South Dakota Amateur Hockey Association

Administrative Rules

Updated September 19, 2026

Table of Contents

1. Rostered Players - Page 3
2. Drug, Tobacco, and Alcohol - Page 3
3. Clinics - Page 3
    a. Rules
    b. First Aid
    c. CEP Certification
4. Officials - Page 3
5. Fees - Page 3
    a. On-Ice Officials
    b. Discipline Committee
    c. Suspension for Non-Payment
6. Registration - Page 4
    a. League Traveling Teams
    b. Non-League Traveling Teams
    c. Individuals
    d. Rosters
    e. Birth Certificates
    f. Sanctions
7. Tier 1 Program – Page 5
8. Non-Exclusive Rules - Page 5
9. Financial Reimbursement - Page 5
    a. Reimbursements
    b. Purchases
    c. Payments to Individuals not Authorized by the Board of Directors
    d. Deposits
    e. Documentation and Request Methods
    f. Specifically Authorized Reimbursements and Eligible Personnel
10. Zero Tolerance - Page 6
    a. Players
    b. Coaches
    c. Officials
    d. Parents/Spectators
    e. Local Associations
    f. Cyber Bullying
    g. Personal Digital Assistant/Cell Phone/Camera Policy

1. **Rostered Players:** All Rostered Players playing in SD Hockey must follow the age classifications (Playing Rules 2). In addition, they must be enrolled in an accredited school at a level of 12th grade (high school senior) or younger, or in a school board approved home educational program at those equivalent levels, during the entire time of participation.

2. **Drug, Tobacco and Alcohol:** Each local Association will adopt a drug, tobacco and alcohol policy and send a copy to the Secretary of SD Hockey.

3. **Clinics:**
   a. **Rules:** All SD Hockey coaches and players at the peewee, bantam and Varsity level shall attend a Rules Clinic each USA Rules Change year in order to be eligible to coach or play during that season. SD Hockey shall offer such Rules Clinics, at no separate charge to any coach or player, prior to the commencement of the SD Hockey schedule each year in no less than two communities participating in SD Hockey competition. Each local Association shall be responsible for presenting a Rules Clinic for those of its coaches and players who are unable to attend either of the SD Hockey offered clinics. **NOTE:** *First year Peewee parents and players are required to attend a clinic on league play and expectations to help them better understand and to answer questions they have regarding league play. This clinic shall be scheduled and conducted by the local Official's Supervisor with criteria established by SD Hockey and the Referee in Chief, prior to the player's first game.*
   b. **First Aid:** Each participating SD Hockey local Association shall provide a mandatory first aid clinic for all coaches in its program each year.
   c. **CEP Certification:** Each coach (head and assistant) of a team participating in SD Hockey league competition shall have completed the minimum USA Hockey Inc. required certification for the level they are coaching by attending a CEP Clinic and passing the required courses. Each Association is responsible for their own CEP expenses. Any Association that allows a person behind the bench without a current registration/ certification and rostered to coach at that level shall be referred to the SD Hockey Executive Board for review. Allowing for extenuating circumstances, such as failure of rostered coach to show, illness, emergency, etc., a determination shall be made as to the penalty to that Association. Penalties may include a monetary fine up to $500.

4. **Officials:**
   a. No SD Hockey Officials' Association (SDHOA) referee shall work SD Hockey Varsity games as a referee unless he is certified as a level 3 referee by USA Hockey and he passes a skating test implemented by the SDHOA Referee in Chief and Supervisor of Referees. Linesmen for all Varsity/Jr. Varsity games must also meet the same requirements, unless a level 3 is not available. In those circumstances, a level 2 official may be used as a linesman.
   b. Officials will set the nets at the beginning and end of each period. Local Associations will remove nets from the ice surfaces.

5. **Fees:**
   a. **On-Ice Officials:** In the event a scheduled SD Hockey game is canceled and the assigned on-ice officials are not notified of the cancellation sufficiently in advance thereof so as to avoid the necessity of traveling to the scheduled contest, the on-ice officials appearing at the scheduled time and place for the contest shall be entitled to receive the game fee, plus their mileage at the rate of 22.5 cents per mile, round trip. This fee is to be paid by the Association causing the cancellation.
   b. **Discipline Committee:** Any Association or non-league team involved in a Disciplinary Committee Conference Call proceeding shall be assessed a $100 fee for each incident requiring Disciplinary Committee proceedings under the USA Hockey Official Playing Rules and/or SD Hockey Rules. If a Disciplinary Conference call involves more than one Association or non-league team, each Association or non-league team will be assessed a $100 fee for their discipline discussion. This fee shall be collected after the completion of the Discipline Committee's Conference Call.
   c. **Suspension for Non-Payment:** Any Player or Association with an unpaid financial obligation due to SD Hockey arising because of their participation in the SD Hockey Program, may be suspended from further participation in the SD Hockey Program until payment in full has been received. An unpaid obligation of a player may suspend the player's participation and an unpaid obligation of an Association may suspend the Association's participation. Any suspension does not cross from player to Association or vice versa. Appropriate notice will be provided to any suspended party. Any financial disputes will be governed by USA Hockey rules.

      The SD Hockey Program is defined as including but not limited to the combined participation in the following: SD Hockey League Game Play, SD Hockey State Tournaments, SD Hockey Development Camps, Participation (including practice, game, team activities) on teams authorized by SD Hockey representing SD Hockey (also known as Team SD), any National Bound Teams authorized by SD Hockey, etc.

6. **Registration:**
   a. **League Traveling Teams:** All traveling teams' Team Rosters shall be submitted to the SD Hockey Registrar seven days prior to their first league game. See D below.

b. **Non-League Traveling Teams:**
   i. **Affiliate Agreement:** Per Article 3 of the SD Hockey Bylaws, all teams of an Association shall register with SD Hockey, and all travel teams shall participate in the SD Hockey league at their respective division and level as per SD Hockey Playing rules section 4.
   ii. **Bylaws:** Per Article 3.1.A of the SD Hockey Bylaws, the registration fees, dues and assessments for a Participating Member, and dues for Non-participating and Sustaining Members, of SD Hockey, shall be established by the SD Hockey Board of Directors annually.
   iii. **In-House/Recreational Teams:** The In-House/Recreational Team assessment shall be established by the SD Hockey Board of Directors annually and is payable to SD Hockey. This fee shall not exceed a maximum of 10% of the annual travel team assessment. Associations are encouraged to offer in-house or recreational programs within their Association. These teams shall be rostered with SD Hockey and shall only compete with internal teams of the Association.
   iv. **League Traveling Teams:** The League Traveling Team assessment shall be established by the SD Hockey Board of Directors annually and is payable to SD Hockey. All traveling teams shall be rostered for SD Hockey league play at their respective Division and Level per SD Hockey Playing Rules section 4. This rule does not apply to Travel teams such as Tier 1 teams or sled hockey teams that have been previously approved to participate in their respective leagues outside of the SD Hockey travel league.
   v. **Non-League Traveling Teams:** If an Association has a minimum of four league traveling teams at squirt/10U then the Association is permitted to field no more than two non-league traveling teams at the same level. If an Association has a minimum of four league traveling teams at peewee/12U then the Association is permitted to field no more than two non-league traveling teams at the same level.
   vi. **Jr. Stampede:** The Jr. Stampede, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, shall be permitted to field one non-national bound travel team, eligible for competition outside of SD Hockey league play, at each of the 2014, 2015 and 2016 birth years (three total teams) on a pilot basis until March 31, 2027. Following the pilot period, the Jr. Stampede program will be subject to review by the SD Hockey Board of Directors to determine potential eligibility for subsequent seasons. The program may only continue following an affirmative vote of the SD Hockey Board of Directors. The Jr. Stampede shall operate under the Brandon Valley Hockey Association and be subject to an agreement between those two entities. The Jr. Stampede shall be subject to and pay all applicable SD Hockey and Brandon Valley Hockey Association fees for their teams. All South Dakota players who register for the Jr. Stampede pilot program are considered transferred from their respective Associations to the Brandon Valley Hockey Association for the purposes of Bylaw 3.7. Transfers of these South Dakota players shall remain in effect regardless of whether the Jr. Stampede program is approved for non-league play following the pilot period. During the 2025-2026 season, the Jr. Stampede may not roster more than 41 total players, with no more than 40 being South Dakota players. During the 2026-2027 season, the Jr. Stampede may not roster more than 43 total players, with no more than 40 being South Dakota players. Any Jr. Stampede player wishing to play for another Association after the pilot period will be subject to Bylaw 3.10, with strong preference given to retention with Brandon Valley.
   vii. **Other Team Assessment:** The Other Team Assessment shall be established by the SD Hockey Board of Directors annually and is payable to SD Hockey. This will be for all travel teams from Squirt/10U level and higher that do not participate in SD Hockey league play, with prior approval from SD Hockey including, but not limited to, Tier 1 or sled hockey.

c. **Individual:**
   i. After the deadline to submit rosters has passed, no player may transfer from a team to any other team without permission from the SD Hockey President and the South Dakota Registrar. When reviewing these requests, some of the criteria considered may include: season ending injuries, players dropping out, effect on team(s)/players, timing of request, etc. Roster deadline is 7 days prior to first game. This includes non-league games/tournaments and league games.
   ii. Once a player has moved up an age level, the player must remain at the upper age level for the remainder of that season. The player cannot move back to the lower age level without SD Hockey approval.

d. **Rosters:** Traveling teams - All team rosters for traveling teams shall be completed and received by the SD Hockey Registrar at least 7 days prior to that team's first game of each hockey season. A single SD Hockey Varsity roster listing all Varsity eligible players for SD Hockey league games shall be filed in addition to any individual Varsity or jr. Varsity rosters filed with USA Hockey for non-league games.

e. **Birth Certificates:** Each member of a team participating in SD Hockey league competition must have his/her birth certificate on file with the SD Hockey Registrar no later than 7 days prior to the first SD Hockey league game for that team of each hockey year. Any participant who does not have a birth certificate on file by that date shall be an ineligible player until that certificate has been filed. The participation by that player in any SD Hockey sanctioned competition subsequent to that time shall result in a fine to the local Association as listed under the Sanctions below.

f. **Sanctions:**
   i. **In-House/Recreational Teams:** Any in-house/recreational team that does not meet rostering or competition rules shall be fined $100 for the first occurrence. Subsequent violations shall be managed by the SD Hockey Executive Committee with a minimum of a $200 fine to a maximum fine of $1,000 and may include team suspension from SD Hockey.
   ii. **Traveling Teams:** Any traveling team that does not adhere to the participation and rostering requirements shall be fined

$500 for the first occurrence. Subsequent violations shall be managed by the SD Hockey Executive Committee with a minimum of $500 fine to a maximum fine of $2,000 and may include team suspension from SD Hockey.

iii. **Other Team Assessment:** Any Other Team that does not adhere to the rostering rules shall be fined $100 for the first occurrence. Subsequent violations shall be managed by the SD Hockey Executive Committee with a minimum of $200 fine to a maximum fine of $1,000 and may include team suspension from SD Hockey.

iv. **Background Application:** Background application will be done each year online with the state website so the Association and USA Hockey can keep track of each volunteer/employee over the age of eighteen (18) that will have regular, routine or frequent access to youth participants, but the state is only responsible to have them screened prior to such volunteers or employees having such access the first initial year and re-screened every two (2) years. They are required to watch modules every other year after the first initial year. (SafeSport Manual pg. 23 (Screening and Background Check Program)).

7. **Tier 1 Program:** South Dakota Hockey authorizes Sioux Falls Power Hockey to serve as the state's Tier 1 level program and it must register teams as Tier 1 and National Tournament Bound. Sioux Falls Power Hockey may roster teams at only the Tier 1 age classifications authorized by USA Hockey and no more than one team at any given Tier 1 age classification. Sioux Falls Power Hockey shall roster no teams outside the Tier 1 level or at any Tier 1 age classification outside of those recognized by USA Hockey. Sioux Falls Power Hockey exists as a "non-participating member" of South Dakota Hockey, with no voting rights on the South Dakota Hockey board of directors. Sioux Falls Power Hockey shall operate in accordance with the bylaws, rules, regulations and policies of South Dakota Hockey and USA Hockey. Sioux Falls Power Hockey shall designate a Registrar and SafeSport Coordinator and pay all applicable fees required of non-participating members of South Dakota Hockey, including but not limited to team assessment fees and background screening fees.

8. **Non-Exclusive Rules:** The foregoing Administrative Rules are not a complete listing. In addition to those set forth above, there may be administrative rules and policies which have previously been adopted by the SD Hockey Board and which remain in effect.

9. **Financial Reimbursement:**
   a. **Reimbursements:**
      i. Any approved request for reimbursement that is not an approved per-diem rate or mileage rate must be accompanied by receipts or invoices.
      ii. Mileage reimbursement is to be based on actual mileage driven not estimates. If actual mileage was not recorded the SD Hockey Treasurer will figure all mileage totals, as per Google using reasonable routes. Individuals are, as much as possible, requested to drive together.
      iii. Reimbursements may be requested only after the expense has been incurred.
      iv. Reimbursements will usually be processed by the Treasurer within 7 business days of being verified.
      v. If the expected reimbursement is over $400 an advance of not more than 75% may be requested prior to the individual incurring the expense. The balance of the advance must be returned if the advance exceeds the total reimbursement amount.
      vi. Individuals who accept an advance must return the advance if the expense is not incurred.
   b. **Purchases:**
      i. Any purchases paid directly by SD Hockey must be accompanied by an invoice or itemization of the purchase. Proper authorization of the individual overseeing the purchase must accompany the request. Requests must include: (i) Name and phone number of the vendor, (ii) addresses where payment is to be sent, (iii) Account number and/or invoice number, if available.
      ii. Initials or signature of the individual overseeing the purchase must be on the invoice in recognizable form.
   c. **Payments to individuals not specifically authorized by the board of directors:**
      i. **Referees & Goal Judges:** Requests for payment to referees must be accompanied by the payor copy of the game sheet. Request for payments to goal judges for state tournaments must be made by the tournament director, SD Hockey referee scheduler or the RIC of SD Hockey.
      ii. Stipends for individuals or payments for specific tasks must be accompanied by a reason for the stipend or payment that includes a description of the expectations and task(s) to be completed. It must come from the authorized individual who is overseeing the disbursement. This person will be responsible to see that the agreed upon expectations of the individual receiving payment are completed.
      iii. Unless other arrangements are approved by the finance committee, stipends or payments of $500 or more may be prepaid by at most by 50% before the tasks and expectations are completed.
   d. **Deposits:**
      i. Deposits into SD Hockey accounts shall only be made by individuals authorized by the Treasurer.
      ii. After the deposit, a receipt and itemization of the deposited funds must be sent the Treasurer.
      iii. The individual who made the deposit is responsible for collection of any deposits rejected due to insufficient funds or closed accounts.
      iv. No cash back is permitted when depositing funds.
   e. **Documentation and Request Methods**:
      i. The Treasurer has authority to specify acceptable method of requests and documentation submission.
      ii. Receipts, invoices, etc., may be submitted as original scanned copies of the original documents.
      iii. If requested the original documentation must be mailed to the Treasurer for verification prior to release of funds.

f. **Specifically authorized reimbursements rate and eligible personnel:**
   i. **Mileage:** Seventy percent (70%) of current IRS rate for mileage both ways from hometown to any SD Hockey/District/USA Hockey approved event. The SD Hockey reimbursable rate will be adjusted concurrently with IRS rate changes.
   ii. **Air Travel:** Cost of ticket when where air travel would be more practical, original receipt for ticket required.
   iii. **Per Diem:** Maximum of $40 per day. Paid as $6 breakfast, $14 lunch, & $20 supper
   iv. **Hotels:** SD Hockey to cover full amount of rooms. Original room receipts must be turned in for reimbursement, room rate & taxes only.
   v. **SD Hockey Personnel Eligible for Expense Reimbursement, if expenses are not covered by Northern Plains District or USA Hockey:** President, Vice President, Executive Assistant, Officials Scheduler, Webmaster, ACE Director, Past President, Coach-in-Chief, Girls Development, Treasurer, Secretary, Associate Registrar, Referee-in-Chief, Risk Manager, Player Development Director. Others require the SD Hockey President's approval.

g. **Any other financial policy interpretation will be determined as necessary by the finance committee.**

10. **Zero Tolerance:** In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, the USA Hockey Youth & Girls, Junior and Adult Councils have instructed the Officials program to adhere to certain points of emphasis relating to sportsmanship. This policy is designed to require all players, coaches, officials, team officials and administrators, and parents/spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey sanctioned games, events, and practices.

a. **Players:**
   i. **A minor penalty for un-sportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:**
      1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
      2. Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.
      3. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty.
      4. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such actions.

b. **Coaches:**
   i. **A minor penalty for un-sportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be accessed whenever a coach:**
      1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
      2. Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
      3. Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players, or spectators.
      4. Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

c. **Officials:** Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial, and constructive manner at all times. Actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited. Officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.

d. **Parents/Spectators:**
   i. The game officials will stop a game when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. The game officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced, and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local/state governing body. Local Associations have the primary responsibility for crowd control behavior. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:
      1. Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner at anyone at any time.
      2. Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
      3. Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, player's bench, penalty box or on or off ice surfaces, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard. Spitting at players, officials, off-ice officials, minor officials, or fans/spectators is also prohibited.
   ii. Basic rule of thumb: If you think it might be offensive to you or someone else, it probably is and should be dealt with.
      1. 1st Offense: Removal from the Ice Arena for the remainder of the day and evening and a report with name, address, and reason of the person or persons is recorded and sent to the SD Hockey Discipline Committee Chairperson. A written warning will be issued to the local Association. The Association will give a written warning to the person or persons in violation and a copy to the Discipline Chairperson.
      2. 2nd Offense: Removal from the Ice Arena and All USA Hockey games, events, and practices for a Minimum of but not limited to a period of two weeks. If the offender violates the two weeks an additional two weeks will be added to the offender. A report with the offender's name, address, and reason for getting removed is sent to the SD Hockey Discipline Committee Chairperson. A written warning will be issued to the local Association. The Association will give a written warning to the person or persons involved in their Association and a copy to the Discipline Chairperson.
      3. 3rd Offense: Banned for the rest of the hockey season with a minimum of six weeks from all USA Hockey games, events, and practices. If there are not six weeks left in the hockey season, the remainder will be carried over to next season. A report with the offender's name, address, and reason for getting removed is sent to the SD Hockey Discipline Committee Chairperson.

e. **Local Associations:**
   i. 1st Local Association Offense: First violation of the above rules, local Association fined up to a maximum of $500.
   ii. 2nd Local Association Offense: Second violation of the above rules, local Association fined up to a maximum of $1,000.
   iii. 3rd Local Association Offense: Third violation of the above rules, local Association fined up to a maximum of $1,500 and may also lose their rights to the next eligible state tournament.

f. **Cyber Bullying:** SD Hockey will not tolerate cyber bullying or threats made through electronic means of communication. Each local Association will be asked to deal with each situation as a serious matter and take the appropriate disciplinary action. If the incident involves two or more Associations and an agreement as to discipline cannot be met, the case may be referred to the SD Hockey Discipline Committee to hear and render a decision. The SD Hockey Discipline committee will treat the incident as any other discipline issue that comes before it. A hearing will be scheduled to hear the case, at which time all parties involved will have their opportunity to address the committee. The SD Hockey Discipline Committee will render a decision. The decision may be appealed under rules already in place for appealing a decision.

g. **Personal Digital Assistant/Cell Phone/Camera Policy:** The use of any device that can take photos is prohibited from any locker room area. Enforcement of this policy is up to each local Association of SD Hockey.