

**One-Year Pilot Proposal (2021-2022)**

**Submitted to: MAHA Executive Board (Approved 02/11/2021)**

**Submitted by: MAHA Tier I Committee**

**Item 1: Scheduling Agreement**

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

The first two games will be played Home and Away. The location for the third game is ‘To Be Determined’ by the Tier I Committee.

**16O/150/14U**: 8 teams @ 3 games per season versus each opponent for a total 21 games.

The first two games will be played Home and Away. The location for the third game is ‘To Be Determined’ by the Tier I Committee.

**13U/12U/11U/10U**: 8 teams @ 2 games per season versus each opponent for a total of 14 games. The games will be played Home and Away.

**Notes:**

1) Games must be scheduled as MAHA Play-In games and cannot be played in tournament play.

2) Teams will continue to follow MAHA guidelines in the scheduling and the reporting of games.

**Editorial**: Versus the previous pilot, adds more games at 14U and eliminates the tiered games at 14U and younger to provide for more balanced competition.

**Item 2: Limiting Coach Movement Among Tier I Teams**

**Summary**: No personnel from any MAHA Tier I organization may move to a different MAHA Tier I organization, at an age category that includes players from the team in which they participated the previous season. This includes Coaches, Managers, Volunteers, Advisers, “Influencers” or any other Administrative personnel who have participated in the routine operation of the team or organization in the past two regular seasons.

1. Team personnel may resign and move to a new team the following season, but only with their own children.
2. Coaches who are not offered a position, at a corresponding age category by January 31st of the current season, are released from their current team at the end of the season and may coach at any other MAHA Tier I organization at any age group. However, they are still bound by the restriction outlined in Section (a).
3. At the point that more than two players, who are associated with the previous team or organization, attempt to move to a new team or organization, approval from the State Playoff Committee is required.
4. Skills coaches, goalie coaches, advisers and/or any other Administrative personnel (whether on the roster or not), who will have routine contact with players or participants, must be registered with USA Hockey as a coach or volunteer, which includes a USA Hockey Background Check, and SafeSport certification. This is mandatory for any on-ice, bench, or locker room interaction with rostered participants.
5. Any inquiries received by a MAHA Tier I organization, from personnel currently serving under a different MAHA Tier I organization, for the purposes of seeking future opportunities with the organization contacted should be immediately reported to the Tier I Director of the inquirer’s MAHA Tier I organization. Conversations should be documented between both Tier I Directors, and no resolutions agreed upon by the Directors may violate the movement criteria outlined above.

Anyone found in violation of the movement criteria outlined above will be immediately suspended from being a coach or manager, in any Tier I organization, for the remainder of the season.

**Reasoning**:

* Emphasizes development over recruiting.
* Puts value on Tier 1 club structure as an organization.
* Limits wholesale player movement dictated directly by coach movement and/or outside influences through coach movement.

**Direction**:

1) Players are determined by the USA Hockey 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 April 15th and May 30th. All appeals will be decided, and parties notified of the Committee’s decision.

4) In an instance where the above movement criteria may have been violated, the aggrieved Tier I organization will submit in writing the detail to the State Playoff Committee. The State Playoff Committee will investigate, and provide a determination and sanctions, based on its findings. If the filing Tier I organization is not satisfied, they may appeal to the MAHA Executive Board.

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

**Summary**: Teams at the 16U Tier 1 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 16O (16 year old players only) classification per the MAHA player movement rule (VI. M. 1.)