

Official Rules
of the
Colorado Prep Hockey League
(CPHL)

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PREFACE

Mission Statement

Colorado Prep Hockey League (CPHL or the League) was established in July of 2012 to promote and advance High School Ice hockey in the State of Colorado.

As an affiliate of USA Hockey, we agree to be guided by their core values. These are Sportsmanship, Respect for the Individual, Integrity, Pursuit of Excellence at the Team, Individual, and Organizational levels, Enjoyment, Loyalty, and Teamwork. By affiliating the sport of hockey with a player's local community, we hope to encourage the healthy expression of "school pride" in a positive environment.

The League realizes that participating teams/clubs (also referred to as Members) may not be sanctioned or recognized as bona fide representatives of a particular high school(s) or by that school's administration. Such recognition shall not be a requirement to participate in the League. We further recognize that not all schools will have enough students within their own student body to field their own pure team. Therefore, the League will determine the appropriate pairings of schools, including private, charter and home-schooled students, to allow for the highest level of participation possible. These "combined" schools will compete on an equal basis with the pure schools during League play.

RULE 1 - APPLICATION OF RULES

CPHL is affiliated with CAHA and USA Hockey and will abide by and act in accord with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, Playing Rules and decisions of the Executive Board of CAHA and USA Hockey. All coaches and managers participating in CPHL are required to be a USA Hockey member and in addition each coach, manager, and/or board member involved with CPHL who has contact with players, is to register online with CAHA each year and provide a confirmation copy to CPHL. All Members are required to conduct themselves in accordance with established CPHL, CAHA, and USA Hockey standards of conduct.

RULE 2 – LEAGUE STRUCTURE

The League is governed by a Executive Board (the "Executive Board" or the "EB"). The CPHL EB is currently comprised of the following divisions: Varsity Tier 1, Varsity Tier 2, and JV

The Executive Board appoints the Grievance/Disciplinary Committee, Tournament Committee, and any other committee deemed necessary each of which is to be chaired by a member of the Executive Board or their appointee. In addition, the Executive Board appoints a CAHA Representative. The Executive Board also adopts the rules for the CPHL, which are contained herein.

RULE 3 - TEAMS

Formation of New Teams:

- i. A petition to join the League must be made in writing to the EB. Selection will be made based on.
- ii. Sufficient number of players available to make up a team.
- iii. Identified Manager and Coaches.
- iv. "Readiness" to play in the League, i.e. finance plan, High School Jersey Plan, appropriate ice procurement, etc.
- v. The order in which the petitions were received.

Team Registration:

- i. All teams, their players, and team officials shall be registered and in good standing with the Colorado Amateur Hockey Association and USA Hockey prior to the start of League play.
- ii. CPHL does require players to obtain release forms from Club/Association teams in order to be eligible for the CPHL season.
- iii. Each team shall have a copy of the USA Hockey (1-T) team roster that has been certified by the designated Affiliate Registrar on file prior to the start of League play. Roster changes shall be made in accordance with the rules of the CAHA and USA Hockey. Failure to do so may prohibit start of League play and/or possible forfeiture of games.
- iv. Any Member association registering more than one team at the Varsity level shall assign players so as to field these teams in different tiers unless other arrangements have been approved by the EB.
- v. Any Member association registering more than one team at the Junior Varsity (JV) level shall assign players so as to field these teams in different tiers. In the case that only one Junior Varsity tier is available then Members registering more than one JV team will assign players so that these teams are split as evenly as possible.

Team Officials:

Coach's Role:

- i. The head coach is selected by the School Athletic Director or a combination of the school and current CHSAA coaching staff.
- ii. The head coach selects the assistant coaches.
- iii. Once selected, all management decisions are made by the Head Coach (or designee)

and coaching staff.

- iv. Any individual holding the head coaching position must be a minimum of 21 years of age.
- v. Any coaches that will be on the bench/ice during games or practices must have completed all USA Hockey requirements to coach High School aged players.
- vi. Coaches should keep an open line of communication with players and parents.
- vii. Junior Varsity coaches are encouraged to focus on player development including skill development, equal playing time, and sportsmanship.
- viii. Coaches should be a positive role model and effective communicator. They should not physically or verbally abuse players or officials.
- ix. Coaches should be alert to the physical safety of the players.

Team Fees:

- i. Team fees and due dates will be set by the League on an annual basis.
- ii. Teams that do not meet the payment deadlines will be subject to game forfeiture and possible league suspension until delinquent fees are paid.

Team Practices / Game Ice:

Each Club or team is responsible for their own practice and game ice slots.

Probation/Suspension Guidelines:

- i. A simultaneous fight involving multiple players (three or more from the same team) may result in the team's appearance before the Grievance/Disciplinary committee and could result in the team's suspension or probation for a minimum of one season. The Grievance/Disciplinary committee may specify who the representative or representatives of the team will be that appear before the committee.
- ii. A player on a team that is on probation, who receives a fighting game misconduct penalty while playing for that team (615 a, d, or f), may be asked to appear before the CPHL Grievance/Disciplinary committee for supplemental discipline.

RULE 4 - PLAYERS

Player Eligibility:

Multiple Rostering. Players cannot be rostered on more than one CPHL coed team.

Player Movement:

- i. No roster additions or deletions will be permitted after the registration/roster deadlines,

as set by CPHL, without the approval of the Executive Board.

- ii. A player can move back and forth between a higher level and lower level team as long as they are rostered on both the lower level team and upper level team (ie: Varsity Tier 1 and Varsity Tier 2, Varsity and JV, JV Tier 1 and JV Tier 2)
- iii. Players participating in a game with a team other than the team they are rostered on (pulled up to a higher team, approved by Division Directors to play for another team) must be identified on the ESS roster with an (S) after their name indicating they are a substitute player.
- iv. Participation in any League games involving unapproved player movement may result in a game forfeiture for the offending team.

Billeted Players:

- i. Any billeted player that plays in CPHL for the first time is eligible to play for the school where the player is registered.
- ii. Any returning billeted player for subsequent years is eligible to play for the same team. Exceptions to this rule (such as a significant change in the billets new address) must be approved by the Executive Board.

Player suspensions:

Any player suspended by another association or League shall be ineligible to play in CPHL for the remainder of that season as defined by USA Hockey (September 1 – August 31) Team Suspensions - See Rule 3.7.

Grade Policy:

Each Club / Team is responsible for creating their own Grade Policy

Team Composition:

Players must try out for their school or the team their school is affiliated with. If their school does not have its own team or is not affiliated with a team they will be assigned to a nearby team by the Executive Board. Players that homeschool, attend open-enrollment, charter, or private schools without a team affiliation are assigned to teams based on the public-school attendance area they live in. Private, charter, open-enrollment, and homeschooled players living in the attendance area of schools that are not able to take players from outside of their school due to district or school policy will be assigned to a nearby team by the Executive Board.

Varsity Division:

- i. The Varsity teams are expected to compete at the highest competitive level possible.

- ii. Players must play for their assigned team/school. After tryouts are over any player without a team will be assigned to another team by the Executive Board.

JV Division:

- i. JV teams are encouraged to focus on individual skill development, equal playing time, and sportsmanship.
- ii. Players rostered on Midget Major AAA, Midget Minor AAA and players on Junior teams are not eligible to play on JV teams. All other players regardless of year in school are eligible to play on a JV team.
- iii. Clubs that do not have enough players for a complete JV roster will be allowed to form “combined JV teams” composed of players in the same general geographic area. The formation of “combined” JV teams will be facilitated by the Executive Board.
- iv. It is recommended that JV players on “combined teams” be allowed to wear their own club’s home or away jersey depending on their designation of home or away.

RULE 5 - GAME ADMINISTRATION

League Games:

Team Responsibility - An adult coach and/or team representative shall accompany each team at all League games.

Conduct - The head coach or his/her designee shall be responsible for the conduct of their team(s) before, during, and after League games, particularly in regard to the use of dressing rooms. Incidents of damage or other conduct prohibited by these Rules and Regulations, the rules and regulations of CAHA or USA Hockey, or by law, should be brought to the attention of the League Grievance/Disciplinary Committee. The head coach or his/her designee shall be held responsible for damages or other loss caused by their team(s).

Spectators - Each team’s representative shall take action to ensure that spectators are not abusive to officials, players, team officials, or other spectators. Failure to do so could result in team suspension or game forfeiture.

Home Team - The home team shall furnish official game pucks, a paper score sheet (to be filled in and saved as a backup), a penalty box attendant, and a time/scorekeeper.

Away Team - The away team shall furnish a penalty box attendant.

Jerseys:

Home teams shall wear matching jerseys, which are primarily white in color. Visiting teams shall wear matching jerseys, which are primarily dark in color. The colors of home and visitor jerseys shall be made up of the home High School or the High School being represented.

Referees:

- i. All game (Varsity T1, T2, and JV) shall be either a club option 3 or 4-man system.
- ii. The home team shall schedule and pay officials for all home games.
- iii. If the teams start the game with less than the proper qualification of officials the game will be played to conclusion. If the proper officials are not on hand, then the game is to be rescheduled, unless both teams are in agreement to proceed with the game using existing officials. Agreement would need to be documented on the scoresheet prior to the start of the game. There will be no exceptions or appeals.
- iv. Whenever possible, referees who are immediate relatives (parents or siblings) of players or coaches shall not officiate in games in which their relative plays. Exceptions may only be granted when the teams have been made aware of the relationship of an official to a player or coach and document their agreement to proceed with the game on the score sheet prior to the start of the game.

Cancelled Games:

- i. Cancellation of a game must be rescheduled and the rescheduled game posted on SportNGIN.
- ii. Cancelled games will be rescheduled by the two teams and played prior to the end of the League season.
- iii. In the event these rescheduling conditions cannot be met; league officials must be brought in to help get the game scheduled.
- iv. Failure to comply with the above stated rules may result in forfeiture to both teams and the league points will not be assigned to either team.
- v. All Championship League games must be played on the dates scheduled by the Executive Board.

Curfew Rule for League Games:

At the end of the second period or at any time during the third period, it shall be determined whether there will be enough time to complete the game by the curfew time. If not, the remaining time for third period shall then be played under running time. Enforcement of the curfew should be noted on the scoresheet.

Mercy Rule:

A six (6) goal spread during the third period will result in running the clock until either the game ends or the score differential is less than 6 goals at which point the game reverts back to stop clock.

After Game Procedure:

When only one exit from the ice surface is available or where locker rooms are similarly situated, the visiting team shall proceed first to their locker room upon instructions from their coach. Once the visiting team has entered their locker room, the home team shall proceed directly to their locker room upon instructions from their coach.

Electronic Scoring:

- i. All teams shall be required to properly record the participants, goals, penalties, etc. of any game in ESS to ensure disciplinary oversight for game misconducts and match penalties. The Head Coach or designee for the home team shall be responsible for ensuring all scoresheets are processed correctly and within the timelines outlined in this section.
- ii. The home team shall be responsible for providing a scorekeeper and timekeeper for all games.
- iii. The scorekeeper shall be responsible for recording the names of the ice officials in ESS. The scorekeeper must also be identified in ESS.
- iv. The individual listed on the official (1-T) roster as the head coach shall be designated as the head coach on the scoresheet if they are present for the game. If the head coach is not available for the game the team shall appoint and designate the individual acting as head coach prior to the start of each game. The designated head coach shall be noted as such on ESS.
- v. The scorekeeper shall make sure that any coaches and/or players serving a game misconduct are identified in ESS.
- vi. The game must be posted via the ESS on the CAHA website within 24 hours of game completion. Teams that fail to enter the game are subject to a \$100 fine. Fines will be assessed per CAHA P&P, Section 10 Disciplinary Actions, Hearings, and Appeals.

RULE 6 - GAME PROTOCOL

Number of Periods-Period Length:

Varsity games will consist of three (3) periods, 17-minute stop time each. The ice will be cleaned between the second and third periods. JV games will consist of three (3) periods, 15-minute stop time each (with no ice make between 2nd and 3rd periods). If home teams have additional game ice slots and can fit in additional ice makes both Varsity and JV teams can make arrangements to add ice makes but it must be agreed on prior to the game day by both teams and scheduled with the Referee scheduler.

Game Start/Warm-up:

The time listed in the League schedule shall be the time that both teams are to take the ice. A five-minute warm-up period shall be allowed for both teams (whether or not they are on the ice) commencing at the designated starting time, or at the time the ice becomes available, whichever is later. There is no game warm-up following the intermission and teams must go directly to the player benches. A bench minor penalty may be imposed at the discretion of the game official for delay of game to the offending team who causes a delay in the start of the third period.

Equipment:

Each player participating in a League game shall wear the proper equipment at all times while on the ice prior to during and following a League game as required by USA Hockey rules.

Hand Shake:

Teams will shake hands after each game.

Missed Games/Make-ups:

Failure to appear as scheduled may result in forfeiture. Failure to appear as scheduled because of adverse traffic and/or weather conditions necessitates that the game be rescheduled and played prior to the end of the League season.

Refusal to Compete:

Refusal to compete in any game is considered to be immediate forfeiture of the game and subject to additional supplemental discipline by CAHA.

RULE 7 - PENALITIES

Penalty Times:

Players in all divisions shall be assessed 2 minutes for minor penalties, 5 minutes for major penalties, and 10 minutes for misconduct penalties.

Game Misconduct:

A player or coach who receives a penalty requiring sitting out a game shall be suspended for at least his team's next League game. If the team has a non-league game prior to their next league game then CAHA and USA Hockey rules apply and may result in the suspended person sitting out the non-league game as well. This includes game misconduct and match penalties. Any player, coach or team representative who receives 2 game misconducts in a CPHL season (including non-league games) shall come before the Grievance/Disciplinary Committee for possible further action.

Supplemental Action by Board Member:

Any Board Member observing inappropriate action(s) on or off the ice can raise the observed issue with the Board and supplemental action may be imposed in accordance with USA Hockey Rule 410.

Association Member Self-Discipline:

All Member associations shall also be required to comply with the CAHA rules pertaining to supplementary discipline.

Supplemental Penalty Rules:

Fighting and Abuse Penalties - The following are League rules that impose supplemental discipline to game misconducts issued under USA Hockey rules 601e, 615a, 615d and 615f. They are intended to reduce the amount of fighting and abuse occurring at the High School Division -These rules will be imposed for violations that occur during League and/or Playoff games. The League hopes that this will reduce the amount of fighting and abuse during non-League games as well. The League may at its sole discretion apply these rules to include non-League games. Individual Clubs may impose additional penalties and suspensions at their own discretion.

Leaving the Bench - Any player who leaves the bench to engage in a fight and receives a game misconduct under USA Hockey Rule 629 will be immediately suspended pending a hearing before the CPHL Grievance/Disciplinary committee, who are appointed by the CPHL Executive Board.

Simultaneous Fight - Any team / players participating in a simultaneous fight involving multiple players will result in the team being immediately placed on probation for the remainder of that season and for the following season, as provided in Rule 3.7.

Suspended Players - Players that receive a game suspension will serve the suspension during the next game according to the schedule for the team the player is rostered on. The player may not play in any games for teams at other levels until the penalty has been served.

Suspended Coaches - Coaches that are coaching more than one team and receive a suspension are not allowed to coach in any CPHL league or playoff games until the suspension has been served. The suspension is to be served with the team they received the game misconduct.

Suspensions in non-CPHL games - CPHL will recognize suspensions received by players during games that are played by any USA Hockey sanctioned team, such as a Tier team. The CAHA discipline committee will coordinate the serving of suspensions when a player is playing on multiple USA Hockey sanctioned teams.

RULE 8 - ABUSE POLICIES

Abuse, harassment, screening and hazing regulations will be enforced in accordance with CPHL and USA Hockey Rules and Policies as defined in the CPHL and USA Hockey Safesport Program Handbooks (available on the USA Hockey and the CPHL web sites). Upon proof of violation of these policies, the violator may be permanently or temporarily banned or suspended from league programs and events and/or the program of its member teams. Please refer to the CPHL SafeSport Handbook for more information.