constituted.

Section 2.02. BOARD MEMBERS

The Board shall be comprised of the following Officers: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Commissioners. The remainder of the Board shall consist of one Team Representative from each league team. Each school/team name shall consist of only one representative regardless of how many teams that individual school/team name possesses. The number of Commissioners shall be adjusted such that the number of Officers plus Commissioners shall not exceed the number of league teams. Under no circumstances shall the Officers be adjusted. Members of a League Team’s coaching staff are ineligible to be Board Members. Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, all members of the Board of Directors shall have and be subject to the same and equal qualifications, rights, privileges, duties, limitations and restrictions.

Section 2.03. ELECTION

The elected Board shall be composed of those individuals who are elected at the Annual League Meeting (see Sections 5.02) to serve as President, Vice-President, Secretary Treasurer and Commissioners; these Board members shall be elected by the voting members of the League.

Section 2.04. TERMS

Each member of the elected Board shall serve for a term of one year or until a successor is elected, or until the Board member has resigned or been removed. Incumbent Board members shall be eligible for re-election and the number of years a person may serve as a Board member is not limited.

Section 2.05. VACANCIES

Any vacancy on the elected Board caused by death, resignation, removal or otherwise shall be filled by the remaining Board, or if the Board members remaining in office constitute fewer than a quorum, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board members remaining in office. A Board member elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office until the expiration of the term of the Board member causing the vacancy and until a successor shall be elected.

Section 2.06. RESIGNATION

Any elected Board member may resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the Board, the President or the Secretary of the League. A Resignation is effective upon delivery unless the notice specifies a later effective date. The acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section 2.07. REMOVAL

Any Board member may be removed from office, with or without cause, by a vote of 70% of the total voting members of the League. This vote shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 5.10.

Section 2.08. TEAM REPRESENTATIVE

Each school/team name shall appoint or elect a member to serve on the Board until replaced by the team. The League team shall notify the Board Secretary concerning the voting member representing that team. In the event a Team Representative cannot attend a meeting he or she shall appoint a proxy to stand in with all voting rights. No Team Representative or Team Proxy Representative may be on the coaching staff of a Member Team.

ARTICLE 3

Officers Duties

Section 3.01. OFFICERS

The officers of the League shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and League Commissioners as outlined in Section 2.02, with three (3) being the maximum. Only one (1) office may be held by the same person.

Section 3.02. PRESIDENT

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board and at all League Meetings; shall appoint the chairpersons of all standing and temporary committees, is subject to review of the Board; shall be the chief executive officer of the League; shall have and exercise general charge and supervision of the affairs of the league; and shall do and perform such other duties as these By-Laws provide or as maybe assigned by the Board.

Section 3.03. VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall exercise and perform all powers of, and perform duties incumbent upon, the President during the absence or disability of the President and shall exercise and perform such other powers and duties as these By-Laws, the Board, or the President may prescribe. The Vice-President shall Chair the Disciplinary Committee. The Vice-President will coordinate and manage the league's concussion protocol documents and processing.

Section 3.04. SECRETARY

The Secretary shall have the custody and care of the corporate records and the minute's book of the League. The Secretary shall attend all the League meetings (including the Annual League Meeting) and all meetings of the Board, and shall keep, or cause to be kept in a book provided for the purpose, a true and complete record of the proceedings of such meetings and shall perform a like duty for all standing committees of the Board when required. The Secretary shall attend to the giving and serving of all notices of the League, shall file and take care of all papers and documents belonging to the League, shall authenticate records of the League as necessary. The Secretary is responsible for League grade verification twice per season (See Section 7.01. Eligibility) and shall perform such other duties as may be required by these By-Laws or as may be prescribed by the Board or the President.

Section 3.05. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall keep correct and complete records of account, showing accurately at all times the financial condition of the League. The Treasurer shall be the legal custodian of all monies, notes, securities, and other valuables which may from time to time come into the possession of the League. All funds of the League coming into the Treasurer's hands shall be immediately deposited in some reliable bank or other depository to be designated by the Board and shall keep such bank account in the name of the League. The Treasurer shall furnish at meetings of the Board, or whenever requested by the Board, a statement of the financial condition of the League and shall perform such other duties as may be required by these By-Laws or as may be prescribed by the Board or the

President. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual League budget and after Board approval shall assess each League team accordingly. The Treasurer shall communicate this information to the individual team Treasurers to assist in developing team budgets.

Section 3.06. COMMISSIONERS

Shall attend League games and meetings; observe the conduct of the coaches, players, officials and fans. If possible, at least one Commissioner shall serve on the Disciplinary Committee. Commissioners may also have specific assigned duties for the season such as overseeing the MSHSL schedule, draft, Team Michiana, etc.

ARTICLE 4

Committees, Appointees and Invitees

Section 4.01. APPOINTMENT OR RECOGNITION

The President shall appoint State Representatives to the Indiana State High School Hockey Association (ISHSHA), a Scorekeeper Coordinator and shall recognize a Referee-in-Chief. These individuals shall be invited to attend any League Meetings.

Section 4.02. STATE REPRESENTATIVE

The President shall appoint one or more Michiana High School League State Representatives to represent the League in all Indiana State High School Hockey matters. The State Representative(s) will attend all Indiana State High School Hockey meetings and report the issues discussed at these meetings to the Board of Directors. All League issues relating to the Indiana State High School Hockey Association program shall be presented to the Indiana State High School Hockey Association, Inc. by the State Representative(s). The State Representative(s) may or may not be an officer(s) of the League.

Section 4.03. SCOREKEEPER COORDINATOR

This is a non-voting position. The Scorekeeper Coordinator, who shall be appointed by the President, shall oversee scheduling scorekeepers and announcers for all League games, including regular season games, playoffs, tournaments, all-star games, and the State Tournament if hosted by the League. The League's Member Teams shall work through the Scorekeeper Coordinator for purposes of scheduling scorekeepers for non-League games.

Section 4.04. LOCAL SUPERVISOR OF OFFICIALS

The Board shall recognize the Local Supervisor of Officials appointed by the referee association which referees the League games. The Local Supervisor of Officials may or may not be an active referee. The Local Supervisor of Officials shall keep the Board, and the League Member Teams informed with respect to rules of U.S.A. Hockey, Inc. and of the Indiana State High School Hockey Association, Inc. The Local Supervisor of Officials shall coordinate with the League to provide referees at all League games and will coordinate with the League Member Teams to provide referees for other games involving League Member Teams. The Local Supervisor of Officials will agree annually with the Board regarding the fees to be paid to the referees for all League games and for all games involving League Member Teams. All game misconduct and match penalties shall be reported to the Local Supervisor of Officials by the referees working any League game within 24 hours. In addition, all game misconduct and match penalties will be entered into the electronic system within the required timeframe. The referee or Local Supervisor of Officials will forward the game misconduct information to the league Vice-President. The Local Supervisor of Officials may attend meetings of the Disciplinary Committee and shall be responsible for ensuring the attendance of any referee which the Disciplinary Committee has asked to be present at a Disciplinary Committee Meeting upon the request of the Disciplinary Committee Chair.

Section 4.05. COMMITTEES

The Board, by resolution adopted by a majority of the Board, may designate one or more committees, each of which shall consist of at least one Director, which committees, to the extent provided in said resolution, shall have and exercise the authority of the Board in the management of the League. Other committees not having and exercising the authority of the Board in the management of the League may be designated by a resolution adopted by a majority of the Board present at the meeting at which a quorum is present. The designation of any such committee and the delegation thereof of authority shall not operate to relieve the Board, or any individual Board member, of any responsibility imposed by law.

Section 4.06. TEAM MICHIANA

The Board shall appoint a Commissioner, to perform the necessary functions to form and operate a 16U and 18U team. (Section 9.01).

Section 4.07. CROSSOVER TOURNAMENT

The Board shall appoint a Commissioner, to plan and perform all necessary functions associated with hosting a crossover tournament.

Section 4.08. LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

The President/Board shall appoint a Commissioner, a committee or a League team to coordinate and schedule the League Tournament at the end of the regular season and prior to the State Tournament.

Section 4.09. SPRING LEAGUE

The Board shall appoint a Commissioner, committee or League Team to coordinate the Spring Hockey season.

Section 4.10. LEAGUE DRAFT

The Board shall appoint a Commissioner or a committee to organize and schedule the League draft when required. (Section 7.03B)

ARTICLE 5

League Meetings and Team Representatives

Section 5.01. LEAGUE MEETINGS

Regular League Meetings will be held monthly on the first Wednesday of each month unless another date is set by the Board. Meetings can be postponed or canceled in the event of a Travel Advisory being issued for Saint Joseph County, Indiana and for a Stay-at-Home Order issued by the State's Governor. All meetings of the Board shall be held either at the registered office of the League in the State of Indiana, or at such other place within or without the State of Indiana as may be designated by the Board of Directors and specified in the respective notices.

Section 5.02. ANNUAL LEAGUE MEETING AND ELECTION VOTING

The Annual League Meeting will be the League Meeting in May. At the Annual League Meeting, the Board shall vote to elect a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Commissioners who shall serve for one (1) year or until their successor is duly elected. Sitting Officers may not vote for their office should they run for the same position, and if the vote is conducted by some format other than a paper or electronic ballot, shall excuse themselves from the meeting during the vote for that office. For all other offices the President shall vote, but that vote shall only be used to break any tie vote. These votes shall not be subject to Section 5.10. The Board shall meet immediately following the

Annual League Meeting for the purpose of organization and consideration of any other business that may properly be brought before the meeting.

Section 5.03. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special Meetings of the League may be called by the President or by the request of at least two (2) Officers or Commissioners, four (4) Board members, or a majority of Team Representatives, which request shall set forth the business to be conducted at such meeting.

Section 5.04. ATTENDANCE AT LEAGUE MEETINGS

All members of the Board of the League shall be present at the League Meetings. In addition, Coaches, the Referee-in-Chief, the State Representative(s) and the Scorekeeper Coordinator may be present at the monthly League Meetings. League Meetings are open to members of League teams.

Section 5.05. VOTING

Each member of the Board shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all matters presented at League Meetings, other than the election voting in Section 5.02. The Coaches, Referee-in-Chief, State Representative(s) and Scorekeeper Coordinator shall not have a vote on such matters unless they are a member of the Board of Directors or a Team Representative. JV teams are not considered to be voting members of the Board.

Section 5.06. NOTICE

Notice of regular League Meetings which are not held on the 1st Wednesday of the month and of special League Meetings, except as otherwise provided herein, shall be given by mailing the same or by telephoning, faxing, emailing, or delivering personally the same at least seven (7) days before the meeting to the usual business or residence address of the Board members as shown in the records of the League.

Section 5.07. QUORUM

A quorum for purposes of any regular, annual or special League Meeting shall be a majority of the qualified members of the Board. The act of a majority of the Board members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be deemed to be the act of Board.

Section 5.08. ACTIONS WITHOUT MEETING

Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if the action is taken by all members of the Board. The action must be evidenced by at least one written consent describing the action taken, signed by each member of the Board, and included in the minutes of the next regular meeting or filed with the corporate records reflecting the action taken.

Section 5.09. MEETING BY TELEPHONE/VIRTUAL ETC.

Any or all the members of the Board may participate in a meeting by or through the use of any means of communication by which all persons participating may simultaneously communicate with each other during the meeting. Participation in a meeting using these means constitutes presence in person at the meeting.

Section 5.10. UNANIMOUS TEAM ACTION

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board, unless said action is exempted in these By-Laws, USA Hockey, SafeSport or ISHSHA, may be taken by a unanimous written consent of the Team Representatives. A resolution so adopted shall override any contrary vote or action by the Board, a Committee of the Board, or any Officer.

ARTICLE 6

League Member Teams

Section 6.01. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LEAGUE MEMBER TEAMS

League Member teams are: Adams High School, Southwest Michigan Blades, Lakeshore Saint Joe, Penn High School, Riley High School, St. Joseph's High School and Valparaiso High School. Schools may in some cases have more than one team, these teams can be static in nature from year to year on whether they compete at the JV or varsity level. Regardless of what level the teams compete in, each school will have only one vote on the MSHSL board of directors unless otherwise voted to admit a new permanent Varsity league team. JV teams may be a part of the League as non-voting members.

- All League Member Teams (see Section 2.02.) must have an active parent organization and a designated Team Representative who must attend all regular, annual and special League Meetings. If a Team Representative is unable to attend such a meeting, he or she shall appoint a proxy to attend on his or her behalf. All League Member Teams must adhere to

these By-Laws and to any rules and regulations adopted by the Board and must participate in League functions as directed by the Board.

- Each League Member Team shall be assessed a fee set forth by the Treasurer as approved at a League Meeting. League Member Teams shall be responsible for paying any installments of the annual League assessment when due. The Board shall have the authority to assess fines against any League Member Teams which fail to pay assessments when due or which fail to provide a Team Representative present at all annual, regular or special League Meetings.
- To participate in the League, League Member Teams must be in good standing with the Indiana or Michigan Amateur Hockey Association and U.S.A. Hockey, Inc. and must have a head coach in good standing with U.S.A. Hockey, Inc. and the League.
- Teams should remain compliant with and follow all USA Hockey SafeSport regulations; all teams will be required to add their team board members to their respective USA hockey rosters. The MSHSL board has the discretion to suspend either the coach or allow the team to not play until this obligation is fulfilled as this is a USA hockey requirement.
- Teams should be compliant with and follow USA Hockey's and ISHSHA's Guidelines on Concussion Protocols.
- Each League Member Team shall submit a roster of players who will represent that team for the current playing season to the President and Secretary at a time established by the Board.
- Each League Member Team shall follow the U.S.A. Hockey, Inc. and the MSHSL Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations regarding equipment and playing rules.
- If any team at any time is in violation of any bylaw provision, that team may be found to not be in good standing with the MSHSL.

Section 6.02. ADMITTANCE OF NEW TEAMS

Any high school (or combination of high schools) desiring to become a League Member Team (where the team does not already have a team under their school/team name) must follow the following procedures to be a League Member Team:

- A formal application shall be submitted which shall state the name of the sponsoring high school(s) or organization, provide a preliminary roster of players, identify the prospective head coach and Team Representative,

and provide written approval of the principal or principals of the high school or high schools sponsoring the hockey team if necessary. The application shall be accompanied by a \$100.00 deposit to be applied to that year's League assessment if the application is approved. Submission of the application does not guarantee the team will be accepted.

- As a condition to seeking membership in the League, a new team must have at least fifteen (15) members, which includes a goalie(s) who are attending high school or are being home schooled in accordance with State guidelines and are in grades 9 through 12.
- The applying team must provide supportive evidence to the League that there are sufficient numbers of players in the lower grades or feeder schools. New teams must provide their own roster of players and will not be eligible to participate in the Supplemental Player Draft (Section 7.02).
- The applying team must have a functioning parent organization and must provide evidence to the League that the team and its organization are solvent and capable of providing the support necessary to participate as a League Member Team.
- The applying team must have the financial capability to provide all team members with jersey, socks, and the other equipment generally provided by League Member Teams.
- The MSHSL reserves the right to require a 3-year probationary period for any team who joins the MSHSL as a new team. At the conclusion of the probationary period the League will vote, prior to the next season, on permanent League membership.

Section 6.03. REDUCTION OF LEAGUE TEAM MEMBER

If the League determines that incoming players are insufficient to maintain the current number of League Member Teams a Special Meeting shall be called to evaluate the situation to the best benefit of the League. The following factors may be considered during the evaluation: Mandatory reduction of League Member Team rosters, number of returning players on each League Member Team, number of returning players who attend the League Member Team school, number of draft selections each League Member Team needs to fill its roster, League Member Team history, Academic achievement of the League Member Team, Disciplinary history of the League Member Team.

Section 6.04. TEAMS' DUTIES

Each League Member Team shall be responsible for scheduling practices, games (other than League games) and cross-over tournament games for the season.

- A. Each League Member Team shall secure U.S.A. Hockey, Inc. player registration forms, and any necessary medical or parental agreement forms for all players and coaches on the team's roster.
- B. Each League Member Team shall be responsible for purchasing all needed equipment, such as jerseys, socks and other equipment.
- C. Each League Member Team shall be responsible for securing minor and major officials for all home cross-over games, securing a scorekeeper, and for scheduling and securing ice time for such games. Each League Member Team shall be responsible for notifying the ice rinks, scorekeeper, and the major and minor officials, at least 5 days in advance of any cancellations of practices or games. The ice rinks, scorekeepers and major and minor officials may have notification periods that differ from the MSHSL period that teams must comply with.
- D. Once the final MSHSL schedule has been released, if a League Member Team cannot play a League game at the time scheduled by the League, that League Member Team shall forfeit the game unless: (i) the opponent agrees to reschedule the game; (ii) the team desiring to reschedule the game makes appropriate financial arrangements for the payment of any losses incurred by the League or by South Bend Youth Hockey as a result of the rescheduling.
- E. Each League Member Team shall follow the U.S.A. Hockey, Inc., ISHSHA bylaws, and the MSHSL by-laws, Rules, and Regulations regarding equipment and playing rules.
- F. Each League Member Team must (within 36 hours of the date of any game) provide the State Statistician with a copy of the score sheet of all non-League games.
- G. Each League Member team must report Game Misconducts and Match Penalties to the designated state official(s) and to the MSHSL Disciplinary Committee within 24 hours.
- H. Consistent with USA Hockey rules, any suspected concussion, whether it occurs in a practice or game, must be reported to the League Vice President within 24 hours per League rules. Return to play documentation also must be provided to the League Vice President within 24 hours per League rules.

- I. On and off ice incidents where potential SafeSport violations occur must be reported to the MSHSL Disciplinary Committee, Mid Am SafeSport personnel, and/or USA Hockey in accordance with USA Hockey, ISHSHA and MSHSL rules.
- J. Each League Member Team, when designated as the “home” team for any game, shall post-game results to the League website within 36 hours of the games completion.
- K. Each League Member Team shall submit to the League its USA Hockey Roster at the same time it delivers school certifications concerning player eligibility (see Section 7.01). This school roster must also include all board members of their league member team as this is a verification that all teams are following the USA hockey rules pertaining to Safesport and background checked board members and coaches.
- L. Each League Member Team shall provide proof of player academic eligibility two times per season designated by the MSHSL league secretary.
- M. Each League Member Team shall ensure that SafeSport personnel are on hand during practices and games.
- N. Each league member team will have a representative present during all games when/if their assistance is needed for disciplinary purposes due to crowd disturbances pertaining to their students/fans/parents, etc.

ARTICLE 7 **Players**

Section 7.01. ELIGIBILITY

- A. The academic eligibility of Team Members shall be determined by the league secretary. The Secretary will determine how the teams will be required to verify academic eligibility. The fall certification will be for any player in 10th-12th grade. The January/February first semester certification will be for all players including JV players associated to a MSHSL team that plays within the state. The fall certification letters must be received by September 30th while the semester certification letters are due no later than the first day of the City Tournament. Each player may turn in one certification letter. Amended or revised letters will not be considered.
- B. To be eligible, a player:

- (i) Must be a regular, bona fide student in good standing, attending a fully accredited school (GED does not qualify as a high school) or are being home schooled in accordance with State guidelines, in grades 9 through 12.
- (ii) Must have enrolled no later than the 15th day of the current semester.
- (iii) Must not have reached his/her 19th birthday before the current school year.
- (iv) Depending on where the League Member team is located, the player must meet all academic eligibility requirements in accordance with the Indiana High School Athletic Association or Michigan High School Athletic Association, enrollment and attendance, graduates and scholarship rules. To be eligible scholastically, students must have received passing grades at the end of their last grading period in school in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subjects (or the equivalent) that a student can take and must be currently enrolled in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subjects (or the equivalent) that a student can take. College class credits will be considered when calculating the seventy percent (70%) requirement. Semester grades take precedence and may not be overruled by current grades following the semester end.
 - (a) A combination of two, three or four partial credit subject grades may be substituted for one or two full credit subjects.
 - (b) A subject for which credit has been previously granted may not, if repeated, be counted to satisfy this rule.
 - (c) students who are ineligible scholastically at the end of the grading period or semester are ineligible to participate in our League until the following grade check from MSHSL.
 - (d) Any student that is not academically eligible for their high school hockey team is not eligible for ANY pre or post season teams that are governed or sponsored by the League or ISHSHA.
 - (e) Must not have been enrolled in high school more than eight (8) semesters beginning with grade 9 nor have represented a high school team in the sport of ice hockey more than four (4) years.
 - (f) Any player must provide proper documents pertaining to scholastic and other information on request for ruling on eligibility status.

C. Players must be amateurs and are to abide by Indiana State High School Hockey Association and NCAA rules defining amateurism.

D. A player must participate in the percentage of his or her team's games required by ISHSHA to be eligible to be invited to the State Invitational

Tournament. A player who fails to meet the requirement due to injury, illness or other extenuating circumstances may seek a waiver from the League President and the State's Commissioner.

- E. An individual who wishes to join a League team after November 1st but prior to December 31st must request in writing for the approval of the Board. To be granted, the Board must vote unanimously to approve the request. The Board will only consider extraordinary and unanticipated circumstances as a basis for considering the request.

- F. Beginning August 1, 2025, in order for a player to participate in the city tournament they must meet all state tournament eligibility requirements (added January 8, 2025).

Section 7.02. TEAM ASSIGNMENT

Unless otherwise provided herein, any player who attends a high school which sponsors a League Member Team must play for that League Member Team.

Section 7.03. SUPPLEMENTAL PLAYER

- A. Any hockey player who lives east of the La Porte and Porter County boundary, a Michigan player who lives outside the areas defined in the Draft Section below, or a member of the Irish Youth Hockey League, otherwise eligible to play in the League and who desires to play in the League, but does not attend a high school which sponsors League Member Team shall be placed in a player pool and shall be eligible to be drafted onto an eligible League Member Team.

- B. When teams indicate the number of eligible players, prior to the draft, (returning and new) a player that either has eligibility issues or is predicted to have eligibility issues must be included in this count. It is the player's choice if they wish to participate with the team but not be eligible for games until the next grade check (usually January and September).

- C. Prior to the draft date, each eligible League Member team desiring to participate in the draft will be asked to certify in writing to the MHSHL President and Vice President the number of returning players and new players (designated separately as goalies and non-goalies) which the eligible League Member Team reasonably believes will try out for that team for the coming season one week prior to the scheduled draft. Based on those certified numbers, a priority in the drafting process will be set by the Board so that teams with fewer returning and new non-goalies and those needing goalies will get additional draft opportunities with the goal of reaching parity in team player numbers.

- D. The board or an assigned commissioner or committee will coordinate arranging ice time and publicizing the draft date to incoming players, families, and teams.

THE DRAFT

The goal of MSHSL is to draft all incoming players.

No later than one week prior to the draft, the designated MSHSL board members are to be notified by the Member Team representative to the MSHSL Board of their intent to draft. That declaration should include the number of departing players (seniors or other players known to be leaving) and if possible, an estimate of the number of incoming players that will attend their team school(s). Only the primary varsity team is potentially eligible to draft.

Lake Shore - St. Joe (LSJ) and Southwest Michigan Blades (SWMB) are not eligible to participate in the MSHSL draft. They will supply all of their own players. Players are eligible to try-out and play for LSJ if:

1. They are a Berrien, Cass, or South Van Buren County resident. Families may appeal to the MSHSL board for exemptions.

Players are eligible to try-out and play for the SWMB if:

1. They are an Allegan, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, or St. Joseph County resident. Families may appeal to the MSHSL board for exemptions.

All teams are requested to have team tryouts completed prior to the MSHSL draft. Players not making varsity for a league team can request to be released by their team making them draft eligible. They would be permanently released to the new league member team. The Club President and Head Coach must submit a release to the MSHSL board to approve the request. LSJ and SWMB can offer players to the draft only after both their JV (or Varsity B) and Varsity rosters are full (18 skaters and 2 goalies each, a minimum of 20 players for LSJ. SWM Blades will carry a minimum of 22 rostered players. A smaller roster size will be allowed if fewer players attend the tryout.). LSJ and SWMB cannot cut a

player unless that player is placed on their JV (Varsity B) team, or they have a roster of 25 players. There is no appeal to the Board concerning this matter.

Each year the league will set the draft date at the March League meeting. The annual draft will take place prior to the spring season. There will one draft skate the night of the April draft. The night of the draft, participating players will be required to submit a fee set by the MSHSL board. The fee will be applied to their drafted team under the player's name. If a player is not eligible to attend the draft skate, the family/player must still pay the set fee to add the player's name to the draft.

Players who are not able to attend the league draft tryout, for any reason, must notify the MSHSL board in writing or by email one week prior to the draft. This notification can also be provided by the player, player's parents, or any team representative that the player's family might know. The board will provide such notice to the team presidents and Head Coaches of the drafting team(s).

The draft will be done in two phases, one for goalies, and then one for non-goalies (i.e., skaters).

1. The first phase will establish goalie rosters. Teams participating in this phase of the draft will be ranked based on goalies needed, on the assumption that each League Member Team must have a minimum of two goalies and at least one experienced in MSHSL or similar play. A team needing two goalies will select one goalie from the draft pool of goalies first. If there is more than one team needing two goalies, selection order will be determined by the previous season's team standing in regular league play, with the participating team with the worst record selecting first, followed by the next worst league record and so on. Once all teams have at least one goalie, teams needing their second goalie will then draft, with selection determined by the previous regular season' team standings with the worst record selecting first, followed by the next worst league record and so on. Assuming there are multiple goalies in the draft, a team with two junior goalies becoming seniors would select one goalie prior to a team lower in the standings with two goalies that are junior or sophomores to be. If two teams are in this situation, the team finishing lower in the standings would select first. The goal is to try to avoid any team going into a season with only first year goalies.

If the draft process does not provide two goalies for each team, teams with surplus goalies will be identified, ranked by the number of surplus goalies on the respective team(s), and have specific individual goalies reassigned to teams needing a goalie or goalies. The move for the first year is temporary but the player/goalie can elect to stay with the team. If the move is for one year, MSHSL will cover the cost of jerseys for the goal/goalies. This movement is pursuant to the Skilled Player rule (see

section 7.05B). The order of reassignment of goalies in the case of equal numbers of surplus goalies on multiple teams will be determined by the worst record selecting first, followed by the next worst league record and so on. Specific goalies to be reassigned will begin practicing with the newly assigned team immediately. Once each participating team has at least two goalies, the second draft phase will begin.

If each Eligible League Team Member team has at least two goaltenders, and there are a remaining of surplus goalies available, the order of reassignment/assignment of goalies will be determined by the worst record from the prior season selecting first followed by the next worst league records and so on.

2. The second phase of the draft will establish non-goalie rostering. An assessment will be made regarding the possible number of incoming players that will be in the draft. That number will be compared to the number of drafting teams and the number skaters needed by each team based on their departing players. The primary goals are:
 - a. To use the draft in the first round to help to balance incoming players (similar to a professional draft, each team is getting a first selection based on the prior season's record in order of the worst league record selecting first and so on). If there is a second round that too will follow the same order as the first round (there is not a serpentine draft order across the two rounds).
 - b. To fill skater roster size for drafting team(s) to a similar number, (i.e., roster equity).
 - c. To complete the draft using a serpentine draft to draft all incoming players

Eligible League Member Team will have declared for the draft and provided their final skater needs at the March MSHSL Board meeting. Phase 1 of the skater draft: The draft position will be determined by the previous season's team standings in regular MSHSL league play, the worst record selecting first. The next worst team selects next and so on in rotation for the first round. (For example, if team A finishes last, team B finished next to last and team C finishes third from last, the draft order for the first round is A, B, C.) The same order is used for the second round.

Phase 2 of the skater draft: After the Phase 1 rounds are completed the team with the fewest skaters shall choose enough players to reach the total of the lesser remaining team(s) skater roster size. Those teams shall draft in serpentine order based on prior regular MSHSL season standings until they reach the roster size of the next highest team. This process shall continue until all drafting teams have approximately the same

number of skaters. (The goal is to have rostered skaters within 1 or 2 for each draft team.)

Phase 3 of the skater draft: If all teams through this process reach roster equity and there are still players to be selected, the draft will continue as in Phase 1 until all players have been selected. No ELIGIBLE player shall remain undrafted. If there were two rounds completed in Phase 1, team A was last to select in round two (2). They would select first in Phase 3 and then in order it would be A, B, C. The draft will continue in serpentine order (i.e. ABC, CBA, etc.) until all players are selected

Supplemental Players

If any player requests to join the League after the draft is held and the player does not attend a league member school, all teams who participated in the draft will have the opportunity to draft the supplemental player. Depending on the level of the supplemental player, the board has the right to place the player/players on the Michiana Momentum JV team for the remainder of the season in lieu of drafting the player. The League President or Vice President shall conduct a random draw to determine which team the player will be drafted by. If a player joins a league member school after the draft, they would play for that school. If there is more than one player, a supplemental draft will be held. That draft will be held in early August if possible and will follow the supplemental draft process outlined above. Similar to the single player supplemental draft, the League President or Vice President shall conduct a random blind draw to determine which team the players would join. If there are two incoming players, and three drafting teams, they would randomly be placed on two of the three teams. In this case, the first blind draw determines who blindly draws a player. If there were three players and three drafting teams, they would be randomly drafted on each team. If the request is made after that date, the draft would be held in early September or early October.

If a player that has participated in or tried out for an external team (i.e. AA or AAA) comes to the MSHSL after the draft, they will be placed in the supplemental draft and follow the same rotation rules. If the MSHSL is aware of local (IYHL, Freeze, etc. type local programs), where players are trying out for AA or AAA travel teams, the players will be placed in the draft whether they tryout or not. The players will be placed, and those rights are held by the drafting team until said player(s) joins the league. The exception would be players that went straight to AA or AAA and return and go to a host school. Those players will be placed on that team, and the original drafting team, at board discretion, be given a supplemental pick in the next season's draft. (Added 6.23.25)

If a supplemental player approaches the league after the season starts and does not attend a league member school, the board will assign the player to the next team in the draft order. That may be on a varsity or JV/varsity B roster depending on the coach of the assigned team. See rules on school transfers.

In the event that the incoming players are all siblings, they will all be placed on the same team.

If any player transferring in after the season starts and prior to the December 31st date when rosters are finalized, the assigned player may have the number of required league games prorated by the league President based on the date and number of games remaining. All other transfer rules would apply.

Section 7.04. MSHSL PLAYER RELEASE/ TRANSFER POLICY

A player who is part of a League Member Team (whether by attending the sponsoring high school or was drafted to a League Member) can seek a release from that team. For the purposes of this section to define transfers, the “current season” starts after the draft has been completed (normally in April or if there is no draft – May 1) when team activities would start for summer until the end of the ISHSHA championships (early March).

The general process for requesting a release involves the following steps:

- A. The player must request a release (in writing) to the team/organization president.
- B. The player must be current for all fiscal requirements of his current team according to their rules/by-laws.
- C. Any player requesting a release without “Just Cause” must do so by November 30 of the current season to be eligible for the draft in the next season without penalty. Said player must complete the current season with their existing team (whether they choose to continue playing for that team or not) and fulfill all fiscal obligations for the entire season. Any player requesting a release without “Just Cause” after November 30 must follow the same rules except, they will be ineligible to play in their first 20 regular season games (tournament, crossover and MSHSL games) the following season with their new team. Due to unique situations or needs, a player can appeal to the MSHSL transfer committee to reduce/wave their ineligibility. If the player submits the request before November 30 but the team states the request will not be granted until the end of the season, the penalty will not apply as the player did submit the request on time. This rule will also apply for any new member teams that a player tries to move to, unless the league has pre-approved potential moves to accommodate said new team. Any player given a release under the conditions stated in

- this paragraph are only eligible to be released into the next season's player draft and will not be eligible to play for any team who does not participate in said draft.
- D. The player's current team must notify MSHSL of the impending release request immediately.
 - E. The team may/may not grant the release in writing depending on a number of factors (see "Just Cause" reasoning) or can allow a release to happen at the end of the current season.
 - F. A player not granted a release immediately is ineligible to participate in any type of league play for another Member team, or in another Indiana league for the current season.
 - G. Approval of a release request shall not be unreasonably withheld if it occurs after the ISHSHA championships and prior to the league draft (outside of the "current season").
 - H. "Just Cause" reasons for granting a release:
 - a. Player changes schools and will attend another "sponsoring school" League Member.
 - b. Player changes school districts and will be playing in another district/league outside of MSHSL.
 - c. Player has a hardship or other life event (guardian/living arrangement changes, etc.) which can be considered by the organization and league.
 - I. Rules/Restrictions:
 - a. Unless granted a "Just Cause" release by their current team and approved by the League President, all Released players must be drafted to join a new team through the regular or supplemental draft. The Transfer committee can consider granting a compensatory or higher pick in the next draft to the team the player left.
 - b. Any player who submits a "just cause" request between Sept 1 and March 31 to switch teams that is approved/released by his team will not be eligible to play for his new member team until the following season. The one exception is if the player is moving/attending a non-League member team school.
 - c. Any player requesting a release without "Just Cause" must do so by November 30 of the current season to be eligible for the draft in the next season without penalty. Said player must complete the current season with their existing team (whether they choose to continue playing for that team or not) and fulfill all fiscal obligations for the entire season. Any player requesting a release without "Just Cause" after November 30 must follow the same rules except they will be ineligible to play in their first 20 regular season games (tournament, crossover and MSHSL games) the following season

with their new team. Due to unique situations or needs, a player can appeal to the MSHSL transfer committee to reduce/wave their ineligibility. If the player submits the request before November 30 but the team states the request will not be granted until the end of the season, the penalty will not apply as the player did submit the request on time. This rule will also apply for any new member teams that a player tries to move to, unless the league has pre-approved potential moves to accommodate said new team.

- d. If a player is released from a MSHSL team for disciplinary reasons, they are considered ineligible to play for any other MSHSL team until they apply for reinstatement with the MSHSL Board and receive approval to join the league again. This applies even if the player transfers to another member school with the expectation of joining that team.
- J. The transfer arbitration committee for any appeals will be made up of two MSHSL executive board members and one commissioner (preferably not associated with a drafting team if the player could be drafted). The arbitration committee's decision is final.

A player who attends a league sponsoring high school must attend that high school for at least one continuous school year to be eligible to continue to play for that school's team for the balance of his/her high school career. If a player leaves a school before the completion of the school year that player will be ineligible to participate with that school's team and be placed into the next available league player draft.

The rules set forth in this By-Law provision shall also apply in those circumstances where a high school which previously did not sponsor a League Member Team is admitted as a new League Member Team. In those situations, if a player who attends the new League Member Team high school is already playing for another League Member Team, that player must seek a release from his or her original team in the same manner provided above for students who transfer to a new high school. Any player who has been rostered on a League Member Team and wishes to transfer or play for a non-League team governed by the Indiana State High School Hockey Association must obtain a release from the President of the players current team, the President of the League, and a signed approval of transfer from the President of the League that governs the proposed new team per the ISHSHA guidelines.

Section 7.05. SPECIAL RULES

A. COACHES' SONS OR DAUGHTERS

No privilege is given to a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Administrator or player when the player is a member of a league team and the parent is the head coach of a different league team. If the player is draft eligible, he/she must be selected by that team; he/she will not be assigned.

B. GOALTENDERS: (also known as the Skilled Player rule)

If a league member varsity team has more than two goaltenders, and other League Member Teams have one or no goaltenders, the League Member Team with extra goaltenders shall submit the names of those goaltenders who shall be eligible for reassignment to the Board at least 7 (seven) days prior to the annual player draft. In such situations, the Board shall inform the league member teams with one or no goaltenders of the goaltenders who are eligible for reassignment. Any team desiring to acquire the services of a goaltender that is eligible for reassignment shall inform the Board of that desire. The Board shall work with the goaltender eligible for reassignment and the teams desiring the services of goaltenders eligible for reassignment to arrange for such reassignment. If a reassignment is made, the reassigned goaltender shall be eligible to return to his original team in the following season unless he or she indicates his or her desire to stay with the team to which he or she has been reassigned. In that case, he or she shall remain a member of the team to which he or she has been reassigned and shall be subject to the transfer rules applicable to any other player.

After the date of the draft but prior to the League's first regular season game, as a result of injuries or other circumstances beyond the control of a goaltender or League Member Team, a team finds itself in a situation where it is without the services of any or only has one goaltender, the Board will follow the process detailed in the initial paragraph of this section to reassign a goalie to this team for the season. After the first game of the regular season has been played, as a result of injuries or other circumstances beyond the control of a goaltender or League Member Team, a team finds itself in a situation where it has only a single goaltender, the Board will work with the team to provide goaltender coverage with goaltenders from other teams. Any such coverage shall be temporary unless otherwise decided by the Board and the effected team and goaltenders.

C. SIBLING RULE:

If a player who would normally be in the player pool and is eligible for the draft, has a sibling (defined as a brother or sister or a step brother or sister) who is currently on a League Member Team or has graduated from a League Member Team, the sibling who would otherwise be eligible for the draft may elect to play on the same team as his or her brother or

sister. In such case, the player who would otherwise be eligible for the draft shall remain with the team which he or she has elected to join throughout his or her high school eligibility. In the alternative, the newly eligible sibling may elect to participate in the draft rather than automatically play with his or her brother's or sister's team.

D. ADDITIONAL RULE

A player who is released for disciplinary reason(s) does not have to be drafted. In addition, a player who has asked for and been released twice does not have to be drafted.

Section 7.06. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The goal of the Disciplinary Committee is to ensure all MSHSL player game misconducts, match penalties or off ice incidents are reported in a timely manner and proper discipline is applied to said player. This would be applied regardless of the team or affiliation the player is on. The Disciplinary Committee shall have jurisdiction over all USA Hockey sanctioned games. A game is defined as:

- A contest between two fully rostered USA Hockey teams, Federation teams, or any other organization under which a MSHSL player participates. All players on the bench must be registered to one of the teams involved in the contest.
- A sanctioned referee crew must be officiating the contest.
- Official score sheets must be done following USA Hockey, MSHSL, governing body and/or ISHSHA rules.
- Normal timekeeping rules are followed.
- The contest counts to any league (MSHSL and/or other) standings and/or state standings.

The MSHSL spring season would not count as games. The Spring league is non-checking and meant to be light hearted. It is an introduction to high school hockey for incoming players. We should not see game misconducts coming out of them. Since the Spring League scrimmages are not official "games", they are not subject to the disciplinary committee. In the event a game misconduct, coach issue, team representative issue or spectator issue occurs that would normally require appearance before the disciplinary committee during the season, the team is expected to handle that internally. In addition, the team president is expected to submit a report to the Vice-President detailing the incident and how the team handled any discipline to the MSHSL disciplinary board.

If a member from high school team that is affiliated with a member of the disciplinary committee gets a game misconduct penalty that said member of the committee must recuse himself or herself and be replaced by another person on the MSHSL board. This would apply to either team involved in the game where

the misconduct happened. This will help to keep the impartiality of the committee.

Any player who receives a game misconduct or match penalty in any game shall be required to appear before the Disciplinary Committee and shall be subject to the supplemental disciplinary action taken at such Disciplinary Committee hearing as outlined in Article 10. At a minimum, the penalty shall equal the penalty as outlined in the Zero Tolerance for Game Misconduct Penalties document as issued by USA Hockey and approved by the MSHSL Board. The Disciplinary Committee shall have the ability to increase disciplinary action to include any additional penalty or penalties as the Disciplinary Committee deems fit. The Disciplinary Committee will use common sense when considering leniency for any penalty, but the committee cannot reduce any penalty below that required by USA Hockey.

A Team Representative is responsible for reporting all game misconducts and match penalties to the Disciplinary Committee Chair and the ISHSHA Statistician within twenty-four (24) hours of the penalty being assessed.

In addition, a coach, team representative, parent/guardian, spectator or player whose conduct on or off the ice is deemed by the Disciplinary Committee to be critically detrimental to the League or to be deliberately intended to inflict physical harm or injury to an opponent, spectator or game or team official or damage any facility in any way shall be required to appear before the Disciplinary Committee and shall be subject to the supplementary disciplinary action taken at such Disciplinary Committee hearing. The person in question may not attend any further games until they sit in front of the disciplinary committee. This is in addition to the spectator policy.

Section 7.07. U.S.A. HOCKEY PROGRAMS

The League will follow U.S.A. Hockey Zero Tolerance, Sexual Abuse, Physical Abuse and Hazing, SafeSport programs and all USA Hockey concussion protocols and programs. This includes, players, coaches, team representatives, team officers, spectators and parents. U.S.A. By-Laws, Rules, and Guidelines to be always followed.

Section 7.08. Fan or Fans Ejected from a Game Due to Zero Tolerance Rules

If anyone or a group is ejected from a game due to the USA Hockey Zero tolerance rules, the individual(s) will be banned for the next three (3) games. The club will be responsible for assisting the MSHSL in informing the individual(s) and helping to enforce that with the MSHSL.

Section 7.09. Spectator Policy

All MSHSL league member teams will follow the below suspension policies, without exception (This policy supersedes all team parent/spectator policies). Parents are expected to be a positive role model by treating all players, coaches, officials and fellow spectators with respect and support.

If a spectator/parent is disrupting the game and observed by on or off ice officials as doing so, the game may be stopped by game officials. For every home and away game, each team will designate a team official that will assist the game officials if there is a parent/spectator incident. The on ice and/or off ice officials will identify violators to both benches, the score keeper and the designated team official for the purpose of removing the parents/spectators from the rink. The MSHSL board also advises that if an officer is present, to request that the officer assist in, or take care of the removal. Once removed, play will resume, and the suspension policy will go in to effect. The incident must be reported to the VP of MSHSL/disciplinary chair within 24 hours of the incident. In some cases, the game will not be stopped, but due to the disruptive or inappropriate nature of behavior the parent/spectator, the parent/spectator will be asked to leave the rink by either security, rink staff, their team representative, or a MSHSL board member. The person in violation must leave immediately and not re-enter for the remainder of the evening, and the suspension policy will go into effect. The incident must be reported to the VP of MSHSL/disciplinary chair within 24 hours of the incident. Violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by MSHSL aside from being told to exit the rink. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:

- 1) Use of racial, homophobic, obscene, profane or abusive language to anyone at any time.
- 2) Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
- 3) Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, players bench, penalty box or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

First Offense: A suspension from all events involving the Member Team and Association for a minimum of fourteen (14) days to a maximum of thirty (30) days from the date of the offense.

Second Offense: A suspension from all events involving the Member Team and Association for a minimum of thirty (30) days to a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of the offense.

Third Offense and beyond: A suspension from all events involving the Member Team and Association until a decision has been rendered from an USA Hockey Affiliate hearing.

During the suspension entry into the facilities that are hosting the Member Team and Association event is prohibited. If this occurs, Violators are subject to further suspensions. Suspension days do not include the scheduled time off for holiday weeks or the off season. MSHSL calendar is considered when the team is

actively practicing/playing. Typically MSHSL teams are off during Christmas Break. Suspensions near the end of the season may be carried forward into the following season.

Appeals will be accepted but must be filed within 24 hours of the incident decision made by the Member Team's board regarding the suspension. That appeal will be heard by the MSHSL president. The MSHSL President may add additional uninvolved board members to hear the appeal.

Reporting: Violations must be reported within 24 hours by the Member Team, Association or League Official, or rink personnel. Be sure to obtain all facts of the violation, including all individual names, team affiliation, and complete description of the violation and should also include any witnesses. (Unfortunately, allegations with independent witnesses will likely not be enforceable.) Allegations of Abusive Conduct shall be reported using the approved MSHSL Incident Report Form. If the local association (Member Team) fails to follow this written policy, the incident may be addressed by the MidAm Affiliate which may include local association (Member Team) sanctions. Violators who are affiliated with a visiting team (for example during a crossover game) will be reported to their team and their league president. This is in addition to the suspension under this policy.

Each Member Team is responsible for the conduct of their spectators and shall apply this Spectator Suspension Policy as appropriate. Association officials, security officers and rink personnel will be available for secondary support. USA Hockey and the MSHSL shall require each registered team to designate a volunteer to serve as a spectator monitor during all team events. Prior to the beginning of any game, the team (coach or board member or the designated individual) will be identified to the game officials. This monitor will, ideally, address inappropriate spectator behavior prior to the situation escalating out of control. This designated monitor shall have the full support of the Member Team, the MSHSL league, and arena management to remove any spectators in violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy.

If the MSHSL board of directors does not deem the punishment laid down by the individual member club to be appropriate, the MSHSL board of directors reserves the right to suspend the player associated with that fan showing inappropriate behavior in the stands for as many games as the disciplinary sees fit for the offense.

ARTICLE 8 **Coaches**

Section 8.01. HEAD COACHES

All new Head Coaches should be listed and in place by August 1st and shall be in good standing with the League. League Team Members shall notify the Board of retained or new Head Coaches. All Coaches are expected to control their teams,

teach the fundamentals of hockey, and comply with all rules of the Indiana State High School Hockey Association, the Michiana High School Hockey League and U.S.A. Hockey, Inc. If a Head Coach resigns or is released from a program, the League Member Team from which he is removed or resigns from should confirm in writing to the Head Coach or have the Head Coach confirm in writing to the League Member Team the fact that the Head Coach has resigned or been released. A copy of that writing shall be provided to the President of the League within two (2) days of the action. The League Member Team shall install a new Head Coach, or Interim Head Coach, within five (5) days, and notify the league of the action.

Section 8.02. GAME MISCONDUCT FOR COACHES

Any coach who receives a game misconduct or match penalty shall be required to appear before the League Disciplinary Committee and will be subject to the supplemental disciplinary action taken at the Disciplinary Committee hearing. Each Team Representative is responsible for reporting all game misconducts to the Disciplinary Committee Chair and the ISHSHA Statistician within twenty-four (24) hours of the game misconduct.

Section 8.03. MEETINGS

Coaches are encouraged to attend League meetings and shall attend any special meetings of Coaches which are called by the President. Head Coaches shall attend all Disciplinary Committee hearings at which any of the players of the Head Coach's League Member Team are required to attend.

ARTICLE 9 **Honors and Awards**

Section 9.01. TEAM MICHIANA

Each year, the League will select a U18 and U16 team, as League player numbers permit, to represent the League. Selection to this team will be followed under "Team Michiana Hockey Program" guidelines. Selections for the U16 and U18 team may come from any MSHSL league teams. Team Michiana may also represent the League in games that occur during, pre and post season, USA Advancing Tournaments and All-Star Tournaments. Team Michiana will follow all rules, bylaws and guidelines set forth for all league teams and individual players, and rules as established in the "Team Michiana Hockey Program". Player eligibility regulations for League will apply also for Team Michiana.

Section 9.02. DANA FISH AWARD

Each year the League shall present the Dana Fish Award to a senior player demonstrating over-all hockey ability, contributions to his team, a positive mental

attitude as a style of life, appropriate conduct on and off the ice, and academic achievement. Senior players may submit a self-written nomination based on instructions provided by the League. Parents of seniors may also nominate their player for the award but any essay must be written by the senior player. All nominations must be presented to the President by the date prescribed by the League President. The Board shall make its final determination with respect to the Dana Fish award prior to League Championship Game. The announcement of the Dana Fish Award winner will be made at the League Championship Game. The award winner will receive a plaque, a \$750 college scholarship and the Dana Fish Memorial Plaque posted at the Ice Box will be inscribed with the recipient's name.

Section 9.03. CHRIS MCMILLAN AWARD

Each year the League shall present the MSHSL Chris McMillan Award to a senior player demonstrating high academic achievement, volunteerism to give back to hockey and/or the community, over-all contributions to his (or her) team, a positive mental attitude and appropriate conduct on and off the ice. The nomination form (like the Dana Fish Award) comprises identification information and a player written 500 word or less essay covering the attributes listed above. All nominations must be presented to the President by the date prescribed by the League President. The Board shall make its final determination with respect to the award prior to League Championship Game. The announcement of the award winner will be made at League Championship Game. The award winner will receive a plaque and a \$750 college scholarship.

Section 9.04. THE LAFFERTY GOALIE AWARD

Each year the League shall present the Jack Lafferty Outstanding Goalie Award to a goalie recognizing their years of service, hard work, dedication, and giving back to the hockey community. The recipient of the award will be selected by the MSHSL Officers in consideration of who best represents the award given in his name. The announcement of Jack Lafferty Outstanding Goalie Award will be made at the League Championship Game. The award winner will receive a plaque, and the Jack Lafferty Outstanding Goalie Award Plaque will be inscribed with the recipients' name.

Section 9.05. ALL CONFERENCE TEAM

Each year the coaches shall select an All-conference team. The Board shall appoint a Board member to coordinate the activities of the League Member Team Head Coaches who shall select the players to the All-Conference Team. The All-Conference Team shall be comprised of up to 20 players with a minimum of two (2) goalies. The 20-player limit is established based on the USA Hockey

20 player bench limit for games. Other than the two (2)-goalie minimum, there are no further restrictions on the position mix of players selected.

In the event there are 20 or fewer players selected, the selections will be finalized as elected by the Head Coaches.

The announcement of the All-Conference Team is made soon after the selection meeting, giving coaches a chance to inform their players. The names will be posted in the MSHSL meeting notes and on the MSHSL website. All-Conference patches will be provided to coaches as soon as possible after selections.

Section 9.06. GPA AWARDS

The MSHSL will award one of two certificates of honor to players achieving a certain GPA level. The player's report card or certified school verification of grades will be used.

- An honor award will be presented to varsity players with a GPA from 3.0 – 3.499999
- A high honor award will be present to varsity players with a GPA of 3.50000 and above

Certificates will be printed by MSHSL for each player and provided to team representatives no later than March 1st.

ARTICLE 10 **Disciplinary Committee**

Section 10.01. COMPOSITION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of at least three members and will be chaired by the League Vice President.

Section 10.02. HEARINGS

Regular Disciplinary Committee hearings will be held at the call of the Chair but shall occur no less than once per month during the hockey season. Every effort will be made to hold a hearing prior to the next week's scheduled games.

The Chair shall document disciplinary Committee hearings in writing. Notice of the date and time of a Disciplinary Committee hearing shall be given to the charged coach, player and/or team representative at least three (3) days in

advance of the date of the hearing unless such notice is waived by the coach, player and/or team representative.

In addition to the Disciplinary Committee members, the following individuals may appear at a Disciplinary Committee hearing:

In the case of a hearing involving a coach, the following individuals may be present:

- the coach,
- the League Member Team's Head Coach,
- the League Member Team's Team President or Team Representative and,
- the referee who imposed the penalty.

If there are additional witnesses that the coach desires to appear at the Disciplinary Committee hearing, such witnesses may also be allowed to appear.

In case of a hearing involving a team representative, parent/guardian or player, the following individuals will be present:

- the player,
- a parent or guardian if the player is under the age of 18,
- the League Member Team's Head Coach.

The referee (or Referee-in-Chief on behalf of the referee) who imposed the penalty may also be present.

If there are additional witnesses that the team representative, parent/guardian or player desires to appear at the Disciplinary Committee hearing, such witnesses may also be allowed to appear. The Team Representative and Team President will be notified and invited to attend.

The Chair may in her or his discretion, allow the attendance at the Disciplinary Committee hearing of any other individual whom the Chair believes could be helpful in the conduct of the Disciplinary Committee hearing.

The charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player may be assisted, but not represented, by the League Member Team's Head Coach, Team Representative, and parent/guardian, if appropriate. The Disciplinary Committee shall deal directly with the coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player charged and not through any third party.

Each charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player will receive a copy of the "write-up" of the penalty or other accusations made, if available, at least three (3) days in advance of the Disciplinary Committee hearing (unless the

time period is waived by the charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player).

Upon request of the Chair, the charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player shall provide the Disciplinary Committee with the names of any witnesses he or she plans to invite to the Disciplinary Committee hearing.

Should the charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player fail to attend a Disciplinary Committee hearing after proper notifications, the hearing will proceed and a decision will be made in his or her absence. A representative may not appear in lieu of the charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player.

Any charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian, or player can expect the following during a Disciplinary Committee hearing:

1. The charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian (if the player is under 18 years of age), or player will be present throughout the Disciplinary Committee hearing and will have the opportunity to hear and respond to all information presented during the Disciplinary Committee hearing. A charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player questions and responses may only be directed toward the Disciplinary Committee.
2. The charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player will have the opportunity to present his or her own account of the incident, to present witnesses, and to submit written statements relating to the incident.
3. After all evidence and statements have been presented to the Disciplinary Committee, it is anticipated that the Disciplinary Committee will excuse all individuals attending the hearing who are not members of the Disciplinary Committee and will deliberate on the appropriate supplemental disciplinary action, if any, to be taken. The Disciplinary Committee will attempt to come to a decision immediately following the Disciplinary Committee hearing and to report its decision to the charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player orally following the determination of its decision.
4. Upon request, a written notification and explanation of any disciplinary action may be provided to the charged coach, team representative, parent/guardian, or player within three (3) days of the date of the Disciplinary Committee hearing.

Section 10.03. SANCTIONS

The Disciplinary Committee will determine which games will count towards suspension if there are no scheduled games between the incident and the

disciplinary hearing. In the event the incident happens and there are additional scheduled games that same weekend, (e.g., team is playing at a crossover or some other sanctioned tournament), per USA Hockey rules, the individual will serve or begin to serve their suspension that weekend (the amount of games served until the disciplinary committee can convene are dependent on how many games USA hockey dictates should be missed for the infraction). This does not remove the requirement to appear before the Disciplinary Committee. All games suspensions will occur based on the following example:

- Varsity player = serves game(s) misconduct penalties in the next scheduled varsity game.
- Varsity player playing in sanctioned game outside of ISHSHA play (e.g., LSJ playing in Michigan) = serves game(s) misconduct penalties in the next scheduled varsity game.
- JV only player = serves game misconduct penalties in JV games only.
- Prep JV/Varsity B/Varsity A player (a true two-way player that plays multiple varsity games and JV games, not just one or two varsity games during the season) = any game misconduct penalties will be served in varsity games. In the event the JV/Varsity player is participating with the JV team at a JV tournament, the player will at least begin serving their penalty at the tournament if there are remaining games. They will appear before the disciplinary committee. Depending on Disciplinary Committee determination after the hearing, they may serve additional game suspensions in varsity games. The JV game they sat may be sufficient.

All MSHSL league teams are subject to USA Hockey and MSHSL disciplinary rules. This includes all teams that play games against out of state opponents. Any ejections/game misconducts in those games are required to be reported and are potentially subject to appearing before the MSHSL Disciplinary Committee.

If a player receives a game misconduct penalty during a Team Indiana, Team Michiana or other pre/post “all-star” team game, the player will serve the penalty as outlined per USA Hockey. They are also required to appear before the Disciplinary Committee to determine if additional discipline will be issued. If additional games are issued by the Disciplinary Committee the game suspension(s) will be served at the next scheduled game the player is eligible to play in.

Matters considered by the Disciplinary Committee may result in any one or more of the following sanctions. The following list should not be taken to be inclusive of all possible sanctions as this list may be enlarged or modified to meet the particular circumstances of a specific matter.

1. No violation/no action.

2. Oral or written warning or reprimand.
3. Mandatory counseling.
4. Additional game suspensions.
5. Community Service.
6. Probation—a specified period of observation and evaluation of a coach, team representative, parent/guardian, or player behavior. During the period of probation, any additional game misconduct, gross misconduct or match penalties will require the coach, team representative, parent/guardian or player to appear at another Disciplinary Committee hearing.
7. Suspension for a portion of or remainder of current hockey season (including post-season play).
8. Permanent suspension from play in the League or attendance at team functions, league functions or access to the Ice Box.

Section 10.04. USA HOCKEY PENALTIES

A detailed description of all penalties is included in the 2021-2025 USA Hockey Rule Book. Section Four, Penalties, describes the different types of penalties that may be given. This Section also addresses Supplementary Discipline and Progressive Suspensions. Section Six, Playing Rules, explains in detail each penalty type and the guidance given the Officials in the determining the appropriate penalty type to be assessed. Appendix 1, Summary of Penalties, offers a table of contents for each penalty type and the applicable rule number.

MHSHL penalties for discipline will follow at least the minimum penalties as stated in the USA Hockey Rule Book. The MHSHL can assess additional discipline at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee.

Section 10.05. APPEALS

Any appeals from the action of the Disciplinary Committee shall be made in accordance with any applicable rules and regulations of U.S.A. Hockey, Inc. and submitted to the Mid-American District of U.S.A. Hockey, Inc.

Section 10.06. SUPPLEMENTATION

The specific provisions of this Article 10 shall be deemed to be supplemented by the rules and regulations of U.S.A. Hockey, Inc. (to the extent such rules and regulations are consistent with this Article 10).

ARTICLE 11 **Financial Affairs**

Section 11.01. CONTRACTS

The Board may authorize any officer or agent to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the League, and such authority may be general or confined to a specific instance; and unless so authorized by the Board, no officer, agent or employee shall have any power or authority to bind the League by any contract or engagement, or to pledge its credit or render it liable pecuniarily for any purpose or to any amount.

Section 11.02. CHECKS, ETC

The Board may designate officers or employees of the League, other than those named above, who may in the name of the League, execute drafts, checks and orders for the payment of money in its behalf.

Section 11.03. INVESTMENTS

The League shall have the right to retain all or any part of any securities or property acquired by it in whatever manner, and to invest_and_reinvest any funds held by it, according to the judgment of the Board.

ARTICLE 12 **Fiscal Year**

The Fiscal year of the League shall begin on the first day of May of each year and end on the Last day of April of each year.

ARTICLE 13

CORPORATE INDEMNIFICATION

To the extent not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Indiana, every person (and the heirs, estate, executors, administrators and personal representatives of such person) who is or was a Director or officer of the League shall be indemnified by the League as provided in the Act, so long as (a) the person's conduct was in good faith; and (b) the person reasonably believed that the person's conduct was in the League's best interests.

ARTICLE 14

DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the League, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the League,

dispose of all of the remaining assets of the League (except any assets held by the League upon condition requiring return, transfer of other conveyance in the event of dissolution, which assets shall be returned, transferred or conveyed in accordance with such requirements) exclusively for the purposes of the League by transferring such assets to such organization of organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, literary or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as a tax-exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Code or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue statute as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the court of general jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the League is then located, exclusively for the purposes of the League in such a manner, or to such organization or organizations which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes, as said court shall determine.

ARTICLE 15

AMENDMENTS

The power to make, alter, amend or repeal these By-Laws is vested in each member of the Board of Directors and each League Team Representative, all being entitled to one vote, which power shall be exercised by affirmative vote of a majority; provided, however, that the proposed amendment shall be included in the notice of such meeting. If notice of a proposed amendment to the By-Laws is included in the notice of any meeting of the Board of Directors, it shall be in order to consider and adopt at that meeting any amendment to the By-Laws dealing with the subject matter with which the proposed amendment is concerned.

Appendix

Overtime

Regular Season

All league games shall be played until a winner is determined, there will be no ties.

If a game is tied at the end of regulation the teams shall play a 5-minute sudden death period of 3 on 3. Teams shall defend the same goals as the third period.

Penalties will carry over into the overtime.

If teams are tied at the end of sudden death, there shall be a 3-man sudden death shoot out to determine the winner. That is followed by ongoing one-man sudden death shoot out if no winner is decided after 3.

There is no ice scrape before or during the shootout(s)

Home team decides who shoots first. You must go through your entire roster of eligible players during a shootout before any can repeat. A player in the penalty box at the time of shootout is not an eligible player.

City Tournament

MHSHL Playoff Rules (EXCEPT CHAMPIONSHIP GAME)

All playoff games shall be played until a winner is determined, there will be no ties.

If a game is tied at the end of regulation, there will be overtime. No ice cut before OT only after 2nd period.

OT is 3 on 3 for 5 minutes with no change in the end defended.

A 3-man shootout follows OT if the game is still tied. That is followed by a sudden death shoot out if no winner is decided after 3. There is no ice scrape before or during the shootout(s)

Home team decides who shoots first. You must go through your entire roster of eligible players during a shootout before any can repeat. A player in the penalty box at the time of shootout is not an eligible player.

City Tournament Championship Game

Championship game is a single game. The loser bracket team does not need to win twice.

If the game is tied at the end of regulation, sudden death overtime will be 3 on 3 for 10 minutes. If no winner is decided there will be an ice cut followed by sudden death 3 on 3 for 10 minutes. The 3 on 3 will repeat until a winner is decided.

Standings Point Tie Breaker Rules/formulas:

1. The results of the head-to-head games between the tied teams, and if still tied, in the follow order:
 - a. Standings- Most points
 - b. Most total wins (whether in regulation, overtime, or shootout)
 - c. Differential- Subtracting Goals scored against from goals scored in these games through the overtime period but not including the greatest surplus. A five-goal max differential is used in this determination.
2. If after applying the formulas for 1 a, b, or c the tie still exists, the results of the games played by the teams tied in the following order will be used:
 - a. Most total wins (whether in regulation, overtime, or shootout)
 - b. Differential- Subtracting Goals scored against from goals scored in these games through the overtime period but not including the greatest surplus. A five-goal differential is used in this determination.
 - c. Most periods won- In the games played by each tied team, points will be awarded for each regulation period (2 points) and the order of highest points total will win.
 - d. Quickest first goal- The team that scored the quickest goal in the preliminary round games shall be ranked highest.