



STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY
2015-2016 HANDBOOK

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SECTION ONE

STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY

HANDBOOK

STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY

STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY, INC. (“Stowe Youth Hockey” or “SYH”) is a non-profit organization, governed by a board of directors (the “Board”) elected by the members pursuant to a formal set of by-laws. Membership is open to all with an interest in youth hockey. The organization is a member of the Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association (“VSAHA”), which, in turn, is a member of USA Hockey, and conducts a hockey program based on USA Hockey guidelines and rules of play. The Board endeavors to administer the SYH program according to the following guidelines, which may be amended in the Board’s discretion as conditions warrant.

STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY MISSION STATEMENT

1. To provide a safe, supervised atmosphere for hockey instruction and games.
2. To teach and practice good skating skills and hockey fundamentals in all age groups.
3. To foster an atmosphere that encourages enjoyment and fun while playing competitive hockey.
4. To provide competitive hockey games with other programs having similar levels.
5. To encourage good sportsmanship and fair play.
6. To the extent possible, provide the opportunity to play hockey to all children who wish to play, at an affordable cost.

STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY PHILOSOPHY

Enjoyment and recreational benefits are the major focus of USA Hockey’s recommended guidelines. These
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guidelines encourage an environment in which children and youth can learn the basic skills without the distractions that are often associated with an over-emphasis on winning. Mastery of the fundamental skills and the fun of playing are essential to the development of a life-long interest in hockey.

STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY CORE VALUES

The following core values of USA Hockey, and Stowe Youth Hockey, have been adopted to guide our planning, programming, coaching and play, both now and in the future.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

Foremost of all values is a sense of fair play.
Be humble in victory, gracious in defeat.
Foster friendship with teammates and opponents alike.

RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL:

Treat all others as you expect to be treated.

INTEGRITY:

We work to foster honesty and fair play beyond mere strict interpretation of the rules and regulations of the game.

PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE AT THE INDIVIDUAL, TEAM, AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEVELS:

Each member of the organization—whether player, volunteer, or staff—should seek to perform each aspect of the game to the highest level of his, or her, ability.

ENJOYMENT:

It is important for the hockey experience to be fun, satisfying, and rewarding for the participant.

LOYALTY:

We aspire to teach loyalty to the ideals and fellow members of the sport of hockey.

TEAMWORK:

We value the strengths of learning to work together.
The use of teamwork is reinforced and rewarded by success in the hockey experience.

ELIGIBILITY

All children, both boys and girls, who are at least five years of age as of December 31st of the registering year, are eligible to participate. Children who have participated in other formal hockey programs may be required to obtain a release form from that program before they are eligible to enroll here, in accordance with the State Annual Guide regarding player transfers.

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

Stowe Youth Hockey offers a variety of teams each season, including our Initiation/Learn to Skate program, Youth Travel Teams at the Mites, Squirts, Pee Wees, and Bantams levels, a U14 Girls Travel Team, and a Midget Preseason team for players considering playing at Stowe High School. The number of teams per age category will be based on the number of registered players. A birth certificate will be required as proof of age at the time of a participant's first registration.

See the Annual Addendum at the back of the handbook for specific details.

Initiation/Learn to Skate and Play Hockey

The Initiation Program will follow the well-received format used last year. The fee is ONLY \$80 per session. The program will be coordinated by the Stowe Park and Recreation Department and will focus on skating skills, with a huge emphasis on fun. Coaching will be provided by a combination of SYH instructors. There will be two six-week sessions – sign up for either or both. Each session offers two ice-times per week. Participation is open to those who will be 5 years old by December 31st, up to about 8 years old. Older players who are beginning skaters may participate in the Initiation program until their skills warrant moving up to play on the appropriate team for their age level.

Youth Travel Teams

SYH offers youth teams in the following age classifications (based on calendar birth years):

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Mites | boys and girls aged 8 and younger |
| Squirts | boys and girls ages 9 & 10 |

Pee Wees

boys and girls ages 11 & 12

Bantams

boys and girls ages 13 & 14

These are competitive level teams. Players on these teams, and their parents, are expected to make a commitment to faithful attendance at practices and games.

See the Annual Addendum at the back of the handbook for specific details on exact birth year eligibility.

Girls' Teams

This season, SYH will offer a 14 and under team for girls born in 2001 and later. These are competitive level teams. Players on these teams, and their parents, are expected to make a commitment to faithful attendance at practices and games.

Preseason Midget Team

SYH will offer a Preseason Midget Team primarily consisting of practices for boys and girls intending on playing for Stowe High School. This may also include a scrimmage or casual game.

High School

All High School level players, boys and girls, who intend to step on the ice, at any time, with younger SYH teams MUST register with SYH; non-registered players will NOT be permitted on SYH ice. High School players may NOT participate in Preseason Midgets unless registered and paid in advance. A new rule established by the Vermont Principles Association (VPA) allows players to be eligible for both the High School and Youth Hockey Teams (Bantams or U14 Girls) during the same season. Whenever a conflict arises between the high school team practice/competition and a Youth Hockey team practice/competition on the same day, the high school team practice/competition shall be honored by the student athlete. Priority must be given at all times to the high school team, its practices, and its contest unless permission has been granted by the high school.

FEES

The financial responsibilities of program participants include the registration fees set annually by the Board. Financial responsibilities also include volunteering and fundraising; see that policy for details.

Family Discount

Stowe Youth Hockey provides a family discount of \$50 off the registration fee for the second player in a family, and each additional player in the same family. The family discount does not apply to players registering for Initiation or Preseason Midgets.

Payment

Payment is due in accordance with the payment schedule established at registration unless arrangements for
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an alternate payment plan have been made in advance (please see the SYH Website for arrangements). There is a late fee of \$100 per player if payment is not made on time. Registration for Initiation may take place at any time, however.

Scholarships

It is the philosophy of the SYH Board that no child should be denied the opportunity to participate due to increased registration costs. Money should not be an obstacle to playing hockey. Scholarships and equipment are available if a family is truly in need. It is expected that scholarship recipients and their families will donate a significant amount of time above normal parent duties on behalf of the SYH organization. Contact the SYH President with any scholarship requests.

Insurance

A portion of the registration fee covers the cost of the insurance that USA Hockey requires be obtained for a participant before that participant may be allowed on the ice. Because of liability insurance considerations, no child will be permitted on the ice without first completing a registration form, paying the registration fee, and completing a required Information/Consent to Treat and Waiver Form.

Refunds

If a player is unable to participate in the program for which he or she registered due to circumstances beyond his or her control (e.g., illness, injury, making the High School team), the player can petition the Board for a full or partial refund, as the Board deems appropriate.

VOLUNTEERING AND FUNDRAISING

We are able to keep our registration fees stable only through our commitment to fundraising. As always, fundraising is an ESSENTIAL part of our program—without a successful effort, fees would be almost double! Therefore, all parents of SYH players (except those who ONLY have players in Initiation) are REQUIRED to participate in these activities. Each family is expected to volunteer at fundraising events. This is in addition to the jobs that must be done, on a rotating basis, by the team parents for each home game (e.g., timekeeper, scorer, newspaper article, etc.).

Team Managers coordinate the volunteer efforts of their team parents. When volunteers are needed for a particular fundraising event, coaches and managers will contact their team parents, encourage them to make a commitment and to fulfill their minimum volunteer requirements, and report back to the person coordinating the event.

Our fundraising efforts this year are a mix of old and new. This year, SYH offers several options to fulfill your volunteering and fund-raising responsibilities:

Pull Tickets

These are no longer a reliable source of funds. We are constantly pursuing other establishments who would consider taking the Pull Tickets on our behalf.

Popcorn Maker

SYH owns a rolling popcorn maker that has been used during events such as the Stoweflake Pumpkin Chuck

and has the potential to raise \$500 per day.

50/50 Raffle

Players from Squirt level and up are expected to sell 50/50 raffle tickets at all Stowe High School boys and girls home games. Teams will be on a rotating basis and Team Managers will organize these events and collect money's. A schedule will be available by November 15th on the SYH Website. If parents are opposed to their child selling tickets at these games, the parent should spend a period selling tickets for the child.

Winter Carnival Tournament

This is our biggest fundraising event, and requires a substantial number of volunteers. We need timekeepers, scorers, hosts, clean-up helpers, etc. You will be asked to work at more than just the games your child is playing in, so be prepared.

Hyde Cup Week Fundraising

This past year the Peewees successfully collected over \$600 to help fund the Sectional Tournament by taping sticks and accepting donations. Hyde Cup week represents an opportunity to raise money in several ways, from food/popcorn sales (when concession stand is not operating), to bottle drives.

Stay tuned for other new and exciting fundraising and sponsorship ideas!

EQUIPMENT

Game Jerseys

Game jerseys, both home and away, are provided by SYH, and are to be cared for carefully and returned promptly at the end of the season.

- Game jerseys will not be worn for practice sessions
- Game jerseys should be washed separately, inside out and in cold water
- Do not put in dryer
- Do not use bleach

Anyone damaging a jersey due to neglect, or carelessness will be responsible for replacing the jersey. The approximate cost for replacement is \$75 per jersey. Contact the SYH Equipment Coordinator before removing any jerseys from the SYH locker at Stowe Arena.

Hockey socks

SYH will have an inventory of new game socks (to match the new game jerseys). These socks will be sold to players at cost, so they're very affordable. Players will be expected to purchase a set of new game socks.

Equipment to be Provided by Players

No child will be permitted on the ice without the proper equipment, as follows:

- Skates
- Helmet with facemask/cage

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- Protective cup for boys/pelvic protector for girls
- Shin pads
- Hockey socks
- Jock Shorts, Garter belt or hockey girdle
- Hockey pants
- Elbow pads
- Shoulder/chest protector
- Hockey gloves
- Hockey stick(s)—older levels should always have a spare
- Neck guard—**recommended**
- Mouth guard—**colored mouthpiece required for Mite level and above**

GOALIE POLICY

Mites and Squirts

SYH wants to encourage children to try all positions, including goalie, at the younger levels. During the season, coaches will encourage as many players as are interested to try the goalie position.

Pee Wees and Bantams

SYH will endeavor to have a minimum of two players whose primary position is goalie assigned to the Pee Wee and Bantam teams. When not playing in goal, these players will be allowed to “skate out” if they desire to do so and if the coach deems it appropriate.

TRYOUT PROCESS

Stowe Youth Hockey is committed to providing the most positive hockey experience possible for our youth membership. In recent years SYH has fielded multiple teams at certain levels to ensure that all of our players are provided with an equal opportunity to participate in practices and games. We are also committed to placing our players in the on-ice environment and at the level of skill where we feel they will have the greatest chance of success. Following USA Hockey’s lead, we attempt to create teams whose players have skill levels sufficient to compete safely, enjoyably, and successfully at the various levels of play defined and put forth by the local league (VSAHA) in which we compete. When necessary, we do so by a tryout process. SYH has formed a Youth Hockey and Coaching Committee, headed by the Chair, who is committed to developing and implementing a process that is well grounded in objective measures of evaluation provided by equally objective individuals from both within and outside SYH membership. This committee is in place to facilitate the general membership through the tryout process with as limited an amount of confusion and anxiety as possible. To accomplish this, it is imperative that everyone is well informed and aware of the tryout process and its policies as outlined below.

“A” Teams

SYH “A” level teams compete at the highest level of competition in the VSAHA, against teams that play as many as thirty (30) to forty (40) games per season. These teams focus on team systems and concepts along

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with skill development. Players interested in trying out for our “A” teams are expected to be committed to the practice and game schedule set forth by the organization and his or her coach. Coaches expect as close to 100% attendance to the schedule as possible.

“B” Teams

SYH “B” level teams are considered development teams that have a competitive game schedule. These teams play a competitive level of hockey with strong emphasis on developing individual skills. As in any team sport, a commitment to the practice and game schedule is expected and is important to the development of the team and its players.

Goalie Tryouts

Players interested in playing goalie for Pee Wee and Bantam level teams will tryout as goalies, not skaters. Please contact the Coaching Committee Chair, if interested in playing goalie. See the Goalie Policy for further details.

Tryout Criteria

The Coaching Committee will recommend final placement of players on specific team rosters. Rosters will then be submitted to and approved by the Board, based on the following measures of evaluation:

1. On ice tryout (list of skills to be evaluated will be provided at registration)
2. Objective Factors
 - Previous year level (‘A’ vs. ‘B’ vs. non-participant)
 - Age (second year at level vs. first year at level, with consideration given to second year players)
 - Team sizes (how the numbers split into which levels)
3. Evaluation from previous year coaches; where appropriate.

Any player missing tryouts for reasons other than illness or injury will automatically be assigned to a B level team. Absences for illness or injury will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. A player who wishes to be on a B level team need not try out, but must so inform the Coaching Committee Chair in advance of tryouts.

Team Assignments

Notice of team assignments will be emailed to participants shortly after tryouts.

PETITIONS TO “PLAY UP”

Occasionally, players and their parents feel strongly that the player ought to play on an older-level team. This sort of “petitioning up” to an older level is not encouraged and happens only in rare individual cases. USA Hockey has structured the team levels and highly recommends that all organizations follow their guidelines; SYH follows their recommendations. If, however, this is something you wish to pursue, you must file a petition at registration. Please see the Coaching Committee for details.

CROSS-ROSTERING POLICY

SYH submits official rosters for all of our State Tournament bound teams to the VSAHA. The team roster form

has room for twenty names. We rarely have twenty players on a team due to our membership numbers. Cross-rostering—placing a player on two rosters—allows us to add players from other teams who are age-eligible. This ability to cross-roster players helps us, at times, field teams for games when we are short of players. Under SYH's guidelines, what is considered "short" is fewer than eleven players including a goalie at the non-checking levels (Mites, Squirts, Pee-Wees and all Girls teams) and fewer than fourteen players including a goalie at the checking levels (Bantams). Cross-rostering is intended for that purpose ONLY.

- It is not intended for the purpose of making a team more competitive for any given game, nor is it for the purpose of giving particular players extra ice time.
- All players listed on a game sheet for any given game must be listed on the official team roster submitted by our registrar for that team. If all players are not listed on both, the game will not count towards the minimum number of games needed to qualify for the State Tournament for that season.

Decisions about cross-rostering will be made by the SYH Coach after consulting with the Coaching Committee.

NUMBER OF GAMES

Regular Season

The Board follows USA Hockey recommended guidelines regarding the number of games to be played by each team during the regular season (exclusive of the State Tournaments). These are guidelines only, and the number of games actually played may depend upon a number of factors, e.g., adverse weather or driving conditions, the availability of appropriate competition, etc. A travel team usually plays 20-30 games prior to the state tournaments.

State Tournament Requirements

All players on any Squirt, Pee Wee or Bantam team must be rostered for at least ten games to be eligible to play in the State Tournament for that team, and the team as a whole must play 20 official games. All players on any Girls' team must be rostered for at least ten games to be eligible to play in the State Tournament for that team, and the Girls' team as a whole must play a minimum of 14 games.

SCHEDULING

Practice Schedules

Practice schedules are set and distributed at the beginning of the season. For changes, please check the SYH Website or a Team Manager will contact you.

Game Schedules

Game schedules will be produced and maintained by the schedulers and copies provided to each coach and posted on the SYH Website. In the case of a last minute change, the Head Coach (with the assistance of the Team Manager) will notify his or her team. If a Head Coach must cancel a game, the coach will notify the scheduler as soon as possible. It will be the responsibility of the scheduler to fill a home ice slot or re-schedule an away game. Game schedules are subject to change and revised schedules will be provided throughout the

season.

Adverse Weather

In case of schedule changes due to adverse weather or driving conditions, the Head Coach (with the assistance of the Team Manager) will notify his or her team prior to the game or practice.

PLAYER PARTICIPATION POLICY

While the objective of the Stowe Youth Hockey Program is for the players to have fun while learning and playing the game of hockey, all players also have a responsibility to support their respective teams through participation, attendance, and enthusiasm.

Punctual attendance at all games and practice sessions is essential. Players are expected to arrive at least one-half hour before games. Players are expected to be dressed and ready to take the ice five (5) minutes prior to practice. Players are also required to leave the ice as soon as their scheduled practice or game is over.

In regular season games, scrimmages and tournaments, it is expected that the coaches will provide equitable on-ice participation for all players to the extent possible.

It is important to note that equitable does not mean equal.

Coaches have the discretion to determine a child's playing time from shift to shift, period to period, and game to game. However, ***over the course of a season, each child should receive a substantially similar amount of playing time.***

Valid reasons to vary playing time include, but are not limited to: unsportsmanlike conduct, disruptive behavior, avoidable non-attendance or tardiness at scheduled practices, discipline, 'time of occurrence' instruction, and lack of motivation.

Invalid reasons to vary playing time include, but are not limited to, child favoritism, power play lines, and a focus on winning.

CONCERNS ABOUT A CHILD'S PLAYING TIME SHOULD, IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, BE RAISED WITH THE COACH.

If a suitable resolution is not reached, these concerns should be brought to the attention of the Coaching Committee who will then consult with the Board if necessary.

TOURNAMENTS

In addition to the State Tournament, Stowe Youth Hockey will make every effort to schedule at least one home tournament for each team, per season. Usually this is our Stowe Winter Carnival Tournament, typically held in

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mid-January. This tournament brings in teams from across New England and Canada to participate in brackets of 4-8 teams. See the section on volunteering and fundraising, as well as the website, for more information.

Away tournaments, if any, will be chosen and scheduled by each Head Coach. Head Coaches will have the flexibility to schedule tournaments for their team throughout the season; however, they should convey their tournament interest to the Board before making their final commitment. Any away tournament entry fees are the responsibility of the players and parents. If a player's portion of the entry fee is not paid prior to the tournament, that player will not be allowed to participate in that tournament.

SUMMER PROGRAM

The objective of Summer Program is to allow SYH players to stay on the ice over the summer months through a mix of power skating, skills based drills and fun game play.

TEAM STAFF

All Head Coaches will be recommended each year to the Board by the Coaching Committee for appointment for that particular year only. All assistant coaches will be recommended by the Coaching Committee in consultation with the Head Coach. Assignments of all coaches will be made by the Board and will be final.

The staff of each team will consist of:

Head Coach

The Head Coach has full responsibility for the conduct of the hockey program during all practice sessions and games, including the conduct of practices, supervision of instruction, proper handling of accidents, enforcement of safety requirements, and control over player behavior. Each Head Coach must be certified in accordance with USA Hockey coaching guidelines.

Assistant Coach(es)

The Assistant Coaches assist the Head Coach at practices and games, and may occasionally act as coach in the Head Coach's absence. It is our objective to have at least two Assistant Coaches per team, though this is not always possible. All Assistant Coaches must be certified in accordance with USA Hockey coaching guidelines.

Team Manager

Each Head Coach's first function will be to appoint a Team Manager. Every team **MUST** have a Team Manager in place before distribution of coach's supplies and team jerseys and before the first weekend of games. It is highly recommended that the Team Manager appointed not be the coach's spouse. The Team Manager assists the Head Coach with organizational issues, serves as a liaison among parents, the Board, and the team's coaches, attends Board of Directors' meetings when requested by the Board, and assists in communicating cancellation notices and other necessary information.

Team Winter Carnival Representative

Each team shall appoint a parent to be the liaison for the team to the Winter Carnival Tournament Volunteer

Coordinator. This person will be responsible for coordinating and organizing the team's raffle donations and making sure that all volunteer shifts are covered during the tournament.

STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY CODES OF CONDUCT

Stowe Youth Hockey strongly believes in creating and maintaining a strong code of conduct for everyone involved and associated with our program, including Coaches, Players, Parents and spectators.

COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT

- Be a positive role model to your players
- Display emotional maturity
- Be alert to the physical safety of players.
- Be generous with your praise when it is deserved
- Be consistent, honest, fair and just
- Do not criticize players publicly
- Study to learn to be an effective communicator and coach.
- Adjust to personal needs and problems of players
- Be a good listener.
- Never verbally or physically abuse a player or official
- Give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem, and learn the basics.
- Organize practices ahead of time that are fun and challenging and appropriate for your teams' developmental needs.
- Maintain an open line of communication with your players' parents, beginning with a pre-season parents/coaches meeting to explain the goals and objectives of your season.
- Be concerned with the overall development of your players.
- Stress good nutrition, fitness, and health habits.

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

- Play for FUN!!!
- Work to improve your skills
- Be a team player – get along with your teammates.
- Learn teamwork, sportsmanship and discipline.
- Be on time for all practices and games.
- Learn the rules, and play by them.
- Always be a good sport.
- Respect your coach, your teammates, your parents, your opponents, and officials.
- Never argue with officials' decisions.
- RESPECT FOR PERSONS AND PROPERTY AT RINKS, BOTH AT HOME AND AWAY, IS MANDATORY!!

For serious cases of misconduct, the Board reserves the right to suspend or expel any player from games, tournaments, or the Stowe Youth Hockey program.

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PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Do not force your children to participate, but support their desire to play their chosen sport. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules.
- Children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.
- Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches or officials.
- Show a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants
- Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit your young athlete.
- De-emphasize games and competition in the younger age levels.
- Know and study the rules of hockey, and support the officials on and off the ice. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.
- Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat and reinforce the positive points of the game.
- Never yell or physically abuse your child after a game or practice. It is destructive.
- Work toward removing physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.
- Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child and the sport. Communicate with them and support them.

SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Display good sportsmanship. Always respect players, coaches and officials.
- Act appropriately; do not taunt or disturb other fans. Enjoy the game together.
- Cheer good plays of all participants, avoid booing opponents.
- Cheer in a positive manner and encourage fair play; profanity and objectionable cheers or gestures are offensive.
- Help provide a safe and fun environment; throwing objects on the ice surface can cause injury to players and officials.
- Do not lean over and pound on the glass; the glass surrounding the ice surface is part of the playing area.
- Support the referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.
- Be responsible for your own safety and remain alert to help prevent accidents.
- Respect locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches and officials.
- Be supportive after the game, win or lose.
- Recognize good effort, teamwork and sportsmanship.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, the USA Hockey Youth, Junior, and Adult Councils have instructed the Officiating Program to adhere to certain points of emphasis relating to sportsmanship.

This campaign is designed to require all players, coaches, officials, team officials and administrators and parents/spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey-sanctioned games.

The following points of emphasis must be implemented by all On-Ice Referees and Linesmen:

Players

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed whenever a player:

- Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
- Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.
- Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision.

Anytime a player persists in any of these actions, he or she shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.

Coaches

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed whenever a coach:

- Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
- Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision, including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players, or spectators.

Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, he or she shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

Officials

Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited.

On-ice officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.

Parents and Spectators

The game will be stopped by on-ice officials when parents or spectators display inappropriate and disruptive behavior that interferes with other spectators or the game. The on-ice officials will identify the violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing the violators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior can include, but is not limited to:

- Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
- Throwing of any object in the spectators' viewing area, player's bench, penalty box or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

If the behavior of a Stowe Youth Hockey player or parent at an SYH game (home or away) results in that person's removal from the arena by the on-ice officials or team coach, the Board will hold a hearing to investigate and determine the appropriate disciplinary action. The Board reserves the right to require all

concerned parties to appear before the Board during the investigation.

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents are encouraged to participate in Stowe Youth Hockey in any capacity possible. Volunteers may contact any member of the Board or the Volunteer Coordinator for information on volunteer opportunities (e.g., Team Manager, fundraising, or various committees)

Parents are responsible for their children's behavior both on and off the ice.

Parents should be concerned with the overall development of their child. Stress good nutrition, fitness, and health habits.

Parents have the responsibility to notify Stowe Youth Hockey of any child's disabilities that merit special attention. This provision alerts coaches to the need for suitable accommodations and could, in some cases, prevent personal injury. Such disclosure should be made at registration on the Consent to Treat Form.

If a child has a known medical condition that may require medical intervention during the course of practices or games, (e.g., asthma requiring use of an inhalator, diabetes, etc.), then his/her parent or legal guardian must be present as is necessary during the practice or game. ***Any required medication must be carried and administered by the parent or legal guardian.*** Coaches and Team Managers will not be allowed to carry or administer any medication for any child other than their own.

CELL PHONE POLICY

USA Hockey, VSAHA and SYH have adopted a policy regarding cell phones to address privacy concerns. **Cell phones are not permitted in locker rooms, either home or away, and will be immediately confiscated by the coaches.** Players and parents should be informed of this policy at the first team meeting.

STOWE ARENA RINK RULES

The following are the rules of Stowe Arena, established by the Stowe Recreation Commission:

- No eating, drinking or chewing gum on the ice.
- No alcoholic beverages on or off the ice.
- No hockey sticks or pucks on the ice except during scheduled games, practices, or stick time.
- School hockey players must wear helmets and face masks.
- Only skates may be worn on the ice.
- No running, street hockey or other disruptive activity will be permitted in or around the arena.
- No one is allowed on the ice or on the boards when the Zamboni is in operation.
- Locker rooms must be left clean and picked up after every group use.
Home Teams are responsible for the condition of both locker rooms.

- Cancellations of scheduled ice time must be made two weeks in advance. Users must pay for scheduled time cancelled less than two weeks in advance unless the rink management is able to rent the time to someone else.
- Programs renting ice time are responsible for the conduct of their members and guests during scheduled times and for any damage to rink facilities.

Failure to follow these rules may result in forfeiture of ice privileges by the individual or program responsible. Similar rules apply when at other rinks.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMITMENT

We are lucky to be able to offer our kids the opportunity to play ice hockey, but a youth hockey program doesn't just happen by itself. Pulling off "The Miracle on Ice" that is every hockey season requires enormous commitment from the members of SYH, which must not go unacknowledged. But despite the eternal quest for perfection, every season there are things that are not done as well as they could be. Please bring your complaints, concerns, suggestions, and ideas for improvement to the attention of the Board, but your willingness to jump in and help with the solution would also be greatly appreciated.

SECTION TWO

2015-2016 STOWE YOUTH HOCKEY

ADDENDUM

2015-2016 PROGRAMS

SYH will offer the following programs this year:

| TEAM | BIRTH YEARS |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Initiation/Learn to Skate | 2007-2010 |
| Mites Travel | 2007-2010 |
| Squirts Travel | 2005-2006 |
| Peewees Travel | 2003-2004 |
| Bantams Travel | 2001-2002 |
| U14 Girls Travel | 2001 and later |
| Midgets Preseason | 2000 and earlier |

FOR THIS SEASON, WE ANTICIPATE HAVING MULTIPLE TEAMS IN SOME AGE CATEGORIES.

SYH sponsored pre-season skating sessions will not be offered this year.

2015-2016 FEE SCHEDULE

| Program | Fee |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Initiation | \$80 res./\$90 non-res. |
| Mites | \$500 |
| Squirts | \$750 |
| Pee Wees | \$775 |
| Bantams | \$775 |
| Midgets | \$130 |
| U14 Girls | \$775 |

2015-2016 MASTER CALENDAR

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Registration | August 1-31, 2015 |
| Regular Season Begins | October 19, 2015 |
| Initiation Session I | October 11, 2015 |
| Initiation Session II | January 10, 2016 |
| Stowe Winter Carnival Tournament | January 12-14, 2016 |
| State Tournament Playdown #1 | February 12-14, 2016 |
| State Tournament Playdown #2 | February 19-21, 2016 |
| State Championship Weekend | March 4-6, 2016 |

2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (9)

Adam Rice
Lori Tilgner
Joanna Graves
Patrick Rahilly
Heather Anderson
Karin Gosselin
Nifer Hoehn
Lynn McDermott
OPEN

2015-2016 OFFICERS

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| President | Patrick Rahilly |
| Vice President | Adam Rice |
| Registrar | Karin Gosselin |
| Treasurer | Lori Tilgner |
| Secretary | Heather Anderson |

2015-2016 BOARD MEETINGS

The SYH Board holds regular monthly meetings at 6:30pm on the first Monday of each month at Stowe Arena. Meetings are open to all SYH members and the public.

Board Meeting Dates

Monday, July 6, 2015
Monday, August 3, 2015
Monday, September 7, 2015
Monday, October 5, 2015
Monday, November 2, 2015
Monday, December 7, 2015

Revised November 1, 2015

Monday, January 4, 2016
Monday, February 2, 2016
Monday, March 7, 2016
Monday, April 4, 2016

2015-2016 VOLUNTEER LEADERS

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Youth Hockey & Coaching Committee Chair | Mike Hickey |
| Head Referee | Leo Clark |
| VSAHA Representative | Kelly Hickey |
| Head Scheduler | Beth Dalieri |
| Girls Coordinator | Jeff Lively |
| Tournament Directors | Nifer Hoehn & Joanna Graves |
| Equipment Coordinator | Derek Libby |
| Fundraising Coordinator | TBD |
| Bantam Scheduler | Beth Dalieri |
| Pee Wee Scheduler | Jamie Libby |
| Squirt Scheduler | Karen Tibbits |
| Mite Scheduler | Tiffany Donza |
| Girls' Scheduler | Becky Lively |
| Webmaster | Nifer Hoehn |

Revised November 1, 2015