



## **Michigan Amateur Hockey Association Policy & Guidelines**

### **Michigan Residency Requirements Policy**

Section: Registration

Approved: 4/7/2015

Resides: This Policy will address a participant's residence requirements and how MAHA will look at residency for the purpose of hockey in Michigan. In an effort to reduce the potential of any problem regarding where a Player resides for any purposes the following Policy is applicable:

- MAHA looks to the residency of both the player's parents as the player's residence. There may be exceptions to this rule in the case of divorce or billeted players but these players must be brought to the attention of the MAHA registrar, in writing prior to the Roster being submitted for approval.
- If the address on the roster is not the one where the player "lives" with both parents, you must bring the matter affirmatively to the attention of the MAHA Registrar, in writing, and obtain a ruling as to where the Player resides prior to the Roster being submitted. "Lives" for this purpose means: "eats, sleeps, attends school and performs normal daily activities from that address".
- It is the general intent of this Policy that no player may have more than one residence for the purposes of hockey. Therefore, any player who did not play for a Michigan team the previous regular season must identify themselves and prove to the MAHA Registrar that they meet the residency requirements outlined here or they will be considered an out-of-state player.
- No player may create a residence for the purpose of playing hockey. Temporary or limited guardianships are not permitted or recognized by MAHA as residence in Michigan.
- The player/parents shall have the burden of proving residence, and MAHA Rule II Registration and Rostering: Participants and Teams Paragraph J is especially important in this context. For Tier I teams, "district" refers to Michigan. If a player's residence is not with the parent(s), and the player's current residence was necessitated for the purposes of playing hockey, the presumption is that the player does not meet the residency requirements outlined in this policy.
- If a participant's parents are in the process of relocation to Michigan, documentation such as letters from the parents employers, home listings and purchase agreements could be useful documentation showing intent to relocate. If approved as a resident, further documentation throughout the year may be required to prove residency has been fully established. As a general policy, the player must move with the people he/she was living with previously (full & complete move) in order for a relocation to meet the requirements of this Policy.
- Players who establish residency and are playing in Michigan for the first year may be asked to provide documentation throughout the year to prove that the player is still going to school in Michigan and that he/she continues to meet the residency requirements.

## ***Michigan Residency Requirements Policy - Continued***

### **Examples that my establish proof of Michigan Residency**

Documents must have your name and Michigan residence address on them (Michigan P.O. Boxes are not acceptable residence address):

- Valid permanent Michigan Driver's License
- Utility bill or credit card bill issued within the last 90 days
- Account statement from a bank or other financial institution issued within the last 90 days.
- Life, health or auto insurance policy.
- Federal, State or local government documents such as receipts, licenses or assessments.
- Michigan Title Registration (must show current address)
- Adoption paperwork showing permanent guardianship

This is the Policy that MAHA uses to determine the residence of a player participating in Michigan. Failure to comply may result in suspension of Player and or/Team and/or Organization.

This Policy is designed to standardize the process of establishing residency.

If after reviewing any documentation submitted to prove residency, the Michigan Registrar still deems a player a non-resident, the player/parent may appeal that ruling to a committee made up of the MAHA Attorney, Vice President of Youth, Vice President of Girls/Women's and the Directors-at-Large of the unaffected districts. Any subsequent appeal would be made to the MAHA Executive Board.