



2018 - 2019
Bozeman Amateur Hockey
Association
Membership Guide and Handbook

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I. General Overview

Purpose of this Handbook

This handbook provides BAHA members with information regarding the philosophies, policies, rules, and expectations that shape our youth and adult hockey programs. Please review it carefully.

BAHA's Philosophy

BAHA is committed to providing young people the opportunity to have fun learning the skills of skating and the game of hockey while affording them the environment to achieve their highest level of play. As a team sport, hockey affirms the importance of commitment, self-discipline, and sportsmanship. For the players who participate in BAHA's youth hockey programs, we seek to develop not only hockey skill, but also to instill values that will have a lifelong benefit to them and to society.

BAHA Mission Statement

The mission of BAHA is to: Provide facilities and programs for the development of quality, affordable, disciplined, competitive and recreational hockey.

BAHA's Goals

(1) BAHA members and the greater ice user community enjoy access to quality ice facilities that are:

- Clean, well maintained, safe, and welcoming
- Professionally managed
- Respond to member expectations
- Fosters a legacy for the community

(2) BAHA members enjoy a hockey program that provides recreational and competitive opportunities. BAHA's programs:

- Are offered at reasonable cost
- Respond to member expectations
- Encourage "hockey for life"
- Promote the furthest advancement possible
- Emphasize fun, citizenship, and sportsmanship
- Understand the difference between a desire to win and winning at all costs

History of BAHA

BAHA was formed in the mid-1980s by a handful of die-hard Bozeman hockey enthusiasts. Today BAHA consists of over 700 youth and adult members. The success of BAHA is a tribute to the countless volunteer hours devoted to develop a program that currently provides hockey for approximately 250 youth players and 500 adults from early October to late April. We are very grateful for the contributions of those who paved the way before us.

How BAHA Works

BAHA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. BAHA is administered and governed by an elected Board of Directors. The Board develops policies and procedures to provide direction for our staff and for the overall benefit of the association. Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation are posted on BAHA's website: www.bozemanhockey.org. The current Board of Directors includes:

Position	Name	Contact Info
President	Tyler Carneal	tcarneal@gmail.com
Vice President	Rich Needham	rtnemail@gmail.com
Secretary	Justin Cook	justincook12@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dennis Steinhauer	dennissteinhauer@archerconstruction.info
Adult Commissioner	Rob Pertzborn	rpertzborn@bozemanhockey.org
Youth Commissioner	Mike Wilkinson	mwilkie8@gmail.com
Board Member	Rob Evans	csi.rob@hotmail.com

Board & General Membership Meetings

Regular meetings of the board are usually scheduled for the first Monday of each month. Agendas and approved minutes are posted on BAHA's website. General Membership Meetings are held each spring on a date determined by the Board. Notice of the General Membership Meeting is posted on BAHA's website and is distributed to members via email.

Facilities/Haynes Pavilion

BAHA has several employees who are paid to resurface the ice and help clean and maintain the facility. However, in an effort to keep ice fees low, BAHA still significantly relies on volunteer labor for many aspects of operation. Adult League members are expected to help with annual setup and teardown of the entire rink. The Operations Director will send emails when help is needed throughout the season; please help when you can. The Youth League is responsible for staffing the concession stand during Icedogs and Youth games.

We all have to share the rink and no one likes a dirty locker room—please make an effort! Throw your trash and tape balls IN the can and recycle when possible. Clean up after your team if necessary. Fees will increase if additional paid labor is required to clean and repair the facility. Please respect the Haynes Pavilion as if it were your home and treat it as such.

The rink rules are for real - please abide by them:

- No Glass
- No Dogs
- No Tobacco
- Stay off the ice until Zam doors are closed
- Helmets required when sticks and pucks are on the ice

Relationship with the Junior A Bozeman Icedogs

One of BAHA's sources of revenue is the partnership with the Junior A Icedogs. This relationship is monitored and supervised by the BAHA board. The Icedogs also look to BAHA as a source for future players.

The Bozeman Icedogs are a Tier III Junior A team playing in the American West Hockey League (AWHL) a USA Hockey sanctioned league. The goal of the Bozeman Icedogs is to advance players to higher levels of play.

The Bozeman ICEDOGS rely on local families to host (or billet) out of town players. This relationship has proved very rewarding to both players and the host family. It is this personal relationship with the community that BAHA and the Icedogs are most proud of.

Relationship with the Gallatin County Fairgrounds

BAHA leases the Haynes Pavilion from Gallatin County. The base lease runs November through March. When we use the building beyond the original 5 months, BAHA pays additional funds. BAHA (and those programs that use the facility) is one of the largest user groups at the Fairgrounds.

BAHA has reached the end of the first 10-year lease for the Haynes Pavilion and negotiated an additional 10 years in 2010. The lease is based on credit for our work and funds that built and continue to improve the building – meaning we don't pay out – as we essentially paid up front.

The Gallatin County Fairgrounds is public property, which warrants our respect as well. Be a good neighbor: do not litter in the parking lot and pick up any trash you see. The posted parking lot speed limit is 15 MPH and speeding does not reflect well on our association as a whole.

Relationship with the Gallatin Ice Foundation

The Gallatin Ice Foundation (gallatinicefoundation.org) ("GIF") is a 501©(3) non-profit organization operated separated from BAHA. The GIF Board currently consists of: 2 Members nominated by BAHA, 1 Member nominated by Bozeman Figure Skating Club, 1 Member nominated by Gallatin County Fair Board, 1 member who is At-Large.

The Gallatin Ice Foundation mission is to:

... provide for the greater Gallatin Valley community fun and affordable ice skating opportunities, which include hockey, figure skating, and recreational ice- skating, for the greatest number of citizens, young and old, and of all skill levels.

Though BAHA and the GIF operate independently communication between both boards is open, frequent, and productive. GIF board members regularly attend BAHA meetings.

Relationship with USA Hockey

USA Hockey (<http://www.usahockey.com>) is the national governing body of amateur hockey in the United States. BAHA is a registered member of USA Hockey, and abides by all of its rules and regulations. BAHA requires that all players register with USA Hockey. This membership provides them with several benefits, including but not limited to a monthly magazine and possible supplemental medical insurance, should they become injured while playing a sanctioned event.

II. Youth Hockey Programs

Montana Amateur Hockey Association

Montana Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) (www.montanahockey.org) is the governing body of amateur youth hockey in the state of Montana which organizes and runs the Treasure State League (TSL) which is the governing body.

OneGoal hockey equipment program

BAHA participates in USAH's OneGoal equipment program. OneGoal is designed to encourage participation in hockey by providing high-quality and conveniently packaged gear including everything except skates and a stick. Generally targeted for 6 to 8 year-olds, equipment includes; junior small shoulder pads, pants (breezers) and elbow pads, 10" shin guards, gloves and a small adjustable helmet.

BAHA has OneGoal equipment that will be available to our Mite & Termite families on a first come first served basis. BAHA will charge a \$40 rental fee for the season. We ask that this gear be returned clean. Contact Dave Weaver for details, dweaver@bozemanhockey.org

Fee Schedule – Please check online for Current Fee Structure and Payment Plans

BAHA will again use online registration for youth players at www.bozemanhockey.org.

Players will not be allowed to participate in fall evaluations until all fees have been paid and proof of registration with USA Hockey is presented. Players who leave BAHA after registering will be refunded their fee less a \$50.00 administration fee. Additional charges from BAHA may apply if a player decides to leave after participating in evaluations and/or practices. BAHA does not refund USA hockey Membership fees.

What your fees include

- The youth hockey season runs from mid-October to early-March.
- Try-outs will be held mid-October
- Each team receives minimum of 2 practice sessions each week.
- Ages 10 – 19 will receive a minimum of one dryland practice per week.
- Each team receives a 16 game schedule through the Montana Amateur Hockey Association and play in the Treasure State League (TSL).
- No fees for away league games (Travel expenses not included)
- Teams playing outside of the TSL make arrangements to host visiting teams without charging ice fees, expecting reciprocity. These arrangements are the responsibility of the head coach and team manager.
- BAHA will the costs of teams participating in the TSL state tournament.

Stipends for non-parent coaches

Non-parent coaches are a valuable asset. When traveling to overnight games each team is responsible for covering the lodging, meal, and travel expenses for all non-parent coaches.

Youth Scholarships

Scholarship applications are available on the BAHA webpage by following the links to “Youth Hockey” and “Hockey Scholarship.” You may also pick-up the forms at; The Haynes Pavilion, Play It Again Sports and Top Shelf Hockey and are due by September 9. The scholarship committee also reviews payment plan requests. In the case of approved payment plans, players are required to provide the method of future payments (either post-dated checks or authorization to run their credit card on certain dates.)

Role of the Hockey Director

The Hockey Director has a strong coaching background, hockey knowledge, and commitment to the sport. He holds a current USA Hockey CEP level certification (or Canadian equivalent) appropriate to the highest-level program that BAHA offers

The Hockey Director must be comfortable teaching coaches, players, and parents as well as board members. Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Overseeing the selection, evaluation, and retention of BAHA coaches.
- Communicating coach certification requirements.
- Taking a lead role in recruitment, selection, training, and evaluation of coaches.
- Advising the Board and helping form hockey goals and objectives for BAHA.
- Taking responsibility for BAHA team tryouts and other activities identified by the BAHA board and Youth Director.
- Helping coaches organize and implement practice plans.
- Designing and implementing special skill development programs and camps.
- Attending board meetings.
- Representing, along with the Youth Director and Registrar, BAHA to MAHA.
- Holding coaches and parents meetings each fall.

Role of the Youth Director

The Youth Director works closely with the Hockey Director and the BAHA board, and is expected to serve as a prime point of contact for parents. With the Hockey Director, he is BAHA's representative to MAHA. Each fall, the Youth Director will hold a meeting for team managers.

Role of the Registrar

The BAHA Registrar is responsible for player registration and compiling team rosters. The Registrar works with the MAHA to ensure all BAHA teams are properly certified within the deadlines established by MAHA and USA Hockey. The BAHA Registrar maintains current membership lists for BAHA.

Role of Team Managers

The Team Manager plays a vital role in the success of individual teams and the club itself. Duties at a minimum typically include:

- Arrange lodging for all away games requiring an overnight stay.
- Keeping an up to date "Coach's Manual" that, at a minimum, includes players' information; Consent to Treat forms, Rosters and Birth Certificates.
- Helping schedule games and tournaments, including paying tournament fees (to be reimbursed by the team)
- Compiling a copy of the game sheets and sending them to the appropriate MAHA representative/contact.
- Notifying players and parents of the game schedule and any changes via a phone tree and/or a group email list.

Arranging scoreboard, penalty box officials and concessions staff for home games.

Age Divisions

USA Hockey age divisions for the 2015-2016 season are as follows:

Youth Teams			Girls & Women's Teams		
Date of Birth	Age Category	Age Division	Date of Birth	Age Category	Age Division
2000	18 years	Midget 18U	1999	19 Years	19U
2001	17 years	Midget 18U	2000	18 years	19U
2002	16 Years	Midget 16U	2001	17 years	19U
2003	15 Years	Midget 16U	2002	16 Years	19U
2004	14 Years	Bantam 14U	2003	15 Years	19U
2005	13 Years	Bantam 14U	2004	14 Years	14U
2006	12 Years	PeeWee 12U	2005	13 Years	14U
2007	11 Years	PeeWee 12U	2006	12 Years	14U
2008	10 Years	Squirt 10U	2007	11 Years	14U
2009	9 Years	Squirt 10U	2008	10 Years	14U
2010-2011	8 Years	Mite 8U	2009	9 Years	14U
2012-2013	6 Years	Termite 6U			

Age level is determined by the birth year. No USAH registration fee 2012 and younger (6U) – you must still register your player

Division of Teams

USAH recommends the division of teams by ability and in general this is the approach that BAHA takes. However, given the variability of Montana youth hockey, there may be years when BAHA creates teams of equal ability. The decision on which approach to take will be made each season by the Youth Director and Hockey Director. This decision may vary annually, depending on the individual players at each age group and number and quality of the teams fielded by the other Montana hockey associations. Because of the many variables involved, BAHA extends the Youth and Hockey Directors maximum flexibility in making this decision.

BAHA will field teams at each level depending on the numbers of registered players.

U-6 Termites House League

BAHA's U6 program conforms to the guidance provided by USAH. Players play 4 vs. 4 or 5 vs. 5, in a cross-ice or half ice setting with lighter weight (light Blue) pucks. Smaller nets are used and games are played either with or without goalies. Use of small areas causes players to become more involved with the game. Touches on the puck increase greatly, building skills and confidence while also reducing frustration felt on a full ice surface.

Our U6 program emphasizes fun and ice time over competitive games and BAHA discourages travel. However, if there is sufficient interest, travel to tournaments may be arranged and is open to all interested.

8U & 6U Mites & Termites House League

BAHA's 8U and 6U programs conform to the guidance provided by USAH. Players play 4 vs. 4 or 5 vs. 5, in a cross-ice or half ice setting with lighter weight (light Blue) pucks. Smaller nets are used and games are played either with or without goalies. Use of small areas causes players to become more involved with the game. Touches on the puck increase greatly, building skills and confidence while also reducing frustration felt on a full ice surface.

Our 8Us/6Us program emphasizes fun and ice time over competitive games and BAHA discourages travel. However, if there is sufficient interest, travel to tournaments may be arranged and is open to all interested.

10U Squirts

Following USAH recommendations, our Squirt teams will seek to arrange a 15-25 game schedule.

12U Peewees

Following USAH recommendations, our Pee wee teams will seek to arrange a 20-30 game schedule.

14U Bantams

Following USAH recommendations, our Bantam teams will seek to arrange a 20-30 game schedule.

16U Midgets

BAHA's Midget will participate in a non-league schedule including travel to tournaments and games within our region, seeking to arrange a 20-30 game schedule. Head coaches working with team managers are responsible for organizing the schedule.

18U High School

BAHA's High School team will play in the TSL, competing for the state championship.

14U & 19U Girls

BAHA will designate teams for girls of 14U age and 19U as enrollment in these programs permit. BAHA encourages girls to play youth hockey with boys from the Termite to at least the first year of the Pee wee age division. Girls will play a schedule with Western Montana, Idaho and Eastern Washington teams in a festival format. Girls will participate in the Montana Girls state championship. Head coaches working with team managers are responsible for organizing the schedule.

Montana is in 1A along with ID, WY, UT, AZ, TN, NC, GA, SD, IA and NE.

Equipment & Uniforms

Ice Hockey is a physically demanding sport requiring protective equipment. Players are required to wear full gear at practices and games, including helmet, elbow pads, shoulder pads, kneepads, hockey pants, protective cup, mouth guard, ice hockey gloves, skates, and ice hockey sticks. In line gear for rollerblading or skateboarding is not acceptable.

Properly fitting equipment is critical in making hockey a positive experience. Trying to buy skates large enough to accommodate growth is a mistake. Skates are your connection to the ice and sloppy fitting skates can make hockey difficult and may result in poor technique. Skates also require periodic sharpening to perform optimally. Helmets must have chinstraps and should fit snugly but not be so tight as to cause headaches. Adjustments are easy to make and the fit should be checked at the beginning of the season and periodically as kids heads grow.

A full line of hockey equipment is available locally at Play it Again Sports and Top Shelf Hockey.

BAHA travel teams wear light colored jerseys and socks at home and dark colored jerseys and socks on the road. *These are for games only.* We prefer the use of black helmets. Names on the jerseys are decided on a team-by-team basis, but should be uniform, i.e., the entire team must have names and their format should match.

IV. Youth Policies

Disciplinary Policies

Drugs & Alcohol

BAHA recognizes the illegal use of alcohol and drugs as a significant health problem for many adolescents. BAHA supports the efforts of Bozeman High School and the Montana State High School Association whose policies prohibit any use and/or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or other mood altering drugs. During the BAHA season, regardless of the quantity, a player shall not:

- a. Use an alcohol beverage
- b. Use tobacco
- c. Use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away, any controlled substance. (We exclude drugs prescribed by a medical doctor for a player's own use.)

Guidelines for Coaches

BAHA gives wide latitude to our coaches to administer discipline as they see fit, provided their actions comply with all relevant material in the current BAHA Membership Guide and do not violate standards of reasonableness.

At a minimum, as part of their pre-season parents meeting, BAHA coaches will explain to parents and players how they plan to deal with discipline problems during the forthcoming season. The preseason meeting will serve as the warning for all such offenses.

MINOR INFRACTIONS (off and on ice) (e.g., bad language, inappropriate behavior, spitting.)

1st offense – 1 game suspension, 2 hours league service.

2nd offense – 2 game suspension, 5 hours league service.

MAJOR INFRACTIONS (off and on ice) (e.g., drugs, alcohol and tobacco use or possession, destruction of property.)

1st offense – 3 game suspension, 6 hours league service

2nd offense – 6 game suspension, 10 hours league service

League service must be completed before player can participate in a game or tournament again. The players must continue to participate in practice during the suspension and league service period.

Disciplinary Committee

If the comments, actions and/or behavior of any player, parent, coach, consultant, employee, or board member constitute a violation of BAHA policies as described in the Membership Guide or otherwise adversely affects the operation or standing of BAHA, they shall be required to appear before the BAHA Disciplinary Committee.

The BAHA Disciplinary Committee shall consist of the BAHA President and two board members whom he chooses to designate. The Disciplinary Committee will be formed after the BAHA President receives a signed letter describing the nature of the violation and the parties involved.

Based on the facts and circumstances as evidenced during the meeting the Disciplinary Committee will evaluate incidents in a case-by-case basis and can impose ANY sanctions it deems appropriate (e.g., probation, suspension from games/practices, exclusion from other activities or expulsion from the organization). A 2/3 vote of the Disciplinary Committee is required to expel a member from the organization. Disciplinary sanctions may be appealed through the BAHA grievance and dispute resolution process.

Dispute Resolution Policy

Problems or concerns regarding the coaching of a team, such as; playing time, positions, practices, etc., should be taken **first** to the Team Coach, **then** to the Hockey Director. Problems or concerns that cannot be resolved by the above or entail broader issues should be directed to the Grievance Committee. Those wishing to bring a complaint to the Grievance Committee will:

(1) Promptly file a written grievance with the BAHA President. The BAHA President will then form the Grievance Committee (described below) and will schedule a meeting with the parties within ten days of receiving the complaint.

(2) The Grievance Committee will consist of five people: two members from the BAHA Board and three non-board members. In the event of a conflict of interest, the BAHA President may designate individuals outside of the organization to sit on this committee.

(3) The parties may introduce relevant evidence and testimony in support of their position. The Grievance Committee will conduct the meeting and issue a decision within five days of the hearing unless the committee requires additional time to reach a decision.

(4) The BAHA Board of Directors will consider all appeals of the Grievance Committee's decisions. The appeal must be made in writing and submitted to the BAHA President. The Board of Directors will discuss, consider, and decide the appeal during the next regular meeting. Their decision is final.

Injured Player Policy

Any player injured while playing hockey for BAHA, in either game or practice is entitled to a refund that will be prorated for the missed time extending beyond 4 weeks. A doctor's certification is required for a player to return to play. The Board will exercise reasonable judgment regarding refunds for injuries that occur outside of hockey.

Coaches

Responsibilities

Coaches are leaders and role models for young people. Their behavior, both on and off the ice, should at all times reflect positively on the organization. We seek coaches who:

- Follow the directions and policies developed by the Hockey Director.
- Develop a good rapport with the parent(s) of his players, the broader community, officials, and fellow coaches.
- Clearly state his goals for the season, and inform players and parents of his goal and expectations.
- Display and convey enthusiasm and a love for the game.
- Have the commitment to maintain through continuing education an up-to-date knowledge of the skills and tactics that they propose to teach.
- Understand the difference between a desire to win and winning at all costs.
- Emphasize the development of all players, rather than a select few.
- Acquire the necessary USA Hockey coaching certification.
- Are thoroughly familiar with the rules and regulations of the game as prescribed by USA Hockey.
- Attend coaches meetings as required by the Hockey Director.
- Abide by BAHA's Alcohol & Drug Policy.

Coaches should clearly communicate to the players and parents the goals of the team and the expectations for each player. These goals and expectations should reflect the level being played and should include playing time, positions played, attendance, and other policies or rules that apply.

Screening Policy

Coaches will be provided with a copy of the handbook. They are expected to support and abide by all BAHA policies and directions set forth by the Hockey Director. Further, all BAHA coaches are subject to an annual background check, as required by MAHA and USA Hockey.

Parent Code of Conduct

As parents or guardians we must be positive in our attitudes toward the game of hockey and emphasize the cooperative nature of the game. Negative and rowdy behavior in the hockey arena reflects directly and poorly on the whole organization. We must foster beneficial relationships between our young players, within the League and with our competitors as well. Children are great imitators, as parents, we must set positive examples for them.

Parents' role should be supportive. Parents are welcome at practices, but it is not conducive to a player's development to undermine the coaching instructions. USA Hockey mandates that only rostered players and coaches are allowed on the benches during practice and games. If you have concerns about your player's participation in any capacity, talk to the coaches only after observing the 24-hour cooling off period. Team managers are also available to answer questions or act as a liaison between coaches and players/parents.

Player Code of Conduct

Each BAHA player will strive to observe the following:

- **Conduct:** It is required that a player will conduct himself/herself in a purposeful & positive manner whenever and wherever they are engaged in a player capacity. All players will be held accountable for their actions at all times - their personal as well as their team as a whole.
- **Attendance:** Reliable attendance is essential to personal skill development and development of team continuity.
- **Punctuality:** Ice time is valuable and should not be wasted. All participants should arrive at games and practices in sufficient time to allow for suiting up and necessary pre- game/practice instruction and/or warm-up. Unless your coach has told you differently, it is recommended that you be ready to "take the ice" at least 15 minutes before the scheduled starting time.
- **Foul Language:** Foul language and direct insubordination are unacceptable behaviors.
- **Fighting:** Disciplinary action, consistent with the procedures and polices described above, will be brought against any BAHA player who starts a fight, engages in a fight, or deliberately attempts to injure another player during a practice or game.
- **Stealing:** Any player found guilty of stealing shall be dismissed from the program.

Play Time

BAHA believes in a policy of “equal play for equal effort.” Our coaches are instructed to follow this policy.

Equal play for equal effort means that over the course of a season all players who are giving equal effort on the ice at practice/games, have good attendance at team events, display a good attitude both on the bench and in the locker room, and conduct themselves as good citizens should play approximately an equal amount of time.

However, if a player is not giving good effort, is causing disruption to their team on or off the ice, not listening to the coach, missing team events, taking bad penalties, playing selfish hockey, not following team rules, etc. they may be subject to discipline which can include “sitting” the player. It is expected that any discipline will be applied in a consistent manner to all players on the team.

BAHA believes that all players on every team be given the opportunity to experience and develop in all facets of the game. This includes “Special Teams Play,” i.e., power play and penalty kill in game situations. It is BAHA policy that coaches work with ALL players to develop their skills for these situations and give ALL players opportunities to demonstrate their ability to perform on special teams. Exception to this policy must be rare and exercised with good judgment, balancing the priority of developing players with winning closely contested games. If “shortening” of the bench is to happen, it should be agreed upon by the entire team and is not recommended until Bantams.

Roster Changes

BAHA prefers that all players play at their appropriate age levels as established by USA Hockey (USAH). Departure from this policy must be rare. Decision to place players with a higher age group will be made at the sole discretion of the Youth and Hockey Directors. A player seeking to move up an age level for developmental reasons must be evaluated as being in the top 10 percent of the upper group he/she seeks to join.

A player granted a move-up is allowed to tryout and play on the highest level team he/she is able to achieve, however, a player may not revert to their old level after a requested move up is granted. All players will tryout with their appropriate age group. If a family does not want their child playing in a particular age group, e.g., they want their 12-year old to play Bantams instead of Peewees, the parents should contact the Hockey Director prior to Fall Evaluations.

Conditions for Roster Change;

- Players MUST still tryout with their appropriate age group.
- An invitation to tryout with the requested level should not be considered placement at that level.
- The parents and/or player may request an explanation of the placement decision, which the Hockey Director will be happy to provide.

Rostering with Another Team

Granting permission to play with an additional team outside of BAHA is made at the sole discretion of the individual team coach and the BAHA Hockey Director. They will consider the effect on other players, on the team, team chemistry, and any other criterion they feel is relevant to the specific situation.

Players seeking such accommodation must make arrangements with their team coach and the BAHA Hockey Director. This arrangement should be made well in advance of league play and be made clear to all other team members. There will be no last minute decisions allowed.

The Evaluation Process

General Information

- The purpose of the player evaluation process is to place each player on a team commensurate with their skills and to keep the selection process fair, standardized and as impartial as possible.
- The Hockey Director will determine the number of teams and their classifications (e.g., A or B) following the annual registration and with guidance from MAHA.
- Tryouts, ideally, will be over one week allowing for 3 possible sessions. Each player needs to attend as many sessions as possible to receive the accurate evaluation possible.
- Jerseys will be provided by BAHA during Tryouts
- If possible, all volunteers assisting with tryouts will be adults. On-ice volunteers will not be allowed on the ice during their own child's evaluation session. If there are not enough adult volunteers, high school players will be considered for on-ice and bench assistance. Whenever possible, an on-ice referee will be utilized during scrimmages.
- During the tryout process, it is essential that there will be no unnecessary contact or communication between parents and the evaluators, on-ice volunteers and coaches. Any attempt at "lobbying" will be reported to the full Board of Directors for appropriate action.
- *Players will only be allowed to tryout if they have paid in full on their registration fees, tryout fees (if applicable) and any prior year's outstanding dues*

Evaluators

The Hockey Director will seek outside evaluators for all evaluation sessions. All players (skaters & goalies) will receive scores from each evaluator. The outside evaluators and Hockey Director will evaluate the players individually (not as a group).

Metrics for Evaluation

The Hockey Director, in consultation with outside evaluators will design a standard rating system for evaluating individual players during BAHA tryouts. Evaluation criteria may include, for example:

- Fundamentals/ABC's – Agility, Balance, Coordination and Speed
- Skills – Skating, Stick Handling and Passing
- Game/Situation Awareness – Ability to “Read & React”
- Competitiveness – Performance in controlled scrimmages
- Mental/Emotional – Effort, Attitude, Presence, Coachability, etc.

After each ice session, the evaluators will meet briefly. After the final try-out the evaluators will meet with the Youth Director and Hockey Director to place players on a team. Previous and current coaches' comments will be requested and rosters are flexible until the Christmas break. All rosters will be finalized and approved by MAHA on December 31st at the latest.

IV. General Policies

Rejection of Membership

The Board of Directors or its properly appointed designee reserves the right to reject any application for membership. Notice of rejection of membership will be sent either electronically or via certified U.S. mail within ten (10) days of BAHA receiving the application during the normal registration process or after application under Article II, Section 2.02 of the bylaws. Notice will include stated reasons for the decision. The rejected member has the right to be heard either orally or in writing by a Grievance Committee of the BAHA constituted and described in Section III of BAHA's annual Membership Guide & Handbook. The rejected member can exercise this right to appeal by notifying the BAHA President of the desire to be heard within ten (10) days of the receiving notice of the rejection of membership. A rejected member may be liable to the association for dues, assessments, or fees as a result of obligations incurred or commitments made prior to rejection of membership.

Expulsion of Members

A member may be expelled from the BAHA in situations deemed necessary for the protection of other members or of the BAHA consistent with the rationale described in Section IV of BAHA's annual guide. The decision to expel a member is made by the Disciplinary Committee constituted and operating as described in Section III of BAHA's annual Membership Guide & Handbook. A simple majority vote of the Disciplinary Committee is required to expel a member(s) from the organization. An expelled member will receive immediate notice of expulsion, either in person or electronically. A certified letter will be sent by U.S. mail within five (5) days of the expulsion decision by the Disciplinary Committee. Notice will include stated reasons for the decision. The expelled member may appeal expulsion by requesting a hearing before a Grievance Committee of the BAHA constituted and operating in the manner described in Section III of BAHA's annual Membership Guide & Handbook. An expelled member may be liable to the corporation for dues, assessments, or fees as a result of obligations incurred or commitments made prior to expulsion. Members expelled from the organization are not entitled to refunds or any other form of compensation.

The Bozeman Amateur Hockey Association is pleased to host 7 weekends of tournament hockey throughout the 2018/19 season. Each tournament will feature a 4 game guarantee. Games are held at Haynes Pavilion and Ressler Motors Ice Rink at the Ice Barn, at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds.