

# 11.0 TRYOUTS

- (a) No tryouts may be held before the completion of the USA Hockey National Championship Tournaments at ANY LEVEL.
- (b) Tier I tryouts may be held 48 hours following the completion of the USA Hockey National Championship Tournaments.
- (c) Tier II Youth and Girls tryouts may not be held nor may positions be offered to players until the fifth Friday following the completion of the USA Hockey National Championship Tournaments. Should the fifth Friday fall on the start date of the Southeastern District National Camp Tryout, Tier II Youth tryouts may begin on the Friday following the Southeastern District National Camp Tryout. Tier II associations that field Tier II and lower competitive level travel teams may hold one tryout within the Tier II schedule time to select all Tier II and lower competitive level travel teams for their association. Associations that include tryouts for lower competitive level travel teams during the Tier II schedule time, must at a minimum, select and register at least one Tier II team in the upcoming season.
- (d) Travel or Recreational (Rec) tryouts cannot be held nor may positions be offered to players before July 1.
- (e) House tryouts/evaluations cannot be held before August 1.
- (f) All House Select team tryouts cannot be held before September 15.
- (g) CAHA will not accept or consider waiver requests to begin tryouts before the timeline defined above.
- (h) Youth tryouts may not be held on the same weekend as the CAHA Festival or the Southeastern District National Camp Tryout.
- (i) Girl's tryouts may not be held on the same weekend as the Southeastern District Girls National Camp tryout.
- (j) A player may be charged a reasonable fee to participate in Member Association tryouts, but a player shall not be required to join that Member Association to participate in the tryout. A Member Association holding a tryout shall furnish all tryout participants with a written statement of the player's responsibilities if they should be selected and chooses to join the team to include the anticipated total annual cost to participate on that team, (Association dues plus an estimate of any additional team assessments), travel requirements, information on the league or anticipated schedule and the name and qualifications of any coaches already selected.
- (k) Player Agreements/Contracts: A Member Association shall not have any player or parent execute an association/team player agreement or contract for the next hockey season prior to the appropriate tryout dates listed above. Offers for a position on a team must be held open a minimum of 48 hours following the extension of the offer. Players shall not be required to execute a player agreement or contract until 48 hours have elapsed from the conclusion of the Association's tryouts or date of the Association's offer for a position on a team, whichever occurs later.
- (l) Sanctions: Member Associations that knowingly violate the CAHA tryout schedule are subject to action by CAHA.

## 12.0 TAMPERING

- (a) Tampering is defined as recruitment of a rostered player without the prior written approval from the Association of the rostered player.
- (b) A coach, manager or other team or association official may not directly or indirectly initiate contact with a player appearing on an approved team roster for the purposes of recruitment to roster and play on another team during the current season or to solicit players for the following season until 48 hours after the last game of the USA Hockey National Championships.
- (c) A coach, manager or other team or association official may not communicate directly or indirectly with a player appearing on an approved team roster by means of contact initiated by the player, the player's parent/guardian or any other person acting on behalf of the player for the purposes of recruitment to roster and play on another team during the current season or to solicit players for the following season until 48 hours after the last game of the USA Hockey National Championships.
- (d) An Association, team and/or coach may avoid tampering by securing written permission, in advance of any contact with a player from the Association on whose active approved roster the player currently appears.
- (e) Players that dual roster on youth and national bound high school teams shall be exempt from this requirement.
- (f) The intent of this policy is to assure roster integrity and prevent disruption to teams and players. Complaints for alleged violations of this rule should be referred to the Disciplinary/Dispute Resolution Committee of CAHA. A coach, team or Association which knowingly violates the Tampering policy is subject to fine up to \$1,000, a one-year suspension or both. All fines assessed shall be paid by the Association. Any decision of the Disciplinary/Dispute Resolution Committee may be appealed to the CAHA Board of Directors by submitting, in writing, the grounds for such appeal to the President or Secretary within fourteen (14) days of being notified of the sanctions imposed.
- (g) To open a tampering inquiry an Association is required to submit a written complaint accompanied by evidence to substantiate the violation and a \$250 deposit to the Dispute and Discipline Resolution Committee. Complaints will be accepted from Member Associations only. Complaints submitted without evidence will be dismissed.
- (h) The sanction for Tier I teams that violate this bylaw shall result in the offending team being ineligible to be recognized as Tier I and ineligible for District or National Championships for the season in which it was recruiting or holding an early tryout.

## 13.0 PLAYER TRANSFERS / FINANCIAL RELEASE LETTER

- (a) The stability of team rosters during the season is encouraged, and the transfer of a player from one association team to another association team is strongly discouraged to assure roster integrity and prevent disruption to teams. Any Youth or Girls' player transferring from Association to Association within the same season, is required to obtain a financial release letter signed by the President or the equivalent of their current Association.
- (b) An Association may not roster a player on any team, regardless of competitive level, who has a delinquent financial obligation to another Association, the Carolina Amateur Hockey Association, the Southeastern District, USA Hockey or any other USA Hockey Affiliate or District. All delinquent financial obligations must be properly reported under the requirements described in Bylaw 16.0 - Outstanding Financial Obligations or according to the bylaws, rules or regulations of the governing USA Hockey Affiliate or District.
- (c) A player approved on a team roster, withdrawing from their current Association, must secure a financial release in writing before they can register with another Association or be rostered on another team at any competitive level. An Association or team may not allow a player to tryout, practice or play in any games until a financial release letter is obtained. All rosters adding the player to a new team must be accompanied by a copy of the financial release letter if the previous Association has not taken actions necessary to remove the player from the team roster.
- (d) All requests for a financial release letter should be made in writing to the current Association. Such Association shall have 5 calendar days from receipt of the written request in which to respond, by either providing a financial release letter to the player, detailing the requirements for a financial release or for refusal to provide a financial release letter. An Association that sets forth requirements for a financial release or refuses to grant a financial release must do so in writing and must inform the player of their right to appeal to such requirements or the refusal to the CAHA Disciplinary/Dispute Resolution Committee. A player requesting a release must be granted their request if they do not owe any fees and/or equipment to the team or Association. The CAHA Disciplinary/Dispute Resolution Committee has the authority to release a player who is refused a release by their team or Association.
- (e) A player approved on a team roster, seeking to roster and play on another team while maintaining membership of their current team, must secure both of the following:
  - written permission from the Association on whose active approved roster the player currently appears permitting the player to register with another Association or be rostered on another team at any competitive level.
  - a letter of good financial standing. An Association or team may not engage in direct or indirect contact of any type with players, allow a player to tryout, practice or play in any games until written permission is granted from the current Association and a letter of good financial standing is obtained. Players that dual roster on youth and national bound high school teams shall be exempt from this requirement.
- (f) Any games played with a player prior to submitting a roster and financial release letter, (if required) or written permission from the player's current Association accompanied by a letter of good financial standing to the Associate Registrar for approval, or games played with a player who has a delinquent financial obligation to another Association will be considered as playing with an "Improper Roster" and are subject to the Rules and Regulations of "Improper Rosters" [refer to 11.0 Registration (c)]. Sanctions to include forfeiture of all games played under the

“Improper Roster” and referral of the Head Coach to the Disciplinary/Dispute Resolution Committee for appropriate action. Appropriate action for the Head Coach of the team using the "Improper Roster", knowingly or unknowingly, is a one game suspension for every game in which the "Improper Roster" was used. Repeat offenses shall be subject to additional discipline at the discretion of the Disciplinary/Dispute Resolution Committee.

## **14.0 OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

It is the express purpose of this Article to establish a fair and orderly process for the resolution of financial disputes within CAHA and to require that all Registered Participant Members, Team Members and Member Associations of CAHA utilize that process. In that connection, CAHA expressly adopts the USA Hockey Financial Dispute Resolution Procedure set forth in USA Hockey Bylaw 10 D. 3. (j) Procedures Applicable To Participant Ineligibility Determinations Based on Financial Disputes, as it now exists or may hereafter be amended as the exclusive remedy for financial dispute resolution and requires that Member Associations follow such procedures. Notice is hereby given to Registered Participant Members, Team Members and Member Associations to review the USA Hockey Annual Guide for specific details of the Financial Dispute Resolution Procedure currently in effect.