



# Michigan Amateur Hockey Association

**Two-Year Pilot Proposal (2019-2020 & 2020-2021)**  
**Submitted to: MAHA Executive Board (Approved 1/27/19)**  
**Submitted by: MAHA Tier I Committee**

## Item 1: New Scheduling Agreement

**Summary:** New scheduling agreement among all MAHA Tier I teams increases the number of games required to seed (all age divisions) and/or qualify (18U age division only) for the State Championship.

### Reasoning:

- Takes the first steps toward a true Michigan League at all ages.
- Does not affect current game count.
- Continues to leave an appropriate amount of open dates/games for Tournament & League Play.
- Takes into consideration age appropriate differences in developmental age by having either a balanced schedule (at the older age groups where physical maturation and graduation to junior hockey lessens the differences in ability) or a seeded schedule (at the younger age groups where differences in ability are at their greatest)
- Having an equal partner arrangement at 18U helps strengthen the MAHA Tier I brand for all teams

### Direction:

**18U:** 9 teams @ 3 games per season vs. each opponent for a total of 24 total games

- The first two games will be played Home & Home.
- The location for the third game is 'To Be Determined' by the Tier I Committee

**16U/150:** 8 teams @ 3 games per season vs. each opponent for a total 21 games

**14U/13U/12U/11U/10U:**

- 8 teams @ 2 games per season vs. each opponent for a total of 14 games played by January 15<sup>th</sup>
- Teams are seeded 1-4 & 5-8 and play an additional 1 game vs. each of their tiered opponents for a total of 3 additional games.

### Notes:

- Games must be scheduled as MAHA Play-In games and cannot be played in tournament play
- Teams will continue to follow MAHA guidelines in the scheduling and the reporting of games

## Item 2: Limiting Coach Movement among Tier I teams

1. **Summary:** No regular season rostered personnel can move from coaching or managing in any MAHA Tier I organization to coach or manage a team at a different MAHA Tier I organization in the next regular season, at an age category that includes players from the team in which they were rostered as a coach or manager the previous regular season, other than their own child(ren). Coaches who are not offered a position at a corresponding age category by January 31<sup>st</sup> of the current season, are automatically released from their current team and may coach at any other MAHA tier I organization and at any age group, however they are still bound by the restriction outlined in the summary above. Anyone who is found in violation of this rule will be immediately suspended from being the coach or manager in any MAHA Tier I hockey association for the remainder of that season.



**Reasoning:**

- Emphasizes development over recruiting
- Puts value on the Tier I club structure as an organization
- Limits wholesale player movement dictated directly by coach movement and/or by outside influences through coach movement.

**Direction:**

1. Players are determined by the USAH roster of players as of midnight on 12/31 of the previous season.
2. Players cut or released from an organization must have written (e-mail accepted) proof of release from the hockey director of that previous organization in order to be eligible to try-out for a team that is coached or managed by any individual who was in any of those positions with the previous organization the previous season.
3. Players who are not cut or released can appeal for an exception to this restriction by e-mailing the Chair of the State Playoff Committee between 2/1 and 3/1. All appeals will be decided and parties notified of the Committee’s decision at the end of the MAHA State Championships for the specific age group in question.
4. Chart below illustrates the corresponding age categories for each age category

<u>Previous Season</u>	<u>Following Season</u>
10U	11U
11U	12U
12U	13U
13U	14U
14U	15O or 16U
15O	16U
16U	16U
18U	18U

**Item 3: 15O & 16U Age Classifications**

**Summary:** Starting with the 2019-2020 regular season, teams at the 16U Tier One Hockey classification will only be able to roster players in the second birth year of classification (16 year old players only)

- Players rostered in the 15-only classification will still be able to participate at the 16U (16 year old players only) classification per the MAHA player movement rule (VI. M. 1.)
- 2004 birth years who played at 16U classification for the 2018-2019 season, will be grandfathered to play in the same classification for the 2019-2020 season.