

EASTVIEW HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Handbook

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Eastview Hockey Handbook

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MISSION STATEMENT

Eastview Hockey Association (EVHA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a fun and educational experience for the children residing in the Eastview High School Attendance area or who are eligible to play in the EVHA who wish to play ice hockey. Our programs are planned, promoted and administered by volunteers. Our curriculum stresses basic skills that encourage team play and sportsmanship and strives for fair playing time for all players. The individuals who teach this curriculum, in all cases, have completed one or more courses in the Minnesota Amateur Hockey Association's Education Program (CEP). EVHA's coaches, Board of Directors, and Player Development Committee through such things as our Code of Conduct, are committed to teaching players to respect their opponents and the officials.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All EVHA members, including Directors, players, coaches, volunteers, parents and guardians, and spectators shall maintain an environment that encourages mutual respect and promotes respectful and congenial relationships amongst participants in EVHA events and activities.

Coaches' Code of Conduct

EVHA expects all coaches to exemplify the highest ideals of sportsmanship on-and-off the ice and establishes the following:

- Hockey is fun.
- Honest representation, skills should decide the final outcome of the games.
- Understand, support and champion all District 8 rules and guidelines
- Opponents are to be respected and complimented.
- Rules and regulations are to be viewed as mutual agreements in spirit and trust.
- Officials are to be viewed as honest arbitrators.
- Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one.
- Respect your fellow coaches and work together in a cooperative manner.
- Never criticize or bad-mouth your fellow coaches in front of parents or players.
- Although passionate about the game, all coaches shall act with class and discipline at all team events, and in a way that honors the team, program and community.
- Set a good example of behavior.
- Hockey is a fun game for all to enjoy.

Player's Code of Conduct

EVHA expects all players to exemplify the highest ideals of sportsmanship on-and-off the ice and establishes the following:

- Play for the love of the game.
- Respect your opponent.
- Work for the good of the team.
- Accept the officials' decisions and respect their judgment.
- Play within the rules of the game.
- Be generous in victory and gracious in defeat.
- Always conduct yourself with honor and pride.
- To play the game is great.
- To win the game is greater.
- To love the game is greatest.

Parent's/Guardian's/Spectator's Code of Conduct

All parents, guardians, EVHA members and guests play a vital role in the development of athletes. It is the duty of all parents, guardians and EVHA members to exemplify the highest ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play. All parents, guardians, EVHA members and guests are expected to abide by the guideline for behavior described in the following:

- Players require a good example as opposed to criticism.
- Help make your child's participation rewarding for all participants.
- Be understanding and supportive of the coach and of the officials. Coaches are typically volunteers giving their personal time, at their expense, to help provide a positive experience for your child. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to arrange transportation to and from games, practices, scrimmages, and tournaments.
- Parents will acknowledge the EVHA attendance policy found in the EVHA handbook

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- Support and assist the program in a positive manner.
- The parent/guardian is the most important example a child can relate to (be everything you want your child to be).
- Parents will provide or arrange for transportation to and from games, practices, scrimmages, and tournaments.
- Parents/guardians/guests will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, fan or parent. This includes, but not limited, to booing, profane language, heckling, harassment, or hostility of any kind).

Violation of any of the above will result in the activation of EVHA's Inappropriate Behavior Discipline policy (found in the EVHA handbook) which applies to players, coaches, parents/guardians and spectators. By registering your child to play hockey for EVHA, you are acknowledging EVHA's Parent Code of Conduct

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THE 2025-2026 EVHA BOARD MEMBERS

Leadership Team

Aaron Hareid	President / Gambling Liaison / Away Tournament Coordinator / Asst. Mite Coordinator / Fundraising
Chad Larsen	Vice President / Gambling Liaison / PDC Committee / Concession Coordinator / Training Center / 5000 Shot Club
Dean Schiro	Secretary / Tryout Coordinator / SafeSport / Hosted Tournament
Aaron Fritz	Treasurer

Board Members

Ashley Baltzer	Gambling Manager
Alan Elder	Concessions Coordinator / Fundraising Coordinator
Alicia Czech	Registrar / Asst. Valkyries Coordinator / Fundraising
Brian Gunther	D8 Rep. / Hosted Tournament Coordinator / Jr. Gold Coordinator
Chad Krawiec	Hosted Tournament Coordinator / Asst. Valkyries Coordinator / DEI / Recruitment / DIBS
Christina Beddies	Ice Coordinator / Jerseys, Apparel and Equipment Coordinator / Recruitment Coordinator / Asst. Fundraising Coordinator
Erik Nilsen	Assistant Mite Coordinator / Asst. Valkyries Coordinator / Fundraising / PDC Liaison
Jason Haider	Valkyries Coordinator / Tryout Committee / PDC Liaison
Jeremy Sandberg	Goalie Coordinator / Travel Teams Coordinator / Away Tournament Coordinator / Training Center / 5000 Shot Club
Joe Tuset	PDC Squirt Level Director / PDC Girl's Director / Goalie Coordinator / Asst. Jr. Gold Coordinator
Randy Kannas	Mite Coordinator / PDC Liaison / Social Media and Branding Coordinator
Sam Horak	Travel Team Coordinator / Hosted Tournament Committee / Tryout Committee / SafeSport
Summer Cline	DIBS Coordinator / Away Tourney Coordinator / Fundraising

OTHER EVHA REPRESENTATIVES (NON-BOARD MEMBERS)

Michelle Stessman	Administrator
Aaron Fulton	Boys Varsity High School Coach
Herb Harvey	Girls Varsity High School Coach
Julie Raymond	Consultant Treasurer

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Age Requirement

All EVHA players must obtain the age of 4 years by June 1 of the year of registration and any player under the age of five years will be placed in the 1st year pre-kindergarten mite group.

Age Brackets

Level of play in EVHA is determined by Minnesota Hockey Guidelines.

Residency

Residency is determined by the guidelines set forth in Section IV of Minnesota Hockey's Youth Rules and Regulations.

VOLUNTEER POLICY

Volunteers are greatly needed to make EVHA run. Without volunteers contributing many hours, EVHA could not exist. We greatly appreciate the work that everyone does to help make our youth hockey experience a positive and enjoyable one and to make the EVHA program successful! With this in mind we have implemented a Volunteer Policy.

Time/Funds Requirement

Each hockey family is expected to volunteer 8 hours per family. Failure to show up or find a replacement for a claimed shift will result in a \$25.00 fee that will be invoiced to you. Although we appreciate your time, you may opt-out of volunteer requirements by paying \$400 at the time of registration. If your family has not met the 8 hour commitment or paid the \$400 at registration, a \$400 fee will be invoiced to you. Volunteer hours will not be pro-rated, families must complete the full 8 required hours in order to avoid being invoiced \$400.

Volunteer Opportunities

The following positions fulfill the volunteer policy requirement:

- Board Members: Full Dibs Credit
- Volunteer Coordinator: Full DIBs Credit
- Head Coach (Travel Teams): Full DIBs Credit
- Assistant Coaches for Travel Teams (Up to Three): Full DIBs Credit
- Mite 1 and Mite 2 Leads: Full DIBs Credit
- Mite 1 and Mite 2 Assistants: 5 hours DIBs Credit
- Mite 3+ Head Coaches: Full DIBs Credit
- Mite 3+ Assistant Coaches: 5 hours DIBs Credit
- Traveling Team Managers: Full DIBs Credit
- Mite Team Managers: 5 Hours DIBs Credit
- Concessions Leads: Full DIBs Credit
- Key Volunteers: Case by Case Basis

Volunteer opportunities may include, but are not limited to, the following activities:

- Registration
- Recruiting Events
- Clinics
- Tryouts
- Mite Evaluation
- Concessions
- Hosted Tournament(s)

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- D8 Tournaments

Others as available. This list is subject to change.

FINANCIAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The financial goals of the Association are:

- To exercise fiduciary responsibility over the funds entrusted to the Association by its members.
- To be accountable to the membership and provide understandable reports in sufficient detail to show where funds came from and what they were used for.
- To maintain adequate reserves and sufficient cash flow to enable the Association to carry out its mission.

The Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for the financial operations of the Association. The Board delegates the responsibility for managing the financial affairs of the Association to the Treasurer. The Treasurer's responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Establishing and maintaining banking relationships.
- Investing idle cash.
- Developing operating policies and procedures which accomplish the above goals.
- Filing all necessary returns/forms with federal, state and local regulatory agencies.
- Preparing operating budgets for the Association and teams we sponsor.
- Instructing team managers on how to handle the financial affairs of their teams.
- Maintaining adequate accounting records which reflect the assets and liabilities of the Association and the sources and uses of its funds.
- Preparing periodic reports to the Board and the membership.
- Maintaining the Association's tax-exempt status.
- Obtain and maintain insurance coverage for the Association.

OPERATING PHILOSOPHY

The Association carries out its activities on two levels; (1) an Association-wide level where activities are undertaken for the benefit of the entire membership; (2) a team or group activity level where the activities are undertaken only for those participating in the group activity of team. Our operating philosophy is that all members will share in the cost of the activities which benefit all members and that teams or player groups will share in those costs which benefit the group. The underlying concept is fairness: we should all pay our fair share and get what we pay for.

ASSOCIATION-WIDE ACTIVITIES

Activities of the Association which benefit all members include, but are not limited to:

- Player Development Committee
- Printing and mailing newsletters and other information material.
- Registration (printing, flyers, renting rooms, supplies).
- Background checks as required by District 8.
- Coach registration and training.
- Awards, trophies, medallions.
- Fees paid to support USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey.
- Purchase of coach's equipment and pucks.
- Purchase of mite hockey equipment packages
- Reimbursement for certain goalie equipment
- Other administrative costs of the Association.
- Ice time through the Association.
- District 8 fees for referees, administrative costs and post-season playoffs.
- Scrimmage referees.
- Tournament entry fees.
- District/Regional or State Tournament fees.
- Practice jerseys.

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- Hockey Dryland Facility

Association-wide activities are paid for primarily by the Season Registration Fee charged to each member. Other sources of funds which may benefit all members include: fundraisers, donations, grants, advertising, etc. The Board of Directors will establish the intended use of these various sources of funds either as they occur or as part of the annual budgeting process. The Board may direct that these funds be used for general purposes (which would be included in the annual operating budget and as such would reduce the season registration fees), for specific purposes (purchase of equipment, new arena development) or for addition to cash reserves.

TEAM OR GROUP ACTIVITIES

Each team above the level of mite operates on a “pay as you go” basis for team or group activities, where the team pays for the exact cost of the resources they use. Team expenses may include, but are not limited to:

- Ice time purchased on their own.
- Team parties, hospitality rooms.
- Hotel room and expenses for parent coaches.

The last three items are optional. It is up to each team to determine how much of these costs, if any, they want to incur.

REFUND POLICIES

EVHA Season Registration Fee Refund Policy

Refunds may be provided for the initial payment, with the exception of USA Hockey & MN Hockey fees. In order to be eligible, you must provide a written notice to the EVHA registrar, prior to the start of EVHA tryouts for traveling players (Squirrels, Peewees, Bantams, U10 and up), and annual evaluations for mite players.

Injuries, although rare, are a part of the game of hockey and are not approved reasons for receiving a refund.

The EVHA Board reserves the right to refund members in the event of a catastrophic event (death of a family member, life threatening disease of player, etc.), or other circumstances that the Board may determine a separate action.

Team or Group Activities Refunds

An individual player's team costs are based on estimated total cost of all team expenses divided by the set number of players per team. The Eastview Hockey Association will not provide team cost refunds to injured or quitting players.

If a player is injured or quits during the course of the season, the EVHA team refund policy is to allow the team to decide, by a majority vote of the remaining team members (one family vote per player), the most appropriate course of action. EVHA assumes the team will provide a fair and reasonable relief or refund to families that quit or have season ending injuries. The resolution determined by the majority vote of the remaining team members is final.

PAST DUE ACCOUNTS

A past due account is defined as any member, or immediate family of a member, who:

1. Has any amount past due or owed to EVHA, or
2. Has more than once remitted a check, share draft, or other payment instrument to the EVHA which was returned because of insufficient funds, or
3. Has remitted a check, share draft, or other payment instrument drawn upon a closed account.

Members shall be required to pay all past due amounts and all fees and other charges, as reasonably estimated, for the upcoming season in full at the time of registration. Payment must be by cash, credit/debit card, certified check, cashier's check or money order. No player, or immediate family of a player, will be deemed registered prior to full payment of all such amounts, and will not be permitted to attend tryouts, obtain equipment or clothing or be assigned to any EVHA team.

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PLAYER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (PDC)

EVHA shall coordinate the overall hockey development of all EVHA athletes and oversee the process by which we train and develop hockey players. Hockey development is overseen by the Player Development Committee (PDC).

PDC personnel are approved by the EVHA Board.

Hockey development responsibilities include:

- Producing a “developmental roadmap” from Mite through Junior Gold
- Developing and implementing a scope and sequence for training players
- Hiring and training coaches
- Recommending training facilities, training programs and in-season skill clinics
- Managing Pre-Season clinics
- Recommending team level designations
 - Requires EVHA Board approval
 - To meet deadlines, the PDC may submit preliminary team level designations prior to Board approval

TRAVELING PROGRAMS

“A”/“B” traveling hockey is designed for players with skill levels to participate in a more competitive environment. Players are selected for traveling teams through a tryout process based on the EVHA approved policy described in this handbook. EVHA has traveling teams at the Squirt, Pee wee, Bantam, Junior Gold (if available), U10, U12, and U15 (if available) levels of play. All players in these age groups are eligible to try out for a traveling team. A tryout fee will be assessed to all tryout participants.

KEY POINTS

1. “A”/“B” traveling hockey programs require an increased commitment from both players and parents. One may expect an increased number of practices and games/scrimmages throughout the season. The EVHA suggests that you discuss the subject with other parents/players who have experience with traveling hockey.
2. “C” traveling is for players who do not make the “A”/“B” teams. The commitment for the “C” team is only slightly less than that of the “A”/“B” teams.
3. Players participating on “A” or “B” traveling teams may include higher costs than those participating on “C” traveling teams. Other costs may arise due to additional ice time being purchased for practices, scrimmages, and tournaments for all levels. Coaches, team managers, and parents will mutually agree upon these additional team expenditures.
4. Players may experience the opportunity to test their skills against players throughout Minnesota and players from outside the state. It is assumed that traveling teams will participate in out-of-town tournaments that may require overnight travel and lodging at the players/parents expense.

TEAM LEVELS

The Player Development Committee will determine the number of teams and levels of play with final approval of the EVHA Board. If there are two teams at the same level, the teams will be picked to be evenly matched as per District 8 rules. Players will be divided into teams per the Hockey Tryouts section below.

HOCKEY TRYOUTS

EVHA has established a process for conducting traveling team tryouts based on objectivity and fairness. The goal of EVHA’s tryout process is to ensure that each player is placed at the most appropriate level for their abilities. The tryouts consist of several separate sessions, usually over a course of one to two weeks. Participation in the tryout process is mandatory for all traveling team level participants unless an Excused Absence or Medical Absence as described in the next section is granted.

Players that qualify under state high school rules to tryout at the varsity or junior varsity (JV) level must still register for EVHA at the appropriate level if they wish to return and play. This includes paying registration, tryout, and any incurred team costs up to the time they leave to play high school hockey. If players failing to make varsity or JV return and wish to play for EVHA they will be placed on the “C” team if they had not registered and participated in EVHA tryouts unless tryouts for their level have not been completed.

Girls who try out for Squirt, Pee Wee or Bantam traveling teams are precluded from changing to play U10, U12, or U15 traveling teams once tryouts have begun for Squirt, Pee Wee or Bantam teams. Conversely, Girls who try out

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for U10, U12, or U15 traveling teams are precluded from changing to play Squirt, Pee Wee or Bantam teams once tryouts have begun for U10, U12, or U15 teams.

The Tryout Committee of the EVHA Board of Directors is responsible for the organization and execution of the respective tryouts. EVHA tryouts will be conducted with the use of Evaluators selected by the Player Development Committee. EVHA Member Volunteers approved by the Tryout Committee and the Player Development Committee may be present during the tryout process. Except for the before-mentioned, the tryout process will be closed to all other EVHA Members. Although the Tryout Committee and the EVHA Member volunteers will be present during the tryout process, the EVHA Member volunteers and the Tryout Committee members will be prohibited from attending the tryout of their respective EVHA player. Coaches of EVHA teams named to coach a specific team before the tryout process begins may be allowed to observe and help evaluate tryouts at the level they are assigned.

Evaluators selected by the Player Development Committee will be responsible for evaluating all the players who wish to participate in the tryout process. The Evaluators will rank all participants according to their performance.

The tryout sessions will be led by the Evaluators and will consist of a combination of drills and scrimmages depending on the level and preferences of the Evaluators. Tryout drills are designed to test individual skills, hockey awareness, and team play. Desire, hard work and self-control are also determining factors in evaluation and selection. An objective of the scrimmages is to have the players skate on various player combinations of lines and positions throughout the tryout process and to evaluate each player's abilities in game like situations

Evaluators will be reviewing the following:

- The player's skating skills
- The player's individual hockey skills (puck handling, passing, receiving, shooting, body positioning)
- The player's team skills, both offensive and defensive
- The player's position play, teamwork, game skills, awareness.

At the conclusion of Tryouts, the top evaluated group of players at each level are placed on the top team offered. Those players not selected for the top team will be placed on the second highest team. This process will continue until all players have been placed on a team. Final team size for all teams will be determined by the Player Development Committee with input from the coach of the team, if a coach has been identified. The number of goalies per team may change depending on the number of goalies available, and on the grades given by the evaluators.

Groups from all levels may participate in outside scrimmages against players from another association. Any player receiving three penalties during any one scrimmage will be required to sit for the remainder of that day's scrimmage, but will return for the next scrimmage, if applicable. Any player receiving a major penalty that results in an injury to another player will sit for the remainder of that scrimmage.

Results: Posting of tryout groups during tryouts will be on the EVHA website (www.eastviewhockey.net). Posting during tryouts will be by tryout jersey number. Final tryout results will be posted on the EVHA website within 48 hours of the last tryout. The posting will consist of player's last name with the team and coach listed (if identified). All tryout results are final with no appeal.

If there are two (2) teams at the same level, players will be divided equally.

ABSENCE FROM TRYOUTS

Excused Absences

If a Player will miss a tryout session for other than medical or health related reasons, the Parent must communicate the reason for missing prior to the tryout date. This request will be reviewed by the Player Development Committee. If it is determined that the absence is excused, the Evaluators will attempt to accommodate the Player's schedule and, if that is not practicable, will score the missed tryout using:

- The Player's attended tryout scores;
- Past abilities of the player;
- Interviews with past coaches; and
- An assessment as to placement that is in the best interests of the Association and the player (as is the case with all players participating in the tryout process).

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A Player missing a tryout for an excused absence will be warned that the failure to attend tryouts may result in that Player being placed on a lower team than had that Player attended all tryout sessions.

Medical Absence

Players who are unable to tryout because of health or medical reasons must notify the Tryout Director in writing at least 24 hours before tryouts begin. If a player is unable to finish tryouts, he or she must contact the appropriate coordinator and the Tryout Director immediately.

A player must verify his or her medical problems in writing from a medical doctor. The Board may request additional documentation or proof at their sole discretion. EVHA President, EVHA Vice President, and/or the Player Development Committee will review each player's case and decide on a placement for the player. The committee's decision will be based on:

1. Past abilities of the player;
2. Interview with past coaches;
3. Severity of injury/sickness;
4. The players ability to play (without medical restriction) by November 15; and
5. An assessment as to placement that is in the best interests of the Association and the player (as is the case with all players participating in the tryout process).

PLAYER PLACEMENT

1. A player must play at the level dictated by Minnesota Hockey guidelines.
2. Should a player choose not to play on the "A" or "B" team for which he or she was selected, he/she must play on the lowest level team of the level at which he/she tried out.

PLAYER MOVEMENT BY AGE LEVEL/MOVE UP POLICY

EVHA believes players should play on teams as defined by the Minnesota Hockey age groups. While some players may be more advanced at a particular age, the overall development of the player socially and competitively is best served by having them progress normally through the age levels. EVHA does recognize that there may be some exceptions to this policy and reserves the right to allow a player to move to a higher level than is determined by the player's age. All move-up requests must follow the following policies.

- **Eligibility** - The Move-Up Policy only applies to players who would be moving up to a traveling level (Squirt and higher). EVHA has the authority to invite players up to the next level to fill out a team if enrollment numbers necessitate. EVHA generally recognizes two types of move-up opportunities: Grade-Up and Play-Up.
 - **Grade-Up Policy** - The Grade-Up Policy allows players who are young for their grade to play at a higher level with their classmates. Grade-Up requests must notify their organization at the time of registration. These requests will be addressed on a case-by-case basis and will be granted based on EVHA Board Approval. EVHA reserves the right to make the decision any time prior to the first tryout date.
 - **Play-Up Policy** - The Play-Up Policy exists to allow players who are competing at a very high level to have an opportunity to play for a higher-level team which their age or grade level would normally not permit. All requests for a player to play-up must be submitted to the EVHA President prior to September 15. EVHA reserves the right to accept play-up requests after the deadline. The President will seek advice from one or more of the player's past coach(s) and the Player Development Committee (PDC). The President along with the PDC will consider the play-up request and recommendation information. With approval, a player will participate in the clinics and tryouts for the higher-level team. In order to be placed on a higher-level team under the Play-Up Policy:
 - Skaters must finish tryouts ranked within the top 25% of the highest-level team roster size for the older age group.
 - For example, if the highest level team has 13 skaters and 2 goalies, the player must finish ranked in the top 4 skaters.
 - Goalies must finish tryouts as the top-ranking goalie in the older age group

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- If the above rankings are not achieved in tryouts, the player will be placed or tryout for a team at their current level. A player achieving a play-up may not revert to a lower level after being placed on a team.

EVHA does retain the discretion to allow players to move up for other extenuating circumstances. For example, but not limited to, players may be moved-up in order to fill out numbers for a level. In these cases, the President along with input from the PDC, will approve (or deny) the move-up request.

COACHES QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

All EVHA hockey coaches require USA Hockey CEP certification, as required by District 8 and/or Minnesota Hockey.

All USA Hockey Coaching Education Program (CEP) expenses will be reimbursed by EVHA for approved coaches. Expenses include: USA Hockey Coaching registration fees, USA Hockey CEP Clinics, and USA Hockey Age appropriate modules. Expenses will be reimbursed at one time via check, after January 1st. Expenses for Non-sanctioned USA Hockey CEP related training, travel, time, meals, etc. are not included.

Coaches must have hockey knowledge and basic skills, and they must be able to communicate effectively with players and parents. Coaches should exhibit the following traits:

- Dedication.
- Must be respected by peers, players and parents.
- Ability to motivate.
- Be organized in practice, games and communication.
- Coaches must abide by the USA Hockey bylaws.

Coaches of traveling teams must have prior coaching experience in some sport. Head coaches must have experience commensurate with the playing level. Questions about the CEP program and about certification requirements should be directed to the President, Vice President, or Player Development Committee.

Coaches who coach any team other than those approved by the Association, during the season will be subject to sanctions, including suspension. Any coach whose Eastview Hockey Association team plays, scrimmages or practices with a “AAA” team during the season will be subject to suspension.

COACH SELECTION

The EVHA Player Development Committee, as approved by the EVHA Board, will select all coaches. All prospective coaches, both head coaches and assistant coaches, wishing to coach in the Eastview Hockey Association should submit an application to the Player Development Committee. The committee will recruit coaches, interview, and hire the best coaches available. Candidates will be evaluated based on the following qualifications: 1) ability to teach and work positively with kids; 2) coaching and playing experience; 3) hockey knowledge; 4) communication skills; and 5) leadership and role model qualities. Candidates will also be judged on the following principles: 1) will not use coaching as a platform to emphasize their own child’s development; 2) will adhere to the EVHA Association systems and philosophies; 3) will not put winning ahead of development; and 4) will show respect for the Association, parents, officials, and players at all times.

Head coaches will hire assistant coaches, subject to approval from the Player Development Committee. Head coaches are responsible for assistant coaches and their actions at all times during the course of the season.

The committee will attempt to hire non-parent coaches for all teams, with the most qualified person being hired regardless of parent affiliation. The committee will make every effort to hire the positions listed above prior to the start of tryouts, so they can have some input into the player selections process. Coaches may be hired by the committee at any time after an application is submitted. Parent coaches for positions other than those listed above will be hired after teams are selected. Background checks will be required of all coaches and any previous discretions will be grounds for dismissal.

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ATTENDANCE POLICY

The attendance policy for levels Squirts/U10 and older is as follows: Every player's presence is important and expected. Unless otherwise excused by the coach, all players are expected to attend all practices, league games, and tournament games. Excused absences will be granted for illnesses, injuries, school, religious and important family events (e.g. funeral or wedding); however, it is expected that the coach will be notified in advance of such events. Unexcused absences, including participation in another sporting event or non-EVHA hockey event, may result in a reduction of playing time as determined by the coach.

FAIR PLAY POLICY

EVHA has adopted a fair play policy in accordance with the American Development Model created by USA Hockey. This policy is attached as Addendum A.

THE TEAM MANAGER

The team manager is involved with the team in many different ways. The manager is the team administrator, coordinator and bookkeeper. You will be the team's central point of communication. This is a great way to get involved with your child's team as well as with the game of hockey.

Duties:

1. **Coordination:** Equipment needs, scrimmages, referees, tournaments, team meetings and additional practices if necessary. Occasional calendar additions may need to be made.
2. **Budget:** Establish and administer team budgets that are agreed upon by the parents and coaches. Provide team financial statements and invoices as necessary.
3. **Scheduling:** Aside from EVHA provided practices and games, you will be responsible for the scheduling of all additional team events.
4. **Communication:** You will be the team's liaison between players, parents, and coaches, EVHA tournament officials, and others. Provide information for the local newspapers, *Let's Play Hockey*, the EVHA newsletter and the website.
5. **Administration:** Forms, documents and rosters may be required by District 8, EVHA or tournament officials.
6. **Tournaments:** Contact the Travelling Coordinator(s) for details on assigned tournaments and communicate all information to your team. Tournament fees are included in each player's fees. Season registration fees include 3-4 tournaments for travelling teams, and 2-3 tournaments for Junior Gold.
7. **Collections:** Collect payments from each family to pay for any Team and Group Activities.

EVHA is seeking greater parental involvement. The team manager position is a great way to participate in your son's or daughter's hockey experience. If you would like to be a team manager, or to participate with your hockey Association in any other capacity, please contact any Director for further information.

EVHA FUNDRAISER

Objective

It is the intention of the Board to use the projected revenues to continue subsidizing the costs of ice time while maintaining reasonable and competitive registration fees. A significant portion of fundraising is used to subsidize the Mite/U8 programs.

Key Points

1. Fundraiser participation is requested for all players.
2. Key dates and additional information will be distributed by team fundraising representatives and published in the EVHA website.

The Fundraiser Representative

The Team Fundraiser Representative has the following responsibilities: attend the team fundraising representative meeting, distribute and collect raffle tickets, and organize and present the fundraiser basket at the annual Raffle Night Event.

If you have an interest in becoming a Fundraiser Representative or have any additional questions regarding this event, please contact the EVHA Fundraiser Coordinator.

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EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Hockey Equipment Certification Council (H.E.C.C.) is an independent organization responsible for the development, evaluation, and testing of performance standards for protective ice hockey equipment. To date, it has established standards for facemasks, helmets, and skate blades. Additionally USA Hockey, MN Hockey, and District 8 may mandate additional protective equipment.

Skates: All players and on-ice officials must wear skates of a design approved by H.E.C.C. All skates worn by players (but not goalkeepers) and by the Referee and Linesmen shall be equipped with approved safety heel tips. It is recommended that all players (except goalkeepers) and on-ice officials wear skates with blades that have been approved by the H.E.C.C.

The use of speed skates, fancy skates or any skate so designed that it may cause injury is prohibited.

Protective Equipment: Each player is responsible for wearing protective equipment for all games, warm-ups and practices. Such equipment should include shin pads, shoulder pads, elbow pads, padded hockey pants, protective cup, gloves, plus all head protective equipment as required by USA Hockey rules and/or District 8. It is recommended that all protective equipment be designed specifically for ice hockey.

Mouthpiece: All players are required to wear an internal, colored mouthpiece which covers all the remaining teeth of one jaw, customarily the upper.

Helmet: It is mandatory that all players wear a H.E.C.C. approved helmet with chinstrap properly fastened. All players are required to wear a facemask certified by H.E.C.C., plus any chin protection that accompanies the mask. Any helmet or facemask that is altered shall be deemed illegal equipment and shall not be allowed to be used in a game, warm-up, or practice. This includes helmets from which a part has been cut or removed, facemasks from which the chin cup has been removed or any such alterations from the original manufacturing specifications.

Goalkeeper Equipment: Goalkeepers are governed by the same rules and regulations concerning all players. However, some special equipment is worn by the goalkeeper. This equipment includes: blocker glove, catching glove, leg guards, chest, abdominal and arm protector and goalie supportive cup. Collar type throat protection is required. Helmets and facemasks are to be H.E.C.C. approved.

Neck Laceration Protector: As of August 1, 2024, players competing in youth, girls, high school or junior hockey within USA Hockey are required to wear neck laceration protectors (NLPs) for all games and practices. In addition, on-ice officials under the age of 18 as well as players in all six disciplines within USA Hockey's disabled hockey program are also required to wear NLPs.

Notes:

1. All elbow pads shall have a soft protective outer covering of sponge rubber or similar material.
2. A glove from which part or the entire palm has been removed or cut to permit the use of the bare hand shall be considered illegal equipment.

CONCUSSION POLICY

EVHA recognizes the importance of the safety and well-being of its players. Concussions are a significant risk in any contact sport and the nature and possible long term effects of concussions, including the effects and risks of continuing to play a contact sport after receiving a concussion, and the protocols and content, consistent with current medical knowledge related to: (i) the nature and risks of concussions associated with athletic activity; (ii) the signs, symptoms, and behaviors consistent with a concussion that are difficult for a layperson to ascertain; (iii) the need to alert appropriate medical professionals for urgent diagnosis and treatment when a youth athlete is suspected or observed to have received a concussion; and (iv) the need for a youth athlete who sustains a concussion to follow proper medical direction and protocols for treatment and returning to play; dictate the following concussion policy.

When a coach or official removes a player from any youth athletic activity because of a concussion, or, suspected concussion, the player may not again participate in an EVHA hockey practice or game until the player: (1) no longer exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion; and (2) is evaluated by a provider trained and experienced in evaluating and managing concussions and the provider gives the player written permission to again participate in the activity. The head coach for the player's team must inform the EVHA SafeSport Coordinator when a coach or official removes a player from an EVHA game or practice, or, any other athletic activity if known by the

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head coach and the SafeSport must be provided the written permission from the concussion provider as defined herein before the player is cleared to return to play.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Philosophy and Purpose

EVHA recognizes the use of mood-altering chemicals as a significant health problem, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning and the total development of each individual. The misuse and abuse of mood-altering chemicals by adolescents affects the development of related skills. Others are affected by misuse and abuse of family, team members or other significant persons in their lives.

Policy

During the hockey season, regardless of quantity, a player shall not:

1. Use a beverage containing alcohol.
2. Use tobacco, vaping.
3. Use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away any other controlled substance.

This rule applies to the entire season (from sign-up date to completion of the team's season).

It is not a violation for a player to be in possession of a controlled substance specifically prescribed for the player's own use by his/her doctor.

Penalties

1. **First Violation:** After confirmation of the first violation, the player loses eligibility for the next two weeks. No exception is permitted for a player who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
2. **Second Violation:** After confirmation of the second violation, the player loses eligibility for the next six weeks. Again, no exception for a player who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
3. **Third & Subsequent Violations:** After confirmation of the third violation, the player shall lose eligibility for the remainder of the season. No refund of paid fees will be returned to said player. The player will be reinstated for the next season with two violations already in place.
4. Penalties shall be cumulative beginning with and throughout the player's participation in the Eastview Hockey Association. Penalties will carry-over from season to season; numbers of violations are cumulative from year to year.
5. A player shall be disqualified from participation for nine additional weeks beyond the player's original period of ineligibility when the player denies violation of the rules and is allowed to participate and then is subsequently found guilty of the violation.
6. A player that is believed to be under the influence of mood-altering chemicals (MAC) before a game or practice may be prevented from participating by the head coach.

PLAYER / COACH DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

If a player or coach violates any of the policies or codes of conduct set forth by the USA Hockey, MN Hockey, SafeSport, the Association, and/or District 8, they may be subject to disciplinary actions and/or removal. Unless waived, the person disciplined shall be provided with a grievance hearing in accordance with USA Hockey Bylaws. The hearing will be overseen by the grievance committee as defined herein. The committee has the authority to determine discipline of the offending party. The decision of the committee is final.

PARENT / GUARDIAN / RELATIVE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

If a Parent/Guardian or Relative of a player violates any of the policies or codes of conduct set forth by USA Hockey, MN Hockey, SafeSport, the Association, and/or District 8, they may be subject to disciplinary actions by the Grievance Committee or EVHA Board. The disciplined person shall be provided with an opportunity to address the Grievance Committee or EVHA Board in writing. The Grievance Committee or EVHA Board has the full authority to determine discipline of the offending party. Any failure of the Parent/Guardian or Relative to abide by the discipline implemented by the Board, may result in the suspension of the player of the Parent or Relative. The decision of the EVHA Board is final.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR DISCIPLINE POLICY

Inappropriate behavior by any Player, Coach, Parent/Guardian, or Spectator may result in disciplinary actions ranging from a written warning to suspension from EVHA based on the number of offenses and/or the severity of the violation:

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- First Offense - Formal letter via email from the EVHA Board explaining the violation in need of remedial action
- Second Offense - Suspension from all EVHA activities for a minimum of one week or two games; whichever is longer
- Third Offense - Suspension from EVHA activities for the remainder of the season
 - During this time the suspended party is not allowed in any facility during an EVHA event as a participant or spectator regardless of if that party has another child on an EVHA team
 - Parties that have been suspended in the previous season will start the following season on a probationary basis.
 - Probationary status is a formal designation applied to an EVHA member following a disciplinary incident(s), indicating that the EVHA member is under heightened performance and conduct review for a specific period. This status serves as a corrective measure intended to give the EVHA member a structured opportunity to improve and demonstrate compliance with EVHA standards. The probationary period is at the discretion of the board, but typically lasts for the remainder of the current season. Failure to meet expectations during probation may result in further disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion from the association. Disciplinary action will be determined by the board, and based on a review of the conduct and any previous disciplinary incidents.
 - Per the MN Hockey Handbook, Section 2, Article 6, the EVHA board reserves the right to deny membership to EVHA.

EVHA reserves the right to modify, including but not limited to, skipping or combining lower-level sanctions at their discretion based on the severity of the violation. EVHA primarily consults with our assigned Safesport representative for guidance on various issues as they arise. This is a third-party resource that is the association's preferred first call to review any particular situation.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The Association has adopted the following program for dealing with grievances from within the Association:

1. In any civilized society, most problems are best solved through discussion. The grievance procedure begins with a discussion between the parties involved. Choose a neutral time and place either in-person or remotely via phone call or video meeting; not during a game or team practice, or within earshot of the players.
2. If the two parties are unable to reach a resolution, the Complainant must submit a formal complaint via email stating the time, place and as many specifics as possible regarding the incident, to the appropriate Travelling Coordinator(s). If the Travelling Coordinator is the subject of the grievance, the formal complaint shall be submitted directly to the Vice President of the Association.
3. As soon as possible, the Level Coordinator will inform the Vice President that a complaint has been received. The Level Coordinator will talk with the involved parties, and conduct an investigation as necessary. If the Level Coordinator is unable to resolve the complaint, he or she must inform both parties (verbally, within 24 hours; and via email within 5 days) that the complaint has been referred to the Grievance Committee.
4. The Grievance Committee consists of at least 5 persons including the Vice President (Chairperson), the Secretary, a Traveling Coordinator, the Safesport Coordinator, or other members of the board, all of whom are not directly involved in the complaints as Coach, Administrator, or parent member of the team(s) involved. The two at large Board members will be chosen by the Grievance Committee Chairperson. Alternates for the Vice President and Secretary are the President, and any other available Board Member who has no direct interest in the complaint. If a coach or player is involved in a disciplinary action, the Grievance committee shall follow the USA Hockey Bylaw Rules concerning procedures to be followed. Otherwise, the Grievance Committee will discuss and decide the issues after the parties involved have been dismissed from the meeting. The Vice President will notify both parties of the Committee's decision verbally, within 24 hours, and by email within 5 days. Copies of the notice will be sent to all members of the Grievance Committee and to the Level Coordinator.

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WAIVER POLICY

EVHA considers waivers for players leaving or coming into the organization in accordance with Minnesota Hockey and District 8 policy. All approved waivers must be signed by the EVHA President. There are two waivers that EVHA will consider:

- Mandatory (School Attendance)
- Discretionary

A signed waiver must be obtained before a player can participate outside of EVHA. During a season, a player that registers or participates with one association cannot participate with any other association without a waiver. A player that participates without a necessary waiver is considered an ineligible player.

- **Mandatory (School Attendance) Waiver**
 - Neither the releasing nor the accepting association can decline to approve a school attendance waiver that meets Minnesota Hockey requirements
 - Must be in good standing with the association
 - Will participate in the Minnesota Hockey association whose boundaries incorporate the school in which the player is enrolled and is attending
 - For schools with multiple sites, the "main" campus shall prevail unless agreed otherwise by the affected District Director(s)
 - Players waived based on school choice shall be deemed to be members of their association of school attendance and shall have full rights and privileges accorded to all members of that association, including voting rights
 - Players receiving a waiver based on school attendance shall register with their association of school attendance for as long as they continue to attend that school
 - If they stop attending school in that association's area, they revert back to their association of residence for participation
- **Discretionary Waiver**
 - Agreement between associations to transfer a player for reasons as agreed to by the affected associations and District Director(s)
 - Any of the approving parties have the authority to reject such a waiver
 - Players waived for non-school attendance reasons are subject to the receiving Association's policies in accordance with Minnesota Hockey governing documents
 - Players shall remain members of their home association, not the association they were waived into, with full rights and privileges accorded to all Association members including voting rights

Waivers for non-school attendance will be considered only under extenuating circumstances such as to play on a co-op team, to fill teams between associations, to address a goalie surplus/need, etc.

Waivers, if granted, will apply only to the season in which the request is made. Request for waivers for subsequent seasons must be applied for on an annual basis.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The scholarship committee will consist of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

A goal of the EVHA is to provide access to organized hockey to all interested children, independent of their financial situation. Understanding that the cost of playing hockey may be an undue burden for some families, EVHA has set aside monies to be used in awarding scholarships. These monies will be made available based on family need.

We also offer payment schedules to assist in spreading out the cost of hockey, should conditions warrant.

Selection criteria – The player's family must exhibit financial need. Primary consideration for scholarships will be given to children in the following circumstances: financial change in family status, death of a parent, or a parent losing employment. Consideration will also be given to those children who receive relief based need including, but not limited to, school lunch subsidies, Medical Assistance (MA), Minnesota Care Children's Health Plan, Minnesota family Investment Program (MFIP), Emergency Assistance (EA), Work First, General Assistance (GA), General

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Assistance Medical Care (GMAC), Emergency General Assistance (EGA), Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA), MSA Emergency Assistance (MSA-EA), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Energy Assistance..

General Policy

- The scholarship program is open to all children that meet the selection criteria. Meeting the selection criteria does not guarantee that an award will be made.
- All individuals receiving a scholarship are expected to assist in all EVHA approved fundraisers.
- The scholarship program is open to only those families who have a player eligible to play for a team in the Eastview Hockey Association.
- All scholarship recipients must abide by EVHA policies and procedures.
- The following can cause forfeiture of current and future scholarships: Failure to comply with the policies, leaving the program before the end of the season (unless due to an approved circumstance), unpaid balances, not participating at the regularly scheduled practices and games, disciplinary problems.

Application Process

- Parent or legal guardian must complete the scholarship application
- The scholarship committee will review the submitted applications and approve on a majority vote.
- If a scholarship is granted, the amount will be included in the approval communication provided to the member.

The deadline for submitting a scholarship application is October 1. Late scholarship applications will only be accepted if an unforeseeable event occurs which drastically changes the financial conditions of a child's family.

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ADDENDUM A: EVHA FAIR PLAY POLICY

Preamble: The American Development Model (“ADM”) created by USA Hockey recommends policies to member associations which provide for the maximum development of the youth hockey player. Paramount to this development is making hockey fun for players which encourages long term participation and the development of all players at all age levels despite varying degrees of physical maturation. The ADM has determined, generally, that equal playing time of players will achieve its goals of maximizing hockey player development. EVHA, in furtherance of the hockey development of its participants, adopts the following “Fair Play Policy”.

- Every player on a team must be given a fair opportunity to develop and improve their hockey skills. Consequently, fair ice time for each player is MANDATORY. It is the coach’s responsibility to assure this by using all of the players in all hockey games.
- Specific cases where players display attitude problems, miss practices or games, are considered cases where the applicable coach can reduce playing time.

EXCEPTIONS:

- Mites - No Exceptions.
- Squirrels/10U: Equal play time is required.
- Pee wee/12U:
 - Coaches are given discretion to the equal playing time rule, in the closing few minutes of tight league games, tournament championships and playoffs
 - Designated power play or shorthanded units are discouraged. All players should learn power plays and shorthanded playing techniques.
 - Goalies also can be rotated out of normal sequence (method of rotation determined solely by the coach) but only in a few situations. Playing time must be made up later in another game.
- 2. Bantam/15U/Jr. Gold:
 - More flexibility for the coach (at their discretion) to move players out of normal line rotations in important games, tournaments, or playoffs. Playing time for players shortened ice time should be made up later in another game so that all players can learn to play in these units.
 - The coach can establish designated power plays or shorthanded units in critical situations, but these units cannot be used on a routine basis or when the game is completely in control.
 - Goalies also can be rotated out of normal sequence (method of rotation determined solely by the coach) in important games, tournaments, or playoffs.

Any deviation to this fair play policy must be approved by the Player Development Committee.