

OYHA Team Coaching/Managing Best Practices

Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to outline the basic policies and philosophies followed by the Ozaukee Youth Hockey Association (OYHA) to help coaches & team managers better plan for their season.

Overview:

OYHA adheres to the USA Hockey ADM (American Development Model). The guidelines laid out at admkids.com are a basis for the OYHA coaching and team management model. If a specific topic is not covered here, the guidance laid out by ADM shall be considered best practice for OYHA.

Team Management:

- Each team must appoint a team manager. That manager should be chosen from the non-coaching parents.
- Team manager must be a member of OYHA and must undergo the screening and training process required by USA Hockey.
- Teams may use more than one manager to share the job but all must pass screening and training.
- Teams may also use a game scheduler to coordinate games with other organizations.
- Team managers agree to abide by all OYHA policies and best practices.

Team Schedule:

- All Ozaukee teams are **required** to post their game and practice schedule online at OzaukeeHockey.com under their team page.
- Teams are NOT required to post results or statistics
- All team practices and games must be declared to OYHA even if additional practice time has been acquired from other rinks.

Team Fees:

- Tournament fees are the only fees that can be required by a Coach or Manager and the fee must be directly linked to actual costs of entering the team and cannot include other expenses like hotel rooms, party rooms etc.
- Parents have the option to skip a tournament if they choose and are not required to pay a fee for the missed tournament.

- Coaches cannot require a fee or additional expense for any other reason.
 - Examples:
 - A coach or manager may not require a parent to purchase a specific practice jersey or warm up gear.
 - A coach or manager may not require the purchase of any specific color or brand of equipment.
 - A team may not require a fee for additional ice time or professional coaching

EXCEPTIONS:

- It is acceptable for a team to take up a collection in order to pay for a reasonably sized team party or other similar team bonding event.
- It is also acceptable for a Manager/Coach to take up a small, collection for things like a Manager/Coach thank you gift.
- Such events or gift collections must also be voluntary
- It is also acceptable to organize additional off ice training through the rink's provider (Breakaway Crossfit). Participation must be voluntary.

Games & Tournaments:

Game and Tournament limits are clearly spelled out in the OYHA Game/Tournament Limit Policy on OzaukeeHockey.com. However, here are a few thoughts on how to make your season the best for all concerned.

Coaches should work with team managers and parents to assess the best options for tournaments and games. It is NOT required that you attend the maximum number of tournaments or the maximum number of games.

The HDC recommends that for Squirt/U10 and up you consider doing two local tournaments where parents have the option to stay home and drive to games (Sheboygan, West Bend, Kenosha etc.) and one “sleep away” tournament like Rhinelander or Green Bay etc.

Book early. Invitationals fill up quickly.

Be sure you are booking a tournament that is at the proper competitive level for your team.

Ask a more seasoned coach or a member of the HDC about the best area tournaments and which ones to avoid.