

## SUMMARY OF WAHA RULE CHANGES

- R-1 Compliance Documents** – Established rule for yearly submission of SafeSport Compliance documents and identifies requirement of Local Association to complete and return all forms by November 15. Failure to complete and return forms will result in a \$250 fine, disqualification from State Tournament competition and elimination from opportunity to host State Tournaments.
- R-2 Emergency Goaltender** – Amends current language to provide that an emergency goaltender cannot be substituted if the goaltender is not able to play due to a suspension and applies the rules to State Tournaments and State Tournament Playoffs. The injured goalie is no longer eligible to play until the State Tournament is completed if a replacement goalie is used.
- R-3 Referees** – Proposes elimination of language which provides that an official who officiates a game that does not involve USA Hockey Teams or state high school teams must be removed from the State Playoff and State Tournament Officials list for a period of three (3) years. This would allow WHOA Officials to officiate any games of any nature without penalty.
- R-4 Playing Level Divisions** – Proposal changes the current four (4) Division Youth-Level Associations to three (3) division system by combining Division 3 and Division 4 with Division 1 and Division 2 remaining largely unchanged. Numerous rules would be modified to reduce Division Associations from four levels to three levels. It is suggested that Playoffs and State organization will be more meaningful.
- R-5 WAHA Board Authority** - Eliminates Language that allows WAHA Board of Directors to exercise power to adjust matters that are in the best interest of the sport of ice hockey.
- R-6 Female Players** – Allows a cross-rostered female player to be on a maximum of three (3) rosters if one of the rosters is at a higher age classification.

- R-7 Cross Rostering Player** – Eliminates language that provides that a cross-roster player on a secondary team will only be eligible to play in the State Tournament with the secondary team if the team roster has 14 or less players.
- R-8 Player for Adjacent Association** – Adds language that allows player from a Division 1 Association to play for the nearest Association of lower classification without obtaining a release from the Home Association if the player is not selected to play on the highest classification team (A Team) and player participates in A Team tryouts and is not selected for A Team. This allows the player trying out for the A Team in Association A to transfer to play for the nearest Association of a lower Division without obtaining a release. This only applies to players in Division 1 Associations.
- R-9 Tier 1 Players** – Deletes language that allows a full season Youth Hockey Association to allow Tier 1 players to participate in skill sessions and practices.
- R-10 Open District Player** – Deletes language requiring Local Association Registrar to provide written communication to family regarding the Home Association for an open District skater and allowing the Association to be considered the “Resident Association” for that skater.
- R-11 Co-op Teams** – Changes language to allow an Association to form a co-op team with another Association if the Association does not have enough players to form two (2) teams in that Association.
- R-12 Transfer to Association with Co-op Team** – Deletes language that prohibits a player from transferring to an Association with an approved co-op team at the age level of the approved co-op team.
- R-13 State Tournaments** – Deletes language that increases State Tournament fee from \$100 per team to \$300 per team if the Association fails to meet the registration deadline to register their teams for State Tournament. Also deletes language which provides for not using the number of teams from that Association which fails to meet deadline when determining calculations for Wild Card and Open slots.

**R-14 Regional Playoff Games** – Adds new language requiring a team to play at least 50 percent of their games against other WAHA playoff participating teams in order to be eligible for participating in State Tournaments and Regional Playoff games.

**R-15 State Tournaments** – Deletes language allowing officers to adjust matters at any time in the best interests of a Regional or State-Sanctioned Tournament and the sport of ice hockey in general.

~~**R-16 State Regions** – Changes language to provide for four (4) regions and four (4) teams eligible for State Tournament play and modifies procedure for determining open berths.~~

**R-17 Wild Card Berth** – Deletes language that provides that Region with the most teams registered for a tournament are to be considered if there is a tie for the awarding of a berth in a State Tournament.

**R-18 State Tournaments** – Changes language regarding the filling of an open spot for a State Tournament using MHR and provides for a playoff game between the two Associations.

**R-19** Not Used

**R-20** Not Used

**R-21 State Tournaments** - Establishes dates for seeding of State Tournament using My Hockey Ranking scores for determining wild card berth and if there is a tie, head-to-head records will be evaluated.

**R-22 Emergency Goalie** – adds language providing that the emergency goalie language does not apply to suspended or ineligible goalies.

**R-23 Reclassification of Association** – Deletes language that allows an Association that is reclassified to a higher classification to hold one team back for the upcoming season for State Tournament play.

**R-24 Tier 1 Before and After National Bound Tournament Program** – Deletes language providing that Team Wisconsin is the only Tier 1 Before and After National Tournament Bound Program.

**R-25 Tier 1 Organizations** – Changes language to provide that there will be no more than six (6) full season Tier 1 Organizations.

NOTE: Contrary due to USA Hockey moratorium

**R-26 Tier 1 Out of-State Players** - Establishes a maximum two (2) player limit of out-of-state players for all Tier 1 teams at 14U level and older.

NOTE: Contrary to USA Hockey restrictions.

**R-27 10U Minor Tier 1 Team** – Eliminates restriction of no youth 10U Minor Team and eliminates the requirement that no player may play on a Tier 1 Team unless that player is at least youth 10U age or above.

**R-28 Tier 1 Team Credentials** - Adds new language requiring credential verification form printed from portal and listing a locker room monitor under staff. Also provides that sanctioned game scoresheets will verify compliance with minimum number of games required.

**R-29 Tier II Team Credentials** - Adds new language requiring credential verification form printed from portal and listing a lock room monitor under staff. Also provides that sanctioned game scoresheets will verify compliance with minimum number of games required.

**R-30 Tier 1 Team Levels** – Eliminates 12U, 10U and 9O Youth Team Levels from Tier 1 Programs.

R-31 **Tier 1 Team Levels** – ~~Eliminates 12 U Girls Team Level~~ from Girls Tier 1 Programs.

R-32 **Running Time** – Allows for running time for a team with 6 goal lead and both coaches agree for regular season and tournament games. See also R-64.

R-33 **State Tournaments** – Changes time between periods to 90 seconds from 3 minutes with no resurfacing between periods.

R-34 **Player Eligibility** – Allows a Division 3 or Division 4 Association to form two (2) teams and double roster on the two (2) teams.

R-35 **Hotel Partners** – WAHA will not sanction Tournaments that have requirement to stay at certain hotel for team to be participant in Tournament.

R-36 **Pins** – Requires WAHA State pins to be handed out at Tournaments.

R-37 **Roster Language** – Sets maximum of 18 skaters and 2 goalies for playing in a game and change language to refer to rostering players.

R-38 **Emergency Goaltender** – Clarifies language related to emergency goaltender process.

R-39 **Roster for State Tournament** – Clarifies language as to limits on roster for State Tournament with 2 out-of-District skaters, 8U move up players and cross-roster player limits.

R-40 **Emergency Goaltender** – Amends Rule to allow for emergency goaltender if team goaltender is unavailable to play due to suspension along with other reasons and limits the selection of goaltender to lower team level in same age classification or lower age classification and same or lower team level.

- R-41 Goalie Rostering Provision** – Allows a full-time goalie to roster with up to three (3) teams in a Home Association with conditions including that a goalie cannot substitute for a lower classification or a lower, younger age group and requiring the goalie to play the minimum number of games in order to be eligible to participate in State Tournament play. Lengthy rationale is provided for this proposal.
- R-42 Emergency Goaltender Rule** – Adopts Minnesota Emergency Goaltender Rule with discretion given to Tournament Host District Director or Tournament Director and establishes requirements for a “replacement” goalie.
- R-43 Limitations on Teams that may be Sponsored by Tier I Program** - This proposal would eliminate the ability of a Tier 1 Organization to have a 10U Major Team and a 9 Only Team as part of the regular in season teams for Tier 1 Programs. As a result, Tier 1 Teams could have full season teams at the 12U Major and 12U Minor level and above. Proposal (R-30) eliminated the 12U Youth Team levels along with the 10U and 9O Youth Team levels from a Tier 1 Program.
- R-44 State Tournaments – Midget/High School Level** - Requires the use of a two (2) referee/two(2) linesman system for all Midget and High School level and Regional and State Tournaments.
- R-45 Publication of Border Agreements** – Provides that all border agreements and out-of-State border communities be available for review and define prior to the start of a season by publishing on website.
- R-46 Host City Team Selection** – For the 18U and 16U and high school tournaments, the host city is automatically entered into the tournament and must determine the host city team by using MyHockey rankings as of two weeks prior to the tournaments.
- R-47 16U/18U State Tournament Section** – Creates a new section for the 16U/18U state tournament qualifications by eliminating any automatic bids except for the host team and establishing a tournament format meeting for all teams eligible to participate in the tournament.

- R-48 Player Eligibility for High School and U16/18U Tournaments** – Proposes that no high school eligible players from other states are allowed to participate in state or regional tournament play for these age-level tournaments.
- R-49 Use of Game Sheet** – Requires that game sheet be used by all Associations for scorekeeping of games. See also R-67.
- R-50 Rosters for Player and Coach Registration** – Provides that rosters for all levels of competition must be submitted prior to any game being played by the Association and last date for submission is November 15 for purposes of determining team eligibility for state tournament play. Rosters may be amended up until December 31.
- R-51 Co-op Registration** – Rosters for co-op teams must be submitted by the Association that has the largest number of players in the co-op.
- R-52 Three Seasons for Tier 1 Associations and National Bound Tier II Associations** – Creates definitions of seasons for Tier 1 Associations and Tier II National Bound teams that allows for certain players who will play for WIAA teams to participate in games up until the start of the WIAA season. Provides detailed definition process.
- R-53 Tier II National Bound Teams – Tryout information** – Allows Tier II National Bound teams to post tryout information immediately following the conclusion of National Championships just like Tier I Programs.
- R-54 Wisconsin Elite Hockey League** – Eliminates reference to Wisconsin Elite Hockey Leagues as exclusive way for participation in national bound teams.
- R-55 10U Games** – Intermediate goal net requires that all 10U games use intermediate goal nets for games played.

- R-56 Residency** – Defines residency for Border Associations allowing skaters in neighboring states to be within a 30-mile radius over the border into the neighboring state in any direction.
- R-57 Participation in Midget State Tournament** – Requires that all teams that wish to participate in the 16U/18U State Tournament must be part of a WAHA Association playing in a Wisconsin High School Club League and play 50 percent of their games in Wisconsin.
- R-58 Limitation on Number of Skaters Moving to Non-Resident Association** – Limits the number of skaters from a Local Association that may roster with a non-resident association to two (2) skaters per age level and prohibits any additional skaters from an age level from leaving their Local Resident Association.
- R-59 Information on Scoresheet** – Requires the coach of a team that is assessed a game misconduct to initial the scoresheet and verify that the game misconduct was recorded correctly. Also requires coach of team that was assessed a match penalty to acknowledge penalty at the end of the game by initialing scoresheet. This may be a policy change and not a rule change.
- R-60 Identification of Term Limits** – Requires listing of dates when officers were elected to positions. This is not a rule change.
- R-61 Use of MyHockey Rankings** – Requires coaches to rank qualifiers using MyHockey rankings and share individual rankings that individual teams ranked against other teams in the tournament.
- R-62 Referee Age Limits** – Requires that referees may not work games in their own age classification or higher. Creates limits on what level of games a referee can work regardless of referee level.
- R-63 State Tournament Qualifications** – Adds new language requiring the count for number of Associations to include teams from Association that misses timeline and is not included in recommendation for wild card or open slot.

- R-64 Running Clock** – Identifies procedure for use of running clock where a six (6) goal differential exists. The running clock will only be used during the third period and if the goal differential is reduced, stop time will then be implemented. Provides that referees are responsible for tracking goal differentials and initiating running time requirement. See also R-32.
- R-65 Seeding of Teams at Girls 14U State Tournament** – Establishes requirement to identify seeding process for Girls 14U state tournament and publish rules no later than October 1 of a season. Criteria cannot be changed except by two-third (2/3) vote of WAHA Board of Directors. Requires publishing a mid-season registration update by December 1 showing 14U teams and classification structure.
- R-66 School-Based Participation Waiver** – Allows transfer waiver for any player that wishes to participate in Association where school in which player is enrolled and attending. Creates a school-based waiver which shall be renewed annually. Player would be allowed to change school of attendance and receive new school-based waiver but may not hold registration with their Association of residency and their Association of school attendance. School-based waiver residency will supersede physical residency.
- R-67 Game Sheets** – Requires that game sheet be used for electronic scoring and prohibits the use of paper scoresheets. Paper score sheets must be converted to game sheet. WAHA will make rosters, game scores and penalties available to each Local Association. See also R-49.
- R-68 Spectator Ejection Procedure** – Creates a procedure for violation of WAHA Zero Tolerance Policy or USA Hockey Rules. Association President of ejected spectator must file written report with WAHA Regional Director within 72 hours of ejection. WAHA Board will maintain a cumulative record of reported spectator ejections. Any individual with two or more ejections within a single system shall be referred to the WAHA Grievance Committee for review and potential suspension from all WAHA-sanctioned events. There is no current WAHA Grievance Committee in existence.