

**Bylaws of the
Omaha Metropolitan Amateur Hockey Association
O.M.A.H.A.
Effective April 15, 2008**

Article I. Offices

Section I-1.

Offices. - The principal office of the corporation shall be located in the city of Omaha, Nebraska. The corporation may have other offices, either within or without the state of Nebraska, as the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of the corporation may require from time to time.

Article II. Members

Section II-1. Classes of Members. - The corporation shall have four classes of members: Family, Player (eighteen years or older), Associate and Life Member.

Section II-2. Method of becoming a member. - Membership in the corporation shall be as follows:

- A. A family or one or more participating player(s) eighteen (18) years or younger.
- B. A player eighteen (18) years or older.
- C. A life member is one whose past participation has earned this classification (see roster page).
- D. An associate member is one who is taking a current active part in the association and is not a member in any other class.

Each class of member, except a life member, is required to register and apply in writing and pay the registration fee(s) as determined by the Board of Directors in order to become a member of the corporation. Candidates for associate and life membership must be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. Membership in the corporation shall be available without regard to race, color, creed, sex or national origin. Candidates for associate membership support O.M.A.H.A. and provide

volunteer service such as coaching or administrative duties.

Candidates for life membership must have demonstrated long term support and at least ten (10) years service to O.M.A.H.A. in coaching and or administrative duties. Candidates do not have a participating player seventeen (17) years old or younger and are ineligible for family membership.

Section II-3. Voting rights. - Each member, (family, player eighteen years or older, associate or life member) in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members.

Section II-4. Status and duration of membership. - Membership shall be effective from the first registration date for participation in the amateur ice hockey program administered by the corporation in each fiscal year until the corresponding registration date in the next fiscal year. A life time member shall retain membership for life. In the event that such registration is not held in any fiscal year, membership shall continue until such registration is held or the corporation is liquidated or dissolved.

Members in good standing abide by all the rules and regulations of the association and have registration fees paid in full by December 15th of the playing year.

Section II-5. Transfer of membership. - Membership in this corporation shall not be transferable or assignable.

Article III. Meeting of Members.

Section III-1. Annual Meeting. - An annual meeting of the members shall be held each year on or before the third Monday in April, for the purpose of electing directors and for the transaction of business as may come before the meeting. If the election of directors shall not be held at the annual meeting, or any adjournment thereof, the board of directors shall cause the election to be held at a special meeting of the members as soon thereafter as conveniently may be.

Section III-2. Special meeting. - Special meetings of the members may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or not less than one-sixth of the members having voting rights upon verification by the Treasurer.

Section III-3. Notice of Member Meetings. - Notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting and in the case of a Special Meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than ten (10) nor more than fifty (50) days before the date of the meeting, by mail, at the direction of the President, or the Board of Directors, or persons calling the meeting, to each member entitled to vote at such a meeting. Any suitable place within Omaha or within its three mile limit, may be designated as a meeting place.

Section III-4. Quorum. - The registered members of the association that attend the annual meeting shall constitute a quorum for the election of officers and transaction of business.

Section III-5. Proxies. - No member shall vote by proxy at any meeting.

Section III-6. Voting. - Voting on any question or in any election shall be by show of hands unless the presiding officer shall order, or any ten members shall demand that the voting be by ballot.

Section III-7. Conduct. - Roberts Rules of Order shall control the conduct at all meetings of this association, Board of Directors and its committees.

Article IV. Board of Directors

Section IV-1. General powers. - The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors.

Section IV-2. Officers. - Officers of the corporation shall be the President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section IV-2a. The Board of Directors, in addition to the officers, shall include the following positions as voting directors of the Board, with one (1) vote each.

House Program Director

Travel Program Director

Associate House Director (appointed for 1 year term)

Associate Travel Director (appointed for 1 year term)

Section IV-2b. Due to the important responsibilities of all elected officers and directors, they will not be allowed to participate as a team coach or assistant coach. Additionally, age group commissioners will not be allowed to participate as team a team coach or assistant coach in their own age group.

Section IV-3. Qualifications. - Elected directors, including officers, shall be members of the corporation in good standing.

Section IV-4. Elections. - At each annual meeting, the members of the corporation shall elect officers and directors for staggered three (3) year terms. The Vice President, Treasurer and Travel Director shall be elected at the 2001 annual meeting for a 3 year term. The President shall be elected at the 2002 annual meeting for a 3 year term. The Secretary, Second Vice President and House Director shall be elected at the 2003 annual meeting for a 3 year term. Thereafter, the elections for each officer and director listed above shall occur at 3 year intervals commencing as above stated.

Section IV-5. Vacancies. - Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors and any directorship shall be filled by the Board of Directors. A vacancy occurring in the first year of a director's term shall be filled by the Board until the next annual meeting, at which time an election shall be held for the remaining two years of the vacancy. A vacancy occurring after the first year of an elected director's term shall be filled by an appointment by the Board of Directors to fill such vacancy, and such appointed individual shall serve or the un-expired term of such vacancy.

Section IV-6. Nominating Committee. - There shall be a nominating committee composed of one of the Board of Directors selected by the President, and two members of the corporation that are in good standing, selected by the Board of Directors thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. The member appointed by the President shall be the chairman. The nominating committee shall attempt to nominate at least one (1) nominee for each office to be filled and reported its nominees at the annual meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting. Only those person who have signed their consent on a form as designated by the Board of Directors, to serve, shall be nominated for or elected to such office.

Section IV-7. Compensation. - No appointed or elected officer or director shall receive any compensation of any nature whatsoever for

their services to the corporation. By action of the Board of Directors they may be reimbursed for actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the corporation. Any hired employee, full or part time, by contract or agreement may receive compensation for services as deemed by the Board of Directors.

Section IV-8. Attendance. - Any officer missing two consecutive monthly board meetings without notifying an officer of the board, will be filled in accordance with Section 6 Article IV..

Article V. Meeting of Directors

Section V-1. Annual meeting. - A meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors shall immediately follow the annual meeting.

Section V-2. Regular Meetings. - The Board of Directors may provide by resolution, the time and place for the holding of regular meetings of the Board of Directors without other notice than such resolution. A meeting of all past board members and newly elected board members will meet within 14 days of the new board's election. Board meetings will be held once a month on the same day of each month if at all possible and be published so that the membership at large will know in advance of said meeting.

Section V-3. Special meetings. - Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President or any two (2) directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors shall fix the date, time and place of such meeting.

Section V-4. Notice of meetings. - Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least two (2) days prior thereto. Notice shall state the time, date and place of the meeting. Notice may be delivered orally, personally or by mail to each director.

Section V-5. Purpose of meetings. - Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors need be specified in notice of such meeting unless specifically required by the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act or these bylaws.

Section V-6. Quorum. - A majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

If a quorum is present the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors at the meeting shall be the act of the Board of Directors unless the vote of a greater number is specifically required by the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act or these bylaws.

If a quorum is not present, the meeting will be adjourned.

Section V-7. Proxies. - No director shall vote by proxy at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section V-8. Informal action by directors. - Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors, or any action which may be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors, may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all the directors.

Article VI. Director Responsibilities

Section VI-1. Officers. The officers of the corporation shall be the President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. No director shall hold more than one (1) office.

Section VI-2. Qualifications, elections and vacancies. - Qualifications, elections and vacancies in any office shall be handled in the manner provided in Sections 3, 4 and 5 of Article IV of these bylaws.

Section VI-3. President. - The president shall be the principal executive officer of the corporation and shall, in general, supervise and control all the business and affairs of the corporation, subject to the general powers of the Board of Directors. The president shall sign, with the secretary of the corporation, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, leases and other instruments authorized for execution by the Board of Directors. The president shall, in general, perform all duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time. The president shall be an ex officio member of all standing committees.

Section VI-4. Vice President. - In the absence of the president the vice president shall perform the duties of the president and, when action so, shall have all the power of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon the president. The vice president shall be a member of the finance committee and will be solely responsible for the insurance program for the association. The vice president shall also be responsible for the enforcement of rules and other duties as may be assigned by the president or board of directors.

Section VI- 5. Second Vice President. - In the absence of the president and the vice president, the Second Vice President shall perform the duties of the president and , when action so, shall have all the power of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon the president. The Second Vice President shall be in charge of ice scheduling and will coordinate house and travel ice with the house/travel directors.

Section VI-5. Secretary. - In the absence of the president, vice president and second vice president the secretary shall perform the duties of the president and, when action so, shall have all the power of and be subject to all the restriction upon the president. The secretary shall be the custodian of the records of the corporation. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meeting of the members of the board of directors. The secretary shall see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act and they bylaws. The secretary shall sign, with the president, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, leases or other instruments authorized for execution by the board of directors. The secretary shall, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of the secretary and such other duties as prescribed by the board of directors from time to time.

Section VI-6. Treasurer. - The treasurer shall serve as chairman of the finance committee and shall have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all funds an securities of the corporation. The treasurer shall receive and give receipts for all money in the account name of such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected by the board of directors. If required by the board of directors, the treasurer shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of the treasurer's duties in such sum and with such sureties as the board of directors may determine. The treasurer shall verify charges and expenditures and shall report to the membership at the anneal meeting the financial position of the corporation. The treasurer shall, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of the treasurer and such other duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors from time to time.

Section VI-7. House Program Director. - The house program director shall be responsible for the supervision and coordination of the activities in the house league. The house director shall be a member of the finance committee. As a board of director member, the director will be expected to represent the interests of all the players, coaches and parents. In addition, directors shall perform all other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the board of directors.

Section VI-7a. Associate House Program Director. - The associate house program director shall be responsible for sharing in the supervision and coordination of the activities in the house league as determined by the house director. As a board of director member, the associate director will be expected to represent the interests of all the players, coaches and parents. In addition, directors shall perform all other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the board of directors.

Section VI-8. Travel Program Director. - The Travel Program Director shall be a member of the finance committee and shall be responsible for the funds of the travel program. This officer shall be responsible for coordinating all games involving any O.M.A.H.A. teams playing any teams from outside O.M.A.H.A. or traveling to any other city.

Section VI-8a. Associate Travel Program Director. - The Associate Travel Program Director shall share in the responsibilities for direction of the travel program as determined by the travel director. In addition, directors shall perform all other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the board of directors.

Section VI-10. Outgoing Board Members. - All outgoing board members will avail themselves to the incoming board member in an advisory capacity until December 31st of the season, to establish continuity. If, for any reason, an outgoing board member is not able to perform this function, the board will appoint a member at large (with experience) to help the elected board member until December 31st of that season.

Article VII. Committees

Section VII-1. Standing Committees. - The board of directors shall appoint members to the following standing committees at the annual meeting of the board of directors or as soon thereafter as convenient.

- a. Coaching & selection
- b. Equipment & supplies
- c. Finance
- d. Intercity program
- e. Officiating

- f. Registration
- g. Rules
- h. Special activities & fund raising
- i. Training

Actions of the standing committees shall be reported as promptly as possible to the board of directors.

Section VII-2. Finance committee. - The finance committee shall have as its chairman the treasurer of the corporation. The primary functions of the finance committee shall be:

1. Budget
2. Audit
3. Insurance
4. Monthly reporting of all ledgers and such other matters pertaining to the finances of the corporation which shall be designated by the board of directors from time to time.

Section VII-3. Publicity committee. - The chairman of the publicity committee shall be appointed by the president. The primary functions of the committee shall be publicity and such other related matters pertaining to the publicity of the corporation.

Section VII-4. Rules. - The rules committee shall have as its chairman the Vice President of the corporation. The primary function of the rules committee shall be:

1. Enforcement of the rules. O.M.A.H.A. shall abide by the rules of the amateur hockey association of the united states except as modified by the board of directors of the corporation.
2. Process protests, hear and decide on all protests.
3. Enforce the code of conduct on and off the ice, and such other related matters pertaining to the rules of the

corporation which shall be designated by the board of directors from time to time.

Section VII-5. Registration. - The chairman of the registration committee shall be the vice president. The members of the committee will include the house program director, travel program director and the age group commissioners.

Section VII-6. Coaching and Selecting. - The chairman of the coaching and selecting committee shall be the travel director. The travel director shall select an independent committee consisting of a minimum of five (5) individuals with considerable hockey knowledge and experience who do not have any children playing in O.M.A.H.A. at the age groups seventeen (17) and under. This committee shall be approved by the board of directors. The primary function of the chairman shall be to recruit and accept written application of perspective coaches. The primary function of the committee shall be to pick the coaches.

Section VII-7. Training. - The training committee chairman shall be appointed by the president. The primary function of the training committee shall be:

1. Oversee training of the coaches.
2. Run clinics for instructional purposes and such other related matters pertaining to training.

Section VII-8. Officiating. - The chairman of the officiating committee shall be appointed by the vice president. The primary functions of the committee shall be:

1. Maintain liaison with the Referees Association to facilitate communications and improved officiating.
2. Monitor officiating and such other related matters pertaining to officiating.

Section VII-9. Intercity Program. - The travel program director and each coach shall appoint a general manager. The general manager shall be in charge of the finances and administration involved with intercity competitive hockey.

All actions of this committee are subject to the approval of the board of directors.

Section VII-10. Equipment committee. - The chairman of the equipment committee shall be appointed by the president. The primary functions of the equipment committee shall be:

1. Make recommendation for the purchase of needed uniforms, equipment, and supplies.
2. Upon approval of the board of directors of the of the corporation, negotiate purchases of uniforms, equipment and supplies.
3. Inventory and maintain all equipment, uniforms and supplies used by the association and such other related matters pertaining to equipment of the corporation.

Section VII-11. Special activities and fund raising. - The chairman of the special activities and fund raising committee shall be the president. The primary function of the committee shall be:

1. Promote and foster understanding of the game throughout the Community.
2. Develop sources of revenue and human resources support for the program.
3. Assist the hockey auxiliary in the above endeavors, and such other related matters pertaining to the promotion and fund raising of the corporation.

Section VII-12. Other committees. - The board of directors may, by resolution, designate such other committees from time to time as may be necessary or desirable in the furtherance of the stated purposes of the corporation. Said resolutions shall prescribe the purposes and duties of such committees.

Actions of any such committee shall be reported as soon as possible to the board of directors of the corporation, but actions of any such committee shall not be considered to be actions of the corporation or the board of directors unless approved by the board of directors of the corporation.

Section VII-13. Tenure. - At the discretion of the board of directors each member of a committee shall continue as such until the next annual meeting of the members of the corporation unless the committee shall be terminated sooner or extended beyond a one year term.

Section VII-14. Vacancies. - Any vacancy occurring in the committee shall be filled in the same manner as provided in the case of the original appointments.

Section VII-15. Quorum. - Unless otherwise provided in the resolution of the board of directors designating a committee, a majority of the members of the whole committee shall constitute a quorum and the act of a majority of a quorum shall be the act of the committee.

Section VII-16. Rules. - Each committee shall adopt rules for its own government. Such rules shall not be inconsistent with the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act, these bylaws or direction of the board of directors of the corporation.

Article VIII. Contracts, Deposits, Checks & Funds.

Section VIII-1. Contracts. - The board of directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the corporation, in addition to the officers so authorized by these bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section VIII-2. Deposits. - All funds of the corporation shall be deposited as soon as practical to the credit of the corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the board of directors may select.

Section VIII-3. Checks, drafts and orders. - All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, and all notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation, shall be signed by such officer or officers, or agent or agents of the corporation and in such manner as shall be determined by the board of directors, by resolution, from time to time. In the absence of such determination by the board of directors, such instruments shall be signed by the treasurer or the secretary and countersigned by the president or vice president of the corporation.

Article IX. Books, Records and Minutes.

Section IX-1. Books, Records and Minutes. - The corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep minutes of the proceeding of its members, board of directors and committees.

Section IX-2. Custody. - The treasurer of the corporation shall have custody of the books and records of account of the corporation and the secretary of the corporation shall have custody of the minutes of the corporation.

Section IX-3. Access. - All books, records and minutes of the corporation may be inspected by any member, or his agent or attorney, for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

Article X. Fiscal Year.

Section X-1. Fiscal Year. - The fiscal year of the corporation shall begin on the first day of May and end on the last day of April each year

Article XI. Seal.

Section XI-1. Seal. - The corporation shall have no seal.

Article XII. Limitations of Liability.

Section XII-1. Limitations of Liability. - Except as otherwise provided by the law, the members, directors, officers and employees of the corporation shall not, as such, be liable on its debts and obligations.

Section XII-2. Indemnity. - The corporation shall, and does hereby, agree to indemnify and save harmless any director, officer, former director, former officer, or any person who is or has acted on behalf of the corporation at the request of its members, board of directors, or officers, from and against expenses actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding, civil, criminal or administrative, in which he is made party, except in relation to matters as to which he shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in office.

Article XIII. Waiver of Notice.

Section XIII-1. Waiver of notice. - Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act or these bylaws, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated herein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

Article XIV. Rules of Construction.

Section XIV-1. Method of amendment. - These bylaws or any section thereof may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting of the membership without special notice thereof; and at any special meeting of the membership, provided in such case written notice of the proposed amendment has been mailed to each member at least ten (10) days prior to such meeting.

Section XIV-2. Effective date of amendments. - Amendments, alterations or repeal of these bylaws shall be effective on the date of action thereon unless a different date is stated.

The voting officers and directors of the Omaha Metropolitan Amateur Hockey Association have read these bylaws, understand their contents and agree to their purpose and intent.

Signed statement of the same is filed and held in the records of the treasurer.

Rules of the Omaha Metropolitan Amateur Hockey Association

The Omaha Metropolitan Amateur Hockey Association shall be governed by the Board of Directors of the Association.

I. Association Rules

I-A. **Rules Committee** – The rules of the O.M.A.H.A. shall be implemented by a Rules Committee which shall consist of the Vice President of the Corporation, the Chairman of the Officiating Committee and five non-board members approved by the President.

1-A-1. The Rules Committee shall:

I-A1-a. Adopt, publicize and enforce the rules, regulations and directives of the O.M.A.H.A. as set forth herein.

I-A-1-b. Consider and decide upon all suspensions as provided in the rules set forth herein as soon as possible but within seven (7) days of notification of infraction.

I-A-2. Five members of the Rules Committee shall constitute a quorum for conducting all business of the Rules Committee. All decisions by the committee must be by majority vote. If a member of the Rules Committee is party to the business issue pending before the committee, that member shall be disqualified from voting on that business issue.

I-A-3. The Rules Committee shall be selected and approved prior to October First of each calendar year.

I-B. **Protests** – shall be considered by the Rules Committee and the Age Group Commissioner of the division whose teams are involved in the protest. Protests shall be considered only under the following conditions:

I-B-1. A protest shall be considered when it is based upon a dispute concerning the interpretation of a rule or regulation of the O.M.A.H.A. which arose during an O.M.A.H.A. sanctioned game.

I-B-2. A team captain or coach may initiate a protest. Any team, who wishes to protest the decision of the referee or linesman, must notify the referee and the linesman through the team captain at the time of the decision he wishes to protest, that the game is being played under protest from that point forward. The referee shall then indicate on the score sheet the time the protest is lodged and both the referee and the coach (team captain for seniors) shall at that time sign the score sheet.

I-B-3. A written report stating all the facts of the protest shall be presented to the Age Group Commissioner division and the Travel Director concerned within forty-eight (48) hours of the games. The Rules Committee shall then consider the protest and determine what, if any, action is to be taken. This action may include replaying the game from the point of the protest. Protesting parties shall be notified of the decision within seven days of the protest notification.

I-C. **Suspensions**

I-C-1. **Suspensions by the Rules Committee.** The Age Group Commissioner shall be informed within forty-eight (48) hours by the chairman of the Rules Committee of the decision imposed by the committee. The Commissioner shall then immediately notify the individual of the committee's decision. In the case of a minor, the Commissioner shall notify the player's parent(s) or guardians(s). In the case of a player or coach, the Commissioner shall notify the referee and

both coaches of a game involving a suspended player or coach. The chairman of the Rules Committee shall notify all parties involved in writing of any action of the rules committee. Anyone under a suspension shall not participate in or occupy the game box during any game for the duration of the suspension. In the event of a violation of this ruling, their team shall forfeit that game and the Rules Committee shall be notified by the Age Group Commissioner of the violation of the suspension. If the rule violation was willful, the Rules Committee shall impose such further suspensions as it deems necessary to enforce the rules of the O.M.A.H.A.

I-C-2. **Automatic Suspensions** – Suspensions automatically issued as a part of an infraction of the USA Hockey playing rules shall be noted on the score sheet and then be treated as if they had been imposed by the Rules Committee.

I-D. **Playing Up** – Any player having skated one full year in a division on an O.M.A.H.A. house league team may request to play in the next higher age group division with the exception of Bantam house. A written request must be completed and sent to the House Director with a courtesy copy provided to the Vice President. Upon receipt of the request, the House Director will set a time to evaluate the individual skater. The two Age Group Commissioners will also be involved in the evaluation. The decision of this group reflecting the best interests of the player and O.M.A.H.A. will be final and only the parent (s) or guardian (s) of a skater may disallow the move. However, such reassignments must occur prior to January 1st of the current playing year. There will be no movement of players after January 1st until the next fall season.

I-E. **Playing Down** – No player assigned to a house or travel team may play in an age group younger than the proper group for their age due to USA Hockey insurance requirements. IP Skaters may be considered.

I-E-1. Exceptions to this rule may be granted in rare instances with appropriate documentation from a certified physician submitted to the House Director and Vice President.

I-F. **Player Attendance** – All players are expected to be present at all games and practices. It is the player/parent (s) responsibility to notify the coach of any absences as soon as possible. If a player is absent without an excuse from games or practices, the coach shall discuss the absences with the player and the player's parent (s) or guardian(s) indicating that the player is expected to be present at all games and practices. The coach may take disciplinary action, i.e. sitting the player on the bench for excessive unexcused absences.

I-G. **Coaches Attendance** – A coach is expected to be at all games and practices. If a coach is unable to attend, it is the coaches responsibility to find a suitable replacement prior to the game or practice time and notify the appropriate Age Group Commissioner. If the coach is absent without valid reason, the coach

may be suspended by the Commissioner of the division involved until the Commissioner is satisfied such absences will cease.

I-H. Individuals on the ice – At practice sessions, only the practicing team, its coaches and assistants shall be on the ice. The maximum number of coaches on the ice per team shall not exceed three (one head coach ,two assistants, and a dedicated goalie coach that are insured under USA Hockey).

I-I. Equal Playing Time, HOUSE LEAGUE: Every player shall participate in every in-house league game in approximately equal periods of playing time. It shall be the responsibility of the coach to attempt to equalize playing time. If a parent, guardian, or Commissioner does not feel a skater has received a fair share of the coaches attention and/or playing time, they may file a written complaint to the coach involved. If the complaining party is dissatisfied with the resulting actions of the coach, they may file a written complaint with the Commissioner who shall take appropriate action. If the complaining party is dissatisfied with the action taken, they may file a complaint with the rules committee. The committee shall review the complaint and take such action as it deems necessary in its sole discretion.

I-I-1. A coach shall have the right to bench a player for disciplinary reasons, for example unexcused absences.

I-J. Registration policy and fees – Registration policy and fees shall be determined by the Board of Directors and published to all members prior to annual registration each fiscal year. A skater must be age 4 prior to July 1st to register for the upcoming season.

I-K. Late registration fees - An increased registration fee and/or penalty will be imposed upon those members who fail to meet the registration deadline. The amount of the late fee/penalty will be published on the registration. The only exceptions to late registration penalties will be for initiation program skaters (first time skaters) and new skaters to the Omaha metropolitan area.

I-L. Fund Raising, House – All funds raised for house team expenditures under the auspices of and related to the O.M.A.H.A. shall be deposited with and accounted for directly to the Treasurer of the association on a monthly basis. Any violation shall be cause for all team funds and house travel to be frozen pending rules committee action.

I-M. Game Times – Game and practice schedules are, in most cases, determined by the availability of contracted ice, the number of teams in the association, and the age group(s) affected. As a general policy, O.M.A.H.A. tries to accommodate a flexible schedule whereby no individual team receives an inordinate amount of early and/or late games for their age group during the course of a season. All games and practice times shall be at the discretion of the scheduler.

I-N. Protective Equipment – Equipment rules are waived for coaches and assistant coaches. USA Hockey and the O.M.A.H.A. Board encourage coaches to wear appropriate protective gear relevant to the practice environment.

I-O. Board of Directors, Tenure – No person shall be allowed to serve more than three consecutive terms as a director in the same office.

I-P. Revisions/Modifications – O.M.A.H.A. shall adopt and publish the rules of the association as required by changes to the By-laws and/or rules. Revisions or exemptions to the associations rules may be considered and implemented by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any association board meeting.

I-Q. Disciplinary Action, House – The House Program Director or his/her designate shall have the authority to conduct an investigation into violations of the rules of O.M.A.H.A. and/or USA Hockey and determine that: (1) the violation is severe enough that it warrants consideration by the Rules Committee; or (2) the violation is not severe enough that it warrants consideration by the rules committee. In which case the House Program Director or his/her designate shall have the authority to assign such punishment as they see fit in their sole discretion.

II. Playing Rules

II. Playing Rules – All games will be played according to the rules contained in the official rule book of USA Hockey, subject to the following modifications:

II-A. Length of Games – All games of the O.M.A.H.A. will consist of three (3) periods. The first two shall be twelve (15) minute run clock periods. The third and final period may be either a twelve (12) minute stop clock or a running clock to accommodate the available time. In the case of a running clock, stoppage may only occur in an injury or penalty situation. The clock may be decremented to the remaining allotted time. The adjustment of the third period time will be made by the Commissioner or timekeeper.

II-B. Length of Penalties – Each minor penalty shall be one and one-half minutes on a stop clock and two minutes on a run clock. Each major penalty shall be four minutes. Each misconduct penalty shall be ten minutes.

II-C. Tournaments - Intercity play shall be approved by the Travel or House Program director.

II-D. Game Misconduct Penalties – If any player or team official receives a total of three game misconduct penalties in a single O.M.A.H.A. fiscal year, they shall be suspended pending a hearing by the rules committee with either the player and their parent(s) or guardian(s) or with the team official as appropriate. Such hearing shall be held within seven (7) days if possible, or as immediately possible thereafter, of the infraction which resulted in the suspension. At such hearing the

rules committee shall decide if the player or team official may continue to participate in games sponsored by the O.M.A.H.A.

II-E. Deliberate Intent To Injure – Any player who deliberately attempts to injure another player shall be assessed a Match Penalty, a two game suspension and be automatically suspended until their conduct has been reviewed by the Rules Committee. After a meeting with the player and their parent(s) or guardian(s), the rules committee shall decide if the player should be permitted to continue to participate in games sponsored by the O.M.A.H.A. The decision of the rules committee with regard to any suspension occasioned by a player's deliberate attempt to injure another player shall be made by the rules committee within seven (7) days if possible, or as immediately possible thereafter, of the incident which resulted in the suspension. NOTE: See the appendix for a brief resume of the USA Hockey rules.

II-F. Fighting - Any player who drops his gloves in an altercation with another player; is the second person in on an altercation; or leaves the bench to join in an altercation, shall immediately be assessed a Match Penalty and a two game suspension. A second occurrence of fighting in the same season by the same player will result in a Match Penalty, a five game suspension and be automatically suspended until their conduct has been reviewed by the Rules Committee. Such hearing shall be held within seven (7) days if possible, or as immediately possible thereafter, of the infraction which resulted in the suspension. After a meeting with the player and their parent(s) or guardian(s), the rules committee shall decide if the player should be permitted to continue to participate in games sponsored by the O.M.A.H.A. Any player receiving a gross misconduct penalty and or , a matched penalty will be automatically suspended until their conduct has been reviewed by the Rules Committee.

III. Travel Program

III-A-Travel Teams

III-A-1. Purpose – Travel teams are an important part of O.M.A.H.A. and represent our organization throughout the United States and Canada. The Travel Program provides the opportunity for players and teams to develop and compete at the highest levels consistent with capability and desire. O.M.A.H.A. strives to provide a Travel Program to develop potential players interested in future Junior or college hockey.

III-A-2. Support – In support of that effort, O.M.A.H.A. provides all travel teams with jerseys, socks, and two full sheets of ice to be used for team tryouts.

III-B. Travel Structure

III-B-1. Team Type and Size – Travel "A" teams, Squirt

through Midgets, shall play as a unit independent of the House League. Travel "B" Mite through Peewee and the Mite "A" Travel teams shall play as a unit in the next higher division of the House League. Each team may roster up to eighteen (18) players and two (2) goalies, for a total of twenty (20). Travel teams are encouraged to carry a full roster if the talent pool is available -- as the objective of our youth travel program is to develop as many players as have the desire and ability to advance.

III-B-2. Budgets – Coaches will prepare preliminary budgets based upon ice time and the number of tournaments they expect to attend. These budgets will be available to prospective team parents at tryout or will be presented for approval at the first parent meeting. A team, once selected, may modify their budget (i.e. additional tournaments) if the parents agree to such modification and the additional tournaments have been approved by the O.M.A.H.A. Board of Directors. Budgets shall be submitted to the Travel Director for rollup into the overall travel budget.

III-B-3 Tryouts – Travel tryout dates will be planned by the Travel Director and the associate travel director.

III-B-4 Selection – Travel coaches shall utilize a committee in the selection of their team. The committee shall number up to (3) three individuals qualified in their experience and knowledge of the game. These three final individuals shall be selected by the coaching and selection committee with the approval of the Travel Director. This committee, with the Travel Director, the coach, and the three individuals shall be known as the travel team selection committee. They shall select player candidates on the basis of fitness and ability and shall use consistent, measurable criteria in the selection process; generally following guidelines established by the association for preliminary selections. No committee member shall have skaters competing for a spot on the team they are evaluating. The travel team coach shall make the final selections.

III-B-5 Playing Up – Any player having skated on full year in a division on an O.M.A.H.A. travel team may request to play in the next higher age division. A written request must be completed and sent to the Travel Director and Vice President. Upon receipt of the request, the Travel Director will notify the coach of the team to which the player is requesting to play. During tryouts, the player will be evaluated by the Player Selection Committee. If the player has made the written request and it is felt that his skill level is equal to or better than the top fifty percent (50%) of the division, then the move shall be permitted. The decision of this group reflecting the best interests of the player and O.M.A.H.A. will be final and only the parent(s) or guardian(s) of a skater may disallow the move.

to whom they were presented. Coaches will solicit the board with specific justification for exceptions to this policy.

III-B-6 Management – Each travel team shall have a team manager. The team manager may be an individual or a committee based on the size/needs of a particular travel team structure. The team manager shall perform as the off-ice administrative extension of the coaching staff. The team manager shall coordinate activities and process all travel team transactions with the Travel Director/Associate Travel Director. Ice requests are made to the association Second Vice-President (scheduler).

III-B-7 Tournament & Game Recommendations – Travel “A” teams, except Mite, may go to 5 tournaments and Travel “B” teams may go to 4 tournaments above and beyond their commitment to the Midwest League. Their total games shall not exceed:

Mite -	30 Games
Squirt -	40 Games
Pee Wee -	45 Games
Bantam -	50 Games
Midget -	60 Games

All “C” travel games and/or tournaments must be coordinated by the House and Travel Directors with the Second Vice-President.

III-B-8 Playing Time – Travel Coaches will use their discretion in attempting to provide equal playing time for all players.

III-B-9 Supervision – Travel teams playing during travel ice sessions will be under the supervision of the Travel Director. Any travel team playing in house league sessions will be under the supervision of the respective house league commissioner where play takes place.

III-B-10. Expansion – The Travel Director may give permission for a Travel “C” All-Star Team to be formed on any level where the numbers of interested skaters warrant another travel team. Travel “C” house all-star teams will be selected by the C Travel Coach and the Travel Directors in an approved tryout. Each house coach from their respective age group may nominate up to 4 players from each team, depending upon ability and desire, to attend the tryout.

III-B-11. Trophies - Team trophies won by O.M.A.H.A. travel teams are the result of a team effort and as such will not become the property of any single individual. Team trophies are to be considered association property and will be put on display in the O.M.A.H.A. office at Moylan-Tranquility Iceplex for the current and previous seasons. Coaches should make every effort to put trophies on display as soon as possible after they have been won so players may receive recognition from their peers. Individual trophies are to be retained by the individuals

III-C. Iowa High School Teams – Iowa high school league varsity team selection shall be finalized prior to the selection of the JV team. The varsity coach will have the authority to shift Varsity/JV players from one squad to the other either temporarily or permanently until December 31st. Iowa high school league rules apply only during league play. A representative to the Iowa high school league will be approved by the O.M.A.H.A. Board of Directors and will report to the Travel Program Director.

III-D. Travel Team Expenditures – Travel team expenditures shall be offset by funds raised by each respective team. These funds shall be deposited in an O.M.A.H.A. travel account by the Travel Program Director who will maintain a separate ledger of receipts and expenses for each travel team. An income and expense report will be provided monthly to the O.M.A.H.A. treasurer and the team managers. Each team shall remain solvent and each player shall be a member in good standing or team and/or individual play shall be suspended until solvency is restored. Travel teams shall leave between \$150-\$300 in their travel account as seed money for the following year. Any excess funds paid by individual travel team members (in excess of the end of season seed money) may be rolled over to the individuals account for the summer or following seasons fees. Excess sponsorship money will not be rolled over.

III-D-1. O.M.A.H.A. allowable expenses are to be reimbursed by the Travel Director out of the team’s fund-raising monies as available and with original receipts. The team manager will be provided with a travel log which must be completed on a per tournament basis. NO money will be reimbursed without the original receipts and travel log.

III-D-1-a. Transportation for players and coaches will be reimbursed at the rate of ½ of the original gas receipt per vehicle, not to exceed the total receipt per vehicle. Original receipts must be submitted.

III-D-1-b. Meals for players and coaches up to a maximum of \$15.00 per day/person.

III-D-1-c. Motel bills will be reimbursed up to ½ of the daily room rate per player not to exceed the total room cost per day. Original receipt must be provided.

III-D-2. Travel team sponsorship donation monies can be used to pay the following expenses:

- III-D-2-a. Tournament fees.
- III-D-2-b. Ice time costs
- III-D-2-c. League fees

- III-D-2-d. Manager expenses
- III-D-2-e. Coaches expenses
- III-D-2-f. Those expenses purchased as a unit by the entire team.

III-D-3. Any ice time in excess of the regularly scheduled house league ice time shall be billed to and paid for by such travel team. If a travel team chooses to participate in a tournament out of town and had already scheduled ice during regular house league ice, then the scheduled house ice will be billed to the travel team as 1/2 sheet of ice even though lost to that team.

IV. Member Conduct

IV-A. Member(s) agree to abide by all the rules and regulations of the O.M.A.H.A. and further agree to abide by any disciplinary action

taken by O.M.A.H.A. against member(s), whether as a player, coach, parent(s), or guardian(s). Member(s) further specifically understand and agree that O.M.A.H.A. may at any time at its sole discretion, and upon return of prorated portion of the application fee submitted by member(s), terminate the member(s) association with and participation in O.M.A.H.A. if it should be determined by the Board of Directors of O.M.A.H.A. that the member(s) engaged in conduct which is disruptive of the O.M.A.H.A. or which interferes with the goals and purposes of O.M.A.H.A.

IV-B. **General Conduct** – No person whether player, coach, parent(s), guardian(s) or spectator shall engage in any conduct detrimental to the O.M.A.H.A. Any violation of this rule shall be the subject of review by the rules committee which shall take such action as it shall deem necessary in its sole discretion.

IV-C. **Controlled Substances** – Use of tobacco material, the drinking of any form of alcoholic beverage, or the illegal consumption or possession of controlled substances by any O.M.A.H.A. participant or member on the premises during any game or practice is strictly prohibited and will be subject to disciplinary and/or legal action.

IV-C-1. Any suspected or confirmed use of these will be dealt with in the following manner:

IV-C-1a. Suspected use and possession reported to coaches, team parent(s) or members of the hockey association Board of Directors will be immediately relayed to parent(s) and player involved parties in a confidential meeting if the information appears to be reliable.

IV-C-1b. Confirmed use or possession of the above products by an O.M.A.H.A. youth hockey player may result in suspension from play for a minimum of one month. The length of suspension, and/or the possibility of expulsion from the team in the instance of use of a controlled substance will be determined in a confidential meeting between the parent(s) or guardian(s), player, coach, appropriate program director, and a representative of the Board of Directors.

IV-D. **Damage to property** – Destruction or defacing property by any person whether player, coach, parent, guardian or spectator, shall be a violation subject to review by the rules committee which shall take such action as it deems necessary in its sole discretion.

IV-E **Stealing** – Any player, coach or member of the O.M.A.H.A. who steals anything including equipment and jerseys from a fellow player, coach or member of the O.M.A.H.A. or their family, the O.M.A.H.A. itself, any of the organizations providing and overseeing the

ice used by the O.M.A.H.A., spectator, visiting team or spectator, or ice rink, shall be suspended from the association for one year. A second violation of this rule shall result in a permanent suspension.

IV-F. **Academics** - O.M.A.H.A. recognizes that student's commitment to education should take priority over their desire to play hockey. Hard work in school is an attitude that will help a hockey player become self-confident and self-disciplined.

IV-F-1. All O.M.A.H.A. players are expected to maintain academic eligibility consistent with the established policy of the school district where they are registered.

IV-F-2. All players will be expected to present an "official" fall quarter report card to their team manager/coordinator within fourteen(14) days of issuance. Team managers/coordinators will forward those copies in question to the board appointed official in charge of academics for review and determination of eligibility by (appropriate date). A semester grade will be checked in the same manner.

IV-F-2a. Any player deemed academically ineligible will be suspended from all games for two (2) weeks. The player is **required** to attend practices and other team activities.

IV-F-2b. After the two weeks, the player will need to obtain an academic progress form from their team manager/coordinator or board member. The form shall be filled out by all of their teachers showing grade improvement or effort to improve their grades.

IV-F-2c. If grades do not improve the player will remain suspended and the procedure will continue until the grades are improved.

IV-F-2d. Special circumstances explaining why a player who is determined to be academically ineligible will be considered. A player's principal, counselor, or teacher should be asked to fill out the appropriate portion of the academic progress report if this situation applies. This waiver must be turned in at the same time as the report cards are required, so plan ahead. Players not meeting the deadlines will not be allowed to participate in games unless they have followed the above requirements.

Appendix

Below is a brief outline of some of the pertinent USA Hockey Rules for 1999-2000 and is contained herein for reference purposes only.

A – Penalties (Infractions that result in single minor penalties only are not listed.)

A-1 Minor or Double Minor Penalty:

Unnecessary Roughness

A-2 Minor, or Major (Major plus Game Misconduct required if resulting in injury):

Boarding

Charging

Cross-Checking

Elbowing/Kneeing

High Sticking

Hooking

Slashing

Checking opponent above shoulders with forearm

Checking opponent after whistle

A-3 Minor plus Misconduct or Major Plus Game Misconduct:

Checking from behind

A-4 Major plus Game Misconduct

Butt Ending

Grabbing Facemask

Head-Butting

Spearing

A-5 Major plus Game Misconduct or Match Penalty

Kicking Opponent

A-6 Minor, Double Minor, or Major plus Game Misconduct:

Fisticuffs

A-7 In most cases, a Game Misconduct results in a one or more game suspension.

B- Protective Equipment – Each participant is personally responsible to wear protective equipment for all games, warm-ups and practices. Such equipment should include shin pads, shoulder pads, elbow pads, hip pads or padded hockey pants, protective cup, tendon pads, a mouth guard that can be affixed by a cord to the face shield plus all head protective equipment as required by USA Hockey.

B-1. All players high school and below are required to wear a Helmet and face mask plus any chin protection accompanying the face

mask that is Hockey Equipment Certification Council approved. Seniors and Juniors 20 year and older are required to wear a hockey helmet (HECC approved or not), however, face masks are optional.

B-2 All players including goalkeepers are required to wear a colored (non-clear) internal mouthpiece which covers the teeth – customarily the uppers and can be affixed to the face shield by a cord. The rule is optional for seniors.