

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE TRI-CITIES AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1. NAME

The name of this Association shall be the "TRI-CITIES AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION", hereinafter called the "Association". The official abbreviation shall be "TCAHA".

ARTICLE 2. LOCATION

The location of the principal office of this Association shall be the Post Office Box of Record.

ARTICLE 3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Association shall be:

1. To encourage and promote participation and growth of amateur youth ice hockey in the Tri-Cities area.
2. To develop and encourage sportsmanship and wholesome competition among all participants for the betterment of their physical, mental, and social well-being.
3. To affiliate with the Pacific Northwest Amateur Hockey Association (PNAHA) and USA Hockey; to support the goals and objectives of these organizations; and further, to abide by the rules and regulations of these organizations.
4. To do any and all things desirable to further enhance the foregoing and such other purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding sections of any future United States Tax Code.

ARTICLE 4. NON-PROFIT

This Association shall be a non-profit corporation, shall have no capital stock, and shall not be conducted for financial gain.

ARTICLE 5. SUCCESSION

This Association shall have perpetual succession.

ARTICLE 6. PREEMINENCE

The Association, as an affiliate of the PNAHA and USA Hockey, shall abide by and act in accord with the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and the decisions of the Board of Directors of PNAHA and USA Hockey, which governing documents and/or decisions shall take precedence over and supersede all similar governing documents and/or decisions of the Association. Further, the Association shall assist in the administration and enforcement of the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and decisions of the Board of Directors of the PNAHA and USA Hockey, within and upon its members and/or within its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 7. MEMBERSHIP

All Registered Participant Members of Affiliate, as a condition of membership in good standing with Affiliate, shall also be required to be Registered Participant Members in good standing with USA Hockey.

7.1. Classes of Membership

a. Player, Non-Voting Member: All players properly enrolled in the Association shall be non-voting members, except as they may qualify under Paragraphs b or c below. All players must be members of USA Hockey, and all classifications shall be in accordance with those set by it.

b. Regular Voting Member: Any person of legal age as established in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington who is the parent or guardian of a child actively enrolled in the Association; and are in other respects in good standing with the Association; and have paid any required fee(s) properly charged by the Association unless waived or modified by the Board of Directors.

c. Honorary members: Any person so granted this privilege by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the General Membership in recognition of outstanding volunteer service or contributions to the Association and who does not qualify for membership under Paragraphs a. or b., above. Each membership so granted shall be for a specified period of time. Honorary members shall be entitled to vote, one vote each.

7.2. Voting Allocation

a. Vote allocation to parents or guardians of non-voting player members shall be limited to two (2) votes per family.

b. Vote allocations to members of the Board of Directors shall be one vote per member.

c. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

d. Vote allocations to Honorary Members shall be one vote per member.

e. Paid employees of the Association are excluded from voting rights.

7.3. Agent Powers of Members

No member shall have the power to commit or obligate the Association in any manner whatsoever without the written authority of the Board of Directors; however, such written authority shall be deemed to have been given through a valid Board action duly reported and documented in approved meeting minutes.

7.4. Member Resignation

Member resignation from the Association should be presented to the Board of Directors; however, in any case, resignation shall not relieve any member from liability for any unpaid fees or other amounts, and any other obligations which exist at the time of resignation.

7.6. Member Expulsion

Any member shall be subject to expulsion from the Association for acts and/or conduct, either on or off the ice, prejudicial to the Association, or to the purposes for which it was formed, or in the

opinion of the Board of Directors no longer meets the requirements for membership as set forth this Article 7. Notice of such allegations and proposed expulsion shall be given to the affected member in writing and shall require the said member to personally appear before the Board of Directors at a designated time and place not less than two (2) weeks after the mailing of such notice; and at such time be given a hearing with an opportunity to defend against any charges. The Board of Directors shall render a decision regarding the expulsion of the affected member.

ARTICLE 8. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

8.1. General Powers and Duties

The affairs of this Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors who shall be elected from the active membership of the Association and shall have all rights, powers, and privileges granted by law, including but not limited to, those powers set forth under RCW 24.03.035.

All Directors are subject to the standards of conduct for all directors as set forth in RCW 24.03A.495, including a duty of care, a duty of loyalty, a duty of obedience, and a duty to share relevant information.

The duties of the Board of Directors shall be to manage the affairs of the Association, consistent with the purposes for which it was formed, and which include but are not limited to:

- a. To consider and act upon any and all matters concerning the TCAHA program that are required or brought before it.
- b. To fill any vacancies which occur among the elected officials until elected by the general membership.
- c. Appoint chairpersons of standing and ad-hoc committees.
- d. Authorize disbursement of funds.
- e. Authorize any matters creating an obligation or commitment of the Association.
- f. Study and report at any Board meeting all proposals to amend or revise the Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution and By-Laws, and/or Rules and Regulations.
- g. To finalize any temporary rules by the President on emergencies not provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws, or Rules and Regulations.
- h. To hear and rule on appeals.
- i. Approve and maintain a balanced budget for each fiscal year.
- j. Review all necessary state and federal annual filings at a regularly scheduled board meeting no later than April.
- k. Review the selection of a bookkeeper and certified public accountant and confirm annually no later than April.

8.2. Number

The Board of Directors shall consist of nine (9) members which include the Officers: President (non-voting, except to break a tie), Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary; the four (4) Directors; and the Past President (non-voting member).

8.3. Vacancies

Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors to be filled by reason of resignation, removal or death of a member shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board. An Officer or Director elected to fill such vacancy shall serve until the next scheduled election by the general membership. Vacancies filled by election by the general membership shall be effective immediately following the election and the term of office shall be the remaining term of the original vacancy. Any member of the Board of Directors who has three (3) unexcused absences in a period of one (1) year shall be automatically removed from the Board.

8.4. Terms of Office

The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be elected for a period of two (2) years, with the terms of two officers scheduled to expire each year. The President/Treasurer positions will expire on even-numbered years, with the Vice-President/Secretary positions expiring on odd-numbered years. Officers shall be eligible for re-election; provided, however, no director or officer may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in office, and, after having served two consecutive terms, no such board member shall be eligible to run for a board position again until they have been out of office for at least two years. Directors shall be elected for two (2) year terms, and with the terms of two (2) Directors scheduled to expire each year. Directors shall be eligible for reelection. All newly elected officials, for procedural purposes, shall serve in a non-voting capacity from January until the end of April. All officials shall serve for the period elected and until their successors have been elected. The period of service shall be from May 1 through April 30 of the following year.

ARTICLE 9. OFFICERS

9.1. President

- a. Preside at all meetings of the Association.
- b. Call special meetings of the Board of Directors and general membership.
- c. Determine and rule on questions arising from emergencies not provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws, or Rules and Regulations until such time as they may be acted upon at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors.
- d. The President shall have the power to suspend for a period of time or to terminate any player, coach, or minor official from participation in or on any contest or hockey team involving the Association for conduct detrimental to the Association, either on or off the ice, including abusive language to game officials or Association officials. Such suspension or termination shall follow the process identified by USA Hockey Bylaw 10 and its articles.
- e. Attend and represent this Association at other ice hockey meetings.

f. Make a report to the general membership at the Annual and general meetings covering the activities conducted since the last meeting, financial status, and projected plans.

g. Perform such other duties as may be required by the Board of Directors.

9.2. Vice President

a. Perform all duties of the President in his/her absence or incapacity to serve.

b. Succeed to the office of President in the event of the President's resignation or withdrawal for any reason.

c. Serve as parliamentarian at all Association meetings.

d. Assist the President in any and all matters of the Association.

e. Perform such other duties as may be required by the Board of Directors.

9.3. Treasurer

a. Receive and disburse all funds of the Association.

b. Keep accurate and current records of all income, expenditures, and any other financial transactions in accordance with the Association's requirements.

c. Keep all funds in a chartered local FDIC bank or NCUA-insured Credit Union.

d. Assist and participate in an annual audit of the Association's financial affairs.

e. Prepare an annual report.

f. Render a current financial report at all Board and general membership meetings.

g. Prepare and file all financial records and reports as may be required by any federal, state, or other agency or organization, as further explained in part j., below. These filings should be prepared and reviewed by the board as a whole no later than April.

h. Perform such other duties as may be required by the Board of Directors.

i. Work with the Finance Committee to prepare and present a proposed budget to the Board of Directors for review by the end of May each year. Final budget approval will be no later than June each year.

j. Shall retain the services of a qualified bonded bookkeeper, at the Association's expense, to maintain and prepare all necessary records required for tax reporting to state and federal authorities subject to review, approval, and signature by an outside certified public accountant, also to be retained by the Treasurer at the Association's expense. The certified public accountant shall not be a member of the Association and shall have no other conflict of interest as well. The services, work, and documentation prepared by said bookkeeper and certified public accountant at the instance and request of the Treasurer shall be subject to the review and approval of the Board of Directors. Furthermore, the Treasurer's selection of a bookkeeper and certified public accountant

shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors and said selection shall be reviewed and confirmed annually.

9.4. Secretary

- a. Keep minutes and records of all Board and general membership meetings.
- b. Maintain the Associations' stationery, correspondence, records, and files.
- c. Conduct the correspondence of the Board of Directors.
- d. Assist the Treasurer, as necessary, with billing procedures and records.
- e. Assist the Association Registrar in the submittal and maintenance of team and individual records and reports.
- f. Notify the Board of Directors and general membership of applicable upcoming meetings.
- g. Perform such other duties as may be required by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 10. MEETINGS

10.1. Annual/General Membership Meetings

An annual/general meeting of the Association's general membership shall be held in January each year, at a time, place and date to be designated by the Board of Directors. Elections of officials shall be conducted by the voting membership in attendance at the annual meeting in January and validated absentee ballots. However, should the Board of Directors deem it necessary to have elections in a mail-in ballot process for any given year, elections will not be held at the annual/general membership meeting the year of the mail-in ballot process.

Whenever the election of officials is conducted at the January annual/general membership meeting, the Board of Directors shall make a reasonable effort to accommodate absentee voting by members unable to attend the election meeting. Absentee voting requests shall be submitted in writing to the Association Secretary, with notification no more than 60 days, and no later than 10 days before the election. Following receipt of the written request, the Association Secretary will make known to the requestor all declared candidates, and will accept a returned ballot, signed by the requestor, no later than Call to Order of the election meeting. Mailed in absentee ballots must be received at the association P.O. Box one day prior to election day. Returned absentee ballots shall be accounted for and verified by the election meeting chairperson and nominating committee chairperson, then placed in the ballot box as witnessed by those in attendance during the election meeting.

10.2. Regular Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet monthly, at a time, place and date to be designated by the Board. Attendance at the Board of Directors' meetings shall be open to the general membership, however, only members of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to vote.

10.3. Special Meetings

The President may at any time or shall, at the written request of a majority of the Board of Directors stating the reasons therefore, call a special meeting of either the Board of Directors or the general membership. In case the President shall neglect to call such requested meeting, the majority of the Board of Directors may call the same and cause the requisite notice to be sent to the members. Upon written request to the Secretary by twenty percent (20%) of the voting members, a special meeting of the general membership shall be called by the Board of Directors. Such meeting shall be held not less than ten (10) and no more than fifty (50) days after receipt of said request at a time and place to be designated; and if the Board shall neglect or refuse to issue such call within five (5) days after receipt of said request, the members making the request may issue the call, specifying therein the time and place of the meeting.

10.4. Meeting conduct

All general membership and Board of Directors meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the parliamentary procedures as stated in the most current edition of Roberts Rules of Order, Revised Edition. **10.5. Quorum**

a. Board of Directors

Five (5) Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any Board meeting. If a quorum is not present at a meeting, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice. All matters shall be decided based on a majority of those voting, except as otherwise provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws. Although the President shall be counted towards the quorum requirement, the President shall not be entitled to vote except in the case of a tied vote.

b. General membership meetings

At any meeting of the general membership, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members who are present. All matters shall be decided based on a majority of those voting, except as otherwise provided for in the Constitution and By-laws.

10.7. Annual Reporting

Affiliate shall provide to the Executive Director of USA Hockey an annual financial report of operations, and all dues and assessments by Affiliate shall be reasonable in relation to the programs it offers to its members, as determined by the USA Hockey Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 11. AMENDMENTS

The Articles of Incorporation and the Constitution and By-Laws may be amended or revised at any meeting. Approval of any proposed amendment shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the general membership present and validated absentee ballots.

The Board of Directors shall, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority affirmative vote, propose all such amendments to the general membership. No vote shall be taken by the Board of Directors regarding any proposed amendment unless a written copy of the proposed amendment shall have been given to each member of the Board at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which such amendment

shall be considered. No vote of the general membership on a proposed amendment shall be taken unless a written copy of the proposed amendment, along with a statement attesting to the Board of Directors' approval action, shall have been transmitted to each voting member at their currently listed email address as it appears on the records of the Association or otherwise made physically available by request, at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting at which such amendment is to be presented.

ARTICLE 12. ALTERNATIVE VOTING BY MAIL

As to all matters properly subject to being voted upon by the membership, the Board of Directors by majority vote may from time to time decide to submit any proposition, election, amendment, or other appropriate matter to the membership for voting upon by mail.

The mailing shall include a reasonable and fair description of the issue or matter being voted upon. The mailing shall also include a form of ballot. Both the description and the ballot forms shall be subject to the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors.

The mailing shall be sent to each voting member at their last known post office address as it appears on the records of the Association, postage pre-paid by U.S. mail.

The mailing shall instruct the recipients that the completed and signed ballot must be received back at the Association's office (the address of which shall be stated in the mailing) by a deadline date stated in the mailing, which deadline shall be at least 30 days after the date of the mailing itself.

There shall be no quorum requirement as to matters submitted by mail to the membership for a vote. Any matter decided by the membership by appropriate margin under this mailing alternative, shall be just as final and binding as if the vote or election was carried out in an appropriate regular or special meeting of the membership.

ARTICLE 13. INDEMNIFICATION

13.1. Indemnification of PNAHA and USA Hockey Officials

The Association, as an affiliate of the PNAHA and USA Hockey, shall indemnify and hold harmless the PNAHA and USA Hockey, the Board of Directors of the PNAHA and USA Hockey and each member thereof, the Executive Committee and each member thereof, other committees of the PNAHA and USA Hockey and each member thereof, and all other elected appointed or employed representatives of the PNAHA and USA Hockey from any and all liability, judgments, costs, charges and expenses whatsoever, which the PNAHA or USA Hockey or their representatives sustain or incur in or about any action, suit or proceeding which is brought, commenced or prosecuted against the PNAHA and/or USA Hockey or their representatives, for and in regard to any act, deed, matter, decision, or thing whatsoever made, done or permitted to be done, about or in relation to the local affairs of the Association, except such costs, charges or expenses as are occasioned by the PNAHA and/or USA Hockey or their representatives by and through willful neglect or default. Further, the Association understands and acknowledges that the PNAHA and USA Hockey and their representatives, their heirs, executors, administrators, estates, assigns and others shall, from time

to time and at all times, be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the Association, accumulated, or to be accumulated for acts or conditions described above.

2. Indemnification of Association Officers, Directors and Representatives

Each Director or Officer now or here after serving the Association, and each person who at the request of or officially on behalf of the Association, is now serving or hereafter serves, and the respective heirs, executors and administrators of each of them shall be indemnified and held harmless to the fullest extent provided by law against all costs, judgments and liabilities, including attorneys' fees, reasonably incurred by or imposed upon him/her arising from or in connection with, or resulting from any claim, action, suit or proceeding, civil or criminal, in which he/she is or may be made a party by reason of his/her being or having been such Director, Officer or in other official capacity at the time of incurring such costs, expenses, judgments and liabilities, provided that in his/her official capacity with the Association he/she acted in good faith and in a manner he/she reasonably believed not opposed to the best interests of the Association, and in the case of any criminal proceeding, he/she had no reasonable cause to believe his/her conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement or conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which he/she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Association, or had reasonable cause to believe his/her conduct was unlawful. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of other rights to which such Director, Officer or individual may be entitled as a matter of law. The Board of Directors shall obtain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a Director, Officer, employee, agent or official representative against any and all liability arising from their status as such, whether or not the Association would have the power to indemnify him/her against such liability. Such indemnification shall be governed by and consistent with RCW 24.03A.

13.3 Insurance

Association will be covered by the general liability insurance policy and the Directors and Officers and Criminal insurance policies maintained by USA Hockey.

ARTICLE 14. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflicts of Interest are governed by the Conflict of Interest Form.

ARTICLE 15. CONDUCT OF OPERATIONS

As may be necessary or desirable, the Board of Directors may issue or cause to be issued from time to time, certain policies, directives, procedures, instructions and/or rules and regulations relating to the philosophies and conduct of the Associations management, administration and operations; provided that such issuances are consistent with and subservient in precedence to the Articles of Incorporation and the Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE 16. STANDING COMMITTEES

The standing committees of the Association shall include the following:

Coaching Committee

Scheduling Committee

Finance Committee

Public Relations Committee

Nominating Committee

Registration Committee

Equipment Management

Disciplinary Committee

Committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. Other committees, either of a permanent or temporary nature, may be established by the Board of Directors from time to time to meet the needs of the Association. These committees will have at least one director and a minimum of 3 members.

16.1. Coaching Committee

The Coaching Committee shall be chaired by the Hockey Director, Board Member liaison, and at least 3 members at large, which may or may not be coaches. The Committee shall be responsible for interviewing and assigning Association coaches and to supervise the coaching of Association games. Included shall be the recruitment of coaches, arranging for coaches' clinics, maintaining records of coaches' credentials, ensuring that coaches and assistant coaches have adequate training, and in general, upgrading the quality and quantity of the Association coaching staff. The Committee shall be responsible for monitoring the assignment/draft of players to all authorized Association teams to ensure the correct processes are adhered to. The Committee shall conduct regular meetings of the coaches throughout the season to ensure consistency, receive feedback, and resolve minor problems.

16.2. Scheduling Committee

The Scheduling Committee shall be chaired by the Association Scheduler and be responsible for scheduling all teams for league play, practice, and any other games between Association teams, plus games between Association teams and outside teams. The Committee shall be responsible for contracting of ice time at facilities within the general Tri-Cities area on approval of the Board of Directors.

16.3. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall be chaired by the Association Treasurer and include the Association Bookkeeper and be responsible for generating the required Association funds. This shall include the development and conducting of various fundraising activities, securing sponsors, and donations for the Association. The Committee shall also assist the Public Relations Committee to ensure that sponsors and donors are properly recognized through certificates, plaques, letters, pictures, etc.

16.4. Public Relations Committee

The Public Relations Committee shall be chaired by a board member and be responsible for all activities conducted to inform the membership and public of Association activities, plans and programs. Responsibilities shall include the publishing of a monthly newsletter, preparation/issuance of reports, publications and/or other suitable media. The Committee shall also work with other committees as appropriate to prepare and conduct membership recruiting programs; and to provide public recognition of sponsor, donors, etc., through certificates, plaques, letters, pictures, etc.

16.5. Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall be chaired by the Secretary and formed at least forty-five (45) days before the scheduled election of Officers and Directors at the annual general membership meeting in January. The Committee shall be responsible for locating and encouraging qualified voting members of the Association to stand for election, and to agree to serve if elected, for those positions to be elected by the voting membership. Every reasonable effort shall be made to secure at least two qualified candidates for each position to be elected. The slate of nominees shall be presented to the Association Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled election meeting. The Secretary shall include the list of nominees with the meeting notice mailing.

16.6. Registration Committee

The Registration Committee shall be chaired by the Association Registrar and be responsible for organizing and conducting pre-registration activities, registering players and teams, obtaining and maintaining proper birth records, medical treatment release forms and player transfer forms. The Registrar shall also obtain and maintain properly signed copies of game score sheets of all games involving Association teams. The Registrar shall also maintain records of individual player achievements toward hat trick, play maker and zero club awards; and prepare the necessary submittal to USA Hockey for receipt of these awards.

16.7. Equipment Management Committee

The Equipment Management Committee shall be chaired by a board member and be responsible for the custody, inventory, distribution, maintenance, repair and replacement of all Association owned or controlled equipment; unless otherwise stipulated.

16.8. Disciplinary Committee

The Disciplinary Committee shall be composed of the Vice-President of TCAHA (functioning as Committee Chairman), the Chairman of the Coaching Committee and a member at large appointed by the Board of Directors. The Disciplinary Committee shall hear all complaints by game officials or others concerning players, coaches and others charged with major penalties (Match/Gross) or a game misconduct clearly identified as "attempt to injure" and complaints by coaches and others of behavior during practice which would constitute a major penalty or a game misconduct if it were committed during the course of a game. All other actions, which occur off the ice (e.g., coliseum damage, hotel/motel damage, etc.), shall be handled by the Disciplinary Committee.

The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to recommend to the Board of Directors, admonition and or suspension of a player, coach or other member for such reported behavior. They shall also have the power to recommend to the Board of Directors that a player, coach, or others be expelled from the Association should the infraction be of such magnitude as to warrant that sanction or should it be a pattern of continuing behavior. The Disciplinary Committee shall hold its hearing regarding all infractions within two (2) weeks of the reported date. The player, coach, or others shall have a right to appeal the action of the Disciplinary Committee to the Board of Directors. Such appeal must be accomplished within two (2) weeks of the Disciplinary Committee hearing.

ARTICLE 16. SAFE SPORT

The Association shall comply with the Safesport Policy as set forth by USA Hockey and the US Center for Safesport. Protocols and procedures may be found in the Association Handbook and on the website. Complete, up-to-date information regarding these policies may be accessed using the USA Hockey website: <https://www.usahockey.com/uscenterforsafesport>

ARTICLE 17. DISSOLUTION



Should the Association, by majority vote of the Board of Directors, be dissolved, all remaining funds are to be distributed to United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties, for use in programs to benefit youth in the Tri-Cities. These funds are to be dispersed after all expenses of the Association are paid.

ARTICLE 18. SEVERABILITY

Should any of the articles, provisions, requirements or other stipulations contained herein this Constitution and By-Laws be found illegal or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, all remaining articles, provisions, requirements or stipulations shall remain in effect.

CERTIFICATION I, Shannon Lukins, Secretary of the TRI-CITIES AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION, a Washington corporation hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the tenth revision of the Constitution and Bylaws as amended by the membership of said corporation at its meeting held on.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of March, 2025.

 Secretary
ATTEST:  President

Adopted June 1, 1988

Amended June 20, 1991

Amended April 20, 1993

Amended May 5, 1994

Amended April 24, 1995

Amended December 7, 1995

Amended May 30, 1996

Amended January 18, 2001

Amended January 30, 2002

Amended August 13, 2018

Amended March 10, 2025

Copyright (c) 2018 Tri-Cities Amateur Hockey Association, All Rights Reserved