



2009 - 2010

**Bozeman Amateur Hockey Association
Membership Guide and Handbook**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. General Overview

- Purpose of this Handbook
- BAHA Philosophy
- BAHA Mission Statement
- BAHA Goals
- History of the BAHA
- How BAHA Works
- Relationship with the Junior A Bozeman ICEDOGS
- Relationship with the Gallatin County Fairgrounds
- Relationship with the Gallatin Ice Foundation
- USA Hockey

II. Youth Programs

- Montana Amateur Hockey Association
- Academic Awards Program
- One Goal equipment Program
- Fee Schedule
- What your fees include
- Youth Hockey Scholarships
- Role of the Coaching Director
- Role of the Youth Director
- Role of the Registrar
- Role of Team Managers
- Age Divisions
- Division of Teams
- U-8 Termites and Mites
- U-10 Squirts
- U-12 Peewees
- U-14 Bantams
- U-16 Midgets
- U-18 High School
- U14 & U19 Girls
- Tier II Designation
- Equipment & Uniforms

III. Youth Policies

- Disciplinary Policies
- Drugs Alcohol
- Guidelines for Coaches
- Disciplinary Committee
- Dispute Resolution Policy
- Injured Player Policy
- Coaches
 - Responsibilities
 - Screening Policy
- Parent Code of Conduct
- Play Time
- Player Code of Conduct
- Roster Changes

Rostering with Another Team
The Evaluation Process
Evaluators
Metrics for Evaluation

III. Adult Hockey

Overview
Haynes Hockey League
Puck Lunch
Pick-Up / Shiny Hockey
Rules

IV. Haynes Pavilion Facility

Overview
Staff
Facility Rules
Set-Up / Tear Down
Master Plan

I. General Overview

Purpose of this Handbook

This handbook provides BAHA members with information regarding the philosophies, policies, rules, and expectations that shape our youth hockey program. Please review it carefully.

BAHA's Philosophy

BAHA is committed to providing young people the opportunity to have fun while learning the skills of skating and the game of hockey. As a team sport, hockey affirms the importance of commitment, self-discipline, and sportsmanship. For the players who participate in BAHA's youth hockey programs, we seek to develop not only hockey skill, but also to instill values that will have a lifelong benefit to them and to society.

BAHA Mission Statement

The mission of the Bozeman Amateur Hockey Association (BAHA) is to: Provide facilities and programs for the development of quality, affordable and disciplined competitive and recreational hockey.

BAHA's Goals

(1) BAHA members and the greater ice user community enjoy access to quality ice facilities that are:

- Well-maintained
- Clean, functional, safe, and welcoming
- Professionally managed
- Respond to member expectations
- Provide high quality experience for spectators
- Create a legacy for the community

(2) BAHA members enjoy a hockey program that provides recreational and competitive opportunities. BAHA's programs:

- Are offered at reasonable cost
- Respond to member expectations
- Encourage "hockey for life"
- Emphasize fun, citizenship, and sportsmanship.
- Understand the difference between a desire to win and winning at all costs.

History of BAHA

Formed in the mid-1980s by a handful of die-hard Bozeman hockey enthusiasts. Today BAHA consists of approximately 600 youth and adult members. The success of BAHA is a tribute to the countless volunteer hours devoted to develop a program that currently provides hockey for approximately 250 youth players and 350 adults from early October to late April. We are very grateful for the contributions of those who paved the way before us.

How BAHA Works

BAHA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. BAHA is administered and governed by an elected Board of Directors. The Board develops policies and procedures to provide direction for our staff and for the overall benefit of the association. Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation are posted on BAHA's website: www.bozemanhockey.org. The current Board of Directors include:

President	Pete Geddes	pgeddes@free-eco.org
Secretary	Bruce Mickelson	macmic@excite.com
Treasurer	Sheryl Hallin	sheryl@fbcozeman.org
Adult Director	Rob Pertzborn	rjpertz@msn.com
Youth Director	Anthony Tangaro	anthonyt@empireinc.com
Board member	Mark Louw	cheeworks@gmail.com
Board member	Jodi Henderson	hendersonjodi@yahoo.com

Board & General Membership Meetings

Regular meetings of the board are usually scheduled for the first Monday of each month. Agendas and approved minutes are posted on BAHA's website. General Membership Meetings are held each spring on a date determined by the Board. Notice of the General Membership Meeting is posted on BAHA's website and is distributed to members via email.

Facilities

BAHA has several employees who are paid to resurface the ice and help clean and maintain the facility. However, in an effort to keep ice fees low, BAHA still significantly relies on volunteer

labor for many aspects of operation. Adult League members are expected to help with annual setup and teardown of the entire rink. The Operations Director will send emails when help is needed throughout the season; please help when you can. The Youth League is responsible for staffing the concession stand during Icedogs and Youth games.

We all have to share the rink and no one likes a dirty locker room—please make an effort! Throw your trash and tape balls IN the can and recycle when possible. Clean up after your team if necessary. Fees will go up if additional paid labor is required to clean or repair the facility. Please respect the Haynes Pavilion as if it were your home and treat it as such.

The rink rules are for real- please abide by them:

No Glass, No Dogs, No Tobacco, Stay off the ice until Zam doors are closed, Helmets Required when sticks and pucks are on the ice

The Gallatin County Fairgrounds is public property which warrants our respect as well. Be a good neighbor: do not litter in the parking lot and pick up any trash you see. The posted parking lot speed limit is 15 MPH and speeding does not reflect well on our association as a whole.

Relationship with the Junior A Bozeman ICEDOGS

One of BAHA's sources of revenue is the partnership with the Junior A ICEDOGS. This relationship is monitored and supervised by the BAHA board.

The Bozeman ICEDOGS are a Tier III Junior A team playing in the Northern Pacific Hockey League (NOR PAC), a USA Hockey sanctioned league. The goal of the Bozeman ICEDOGS is to advance players to higher levels of play.

The Bozeman ICEDOGS rely on local families to host (or billet) out of town players. This relationship has proved very rewarding to both players and the host family. It is this personal relationship with the community that BAHA and the ICEDOGS are most proud of.

Relationship with the Gallatin County Fairgrounds

BAHA leases the Haynes Pavilion from Gallatin County. The base lease runs November through March. When we use the building beyond the original 5 months, BAHA pays additional funds. BAHA (and those programs that use the facility) is one of the largest user groups at the Fairgrounds.

BAHA has 10 year lease for the pavilion, with an option to renew for 10 in 2010. The lease is based on credit for our work and funds that built and continue to improve the building – meaning we don't pay out – as we essentially paid up front.

Relationship with the Gallatin Ice Foundation

The Gallatin Ice Foundation (www.gallatinicefoundation.org) (GIF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization operated separately from BAHA. The GIF Board currently consists of four members. BAHA appoints two, Big Sky Figure Skating Club one, and Gallatin County Fair Board one. Three members then elect one "at large" member.

The GIF's mission is to:

... provide for the greater Gallatin Valley community fun and affordable ice skating opportunities, which include hockey, figure skating, and recreational ice-skating, for the greatest number of citizens, young and old, and of all skill levels.

Though BAHA and the GIF operate independently communication between both boards is open, frequent, and productive. GIF board members regularly attend BAHA meetings.

USA Hockey

USA Hockey (<http://www.usahockey.com>) is the national governing body of amateur hockey in the United States. BAHA is a registered member of USA Hockey, and abides by all of its rules and regulations. BAHA requires that all players register with USA Hockey. This provides them with supplemental medical insurance should they become injured during the course of the season.

YOUTH HOCKEY

Montana Amateur Hockey Association

Montana Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) (www.montanahockey.org) is the governing body of amateur youth hockey in the state of Montana and organizes and runs the Treasure State League (TSL).

Academic Awards Program

To support the academic achievement of our players beginning in the 2009-2010 season BAHA has initiated an Academic Awards program. This program has two components. The first, the Academic Excellence Award, recognizes players who show sustained levels of academic achievement at the highest level.

The second, the Academic Improvement Award, recognizes players who through perseverance and force of character demonstrates consistent academic improvement over time and show a commitment to community service.

BAHA will make one \$500 cash award in each category, for a total commitment of \$1,000. Winners will be announced at BAHA annual year-end banquet.

How to apply

All registered BAHA players in grades 9-12 are eligible provided all BAHA dues are paid in full. Candidates should submit applications at the end of the winter semester to the youth director. BAHA's board is charged with picking the two winners. Individuals are not eligible to win consecutive awards.

The application for both awards consists of three parts:

- (1) A copy of the player's academic transcript. (Candidates seeking to demonstrate consistent academic improvement over time may submit report cards from previous academic years.) Standardized test scores (e.g., ACT and SAT) may be included.

(2) A recommendation from an adult who can attest to the applicant's character. (This may be a teacher, counselor, or family friend.)

(3) A statement from the player explaining why academic achievement is important to them.

Decision criteria

Academic Excellence Award

The Academic Excellence Award will be determined based on weighted GPA and the subjective judgment (spelling) of the board on items 2 & 3 described above. Special subject areas e.g., physical education, music, and art, are not considered.

Academic Improvement Award

By design, the winner of this award will be selected based on more subjective criteria than those in the Academic Excellence Award. The minimum qualifications for the Academic Improvement Award is the ability to:

- Show a consistent pattern of academic improvement over time and demonstrated commitment to community service.

Questions regarding BAHA's Youth Hockey Academic Excellence Awards Program may be directed to the youth director.

OneGoal hockey equipment program

BAHA participates in USAH's OneGoal equipment program. OneGoal is designed to encourage participation in hockey by providing high-quality and conveniently packaged gear including everything except skates and a stick. Generally targeted for 6 to 8 year-olds, equipment includes junior small shoulder, pant and elbow pads; 10" shin guards and gloves and a small adjustable helmet.

BAHA has purchased 20 sets of OneGoal equipment that we will make available to our mite/termite families, one per family, on a first come first served basis. BAHA will charge a \$40 rental fee for the season. We ask that this gear be returned clean. Contact Jimmy Canata for details jaesc@montana.com

Fee Schedule

BAHA will again use online registration for youth players at www.bozemanhockey.org. Registration is August 28-September 11th. There is a \$40 late fee after the 11th.

Fees for 2009-2010 youth programs are the same as last year:

Termite	\$250
Mite	\$280
Squirt	\$460

PeeWee	\$525
Bantam	\$575
High School, Midget, JV	\$600

Players will not be allowed to participate in fall evaluations until all fees have been paid and proof of registration with USA Hockey is presented.

What your fees include

- The youth hockey season runs from October 19th to March 21th. After the season BAHA customarily offers youth pick slots. Fees for these sessions are not included in youth hockey registration and are paid on a per use basis.
- Each BAHA team is allotted practice time each week. The fees for practices are included in registration.
- Each BAHA team is allotted home game ice slots. The fees for these slots are included in registration.
- BAHA teams playing in the TSL do not pay for ice time when playing away games.
- BAHA teams traveling to tournaments are responsible for paying entry fees. Teams should meet prior to each season to agree on a tournament schedule.
- BAHA teams playing outside of the TSL make arrangements to host visiting team without charging ice fees, expecting reciprocity. These arrangements are the responsibility of the head coach and team manager.
- BAHA will pay \$400 towards the costs of teams participating in the TSL state tournament. Individual teams are responsible for covering additional costs, approximately \$300. For teams not participating in the TSL, BAHA will contribute \$400 to each team, which may be applied to the tournament of their choice.
- BAHA provides a \$300 stipend to all head coaches. The stipend is included in registration fees.

Stipends for non-parent coaches

- Non-parent coaches are a valuable asset. When traveling to overnight games each team is responsible for covering the lodging and meals for all non-parent coaches. Meal reimbursement is limited to a per diem of \$25

Youth scholarship

Youth scholarship applications are available on the BAHA webpage by following the links to “Youth Hockey” and “Hockey Scholarship” or at Play It Again Sports and Top Shelf Hockey and are due by September 4th. The scholarship committee also reviews payment plan requests. In the case of approved payment plans, players are required to provide the method of future payments (either post-dated checks or authorization to run their credit card on certain dates.)

Role of the Coaching Director

The Coaching Director has a strong coaching background, hockey knowledge, and commitment to the sport. He holds a current USA Hockey CEP level certification (or Canadian equivalent) appropriate to the highest-level program that BAHA offers.

The Coaching Director must be comfortable teaching coaches, players, and parents as well as board members. Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Overseeing the selection, evaluation, and retention of BAHA coaches.
- Communicating coach certification requirements.
- Taking a lead role in recruitment, selection, training, and evaluation of coaches.
- Advising the Board and helping form hockey goals and objectives for BAHA.
- Taking responsibility for BAHA team tryouts and other activities identified by the BAHA board and Youth Director.
- Helping coaches organize and implement practice plans.
- Designing and implementing special skill development programs and camps.
- Attending board meetings.
- Representing, along with the Youth Director, BAHA to MAHA.
- Holding a coaches meeting each fall.

Role of the Youth Director

The BAHA Youth Director is responsible administering all phases of the youth hockey program. The Youth Director works closely with the Coaching Director and the BAHA board, and is expected to serve as a prime point of contact for parents. With the Coaching Director, he is BAHA's representative to MAHA. Each fall, the Youth Director will hold a meeting for team managers.

Role of the Registrar

The BAHA Registrar is responsible for player registration and compiling team rosters. The Registrar works with the MAHA to ensure all BAHA teams are properly certified within the deadlines established by MAHA and USA Hockey. The BAHA Registrar maintains current membership lists for BAHA.

Role of Team Managers

The Team Manager plays a vital role in the success of individual teams and the club itself. Duties typically include:

- Arranging lodging for all away games requiring an overnight stay.
- Keeping a “coach’s manual” that includes players’ information, e.g., consent to treat forms, rosters, and birth certificates.
- Helping schedule games and tournaments, including paying tournament fees (reimbursed by the team).
- Compiling a copy of the game sheets and sending them to the appropriate MAHA contact.
- Notifying players and parents of the games schedule and any changes via a phone tree or group email list.
- Arranging scoreboard and penalty box officials for home games.

II. Youth Hockey Programs

Age Divisions

Age divisions for the 2009-2010 are as follows:

Year of Birth	Age on Dec. 31, 2009	Age Division
1991-1994	18 or younger	High School U-18
1993-1994	16 or younger	Midget-U16
1995-1996	14 or younger	Bantam U-14
1997-1998	12 or younger	Pee Wee U-12
1999-2000	10 or younger	Squirt U-10
	8 or younger	U8s

Division of Teams

USAH recommends the division of teams by ability and in general this is the approach that BAHA takes. However, given the variability of Montana youth hockey, there may be years when BAHA creates teams of equal ability. The decision on which approach to take will be made each season by the Youth Director. This decision may vary annually, depending on the individual players at each age group and number and quality of the teams that other Montana hockey associations choose field. Because of the many variables involved, BAHA extends the Youth Director maximum flexibility in making this decision.

BAHA will field teams at each level depending on the numbers of registered players.

U-8 Haynes House League

BAHA’s U8s program conforms to the guidance provided by USAH. Players play 4 vs. 4 or 5 vs. 5, in a cross-ice or half ice setting. Smaller nets are used and games are played either with or without goalies. Using small areas forces players to become involved with the game. Touches on the puck increase greatly building skills and confidence while also reducing frustration felt on a full ice surface.

Our U8s program emphasizes fun and ice time over competitive games and BAHA discourages travel. However, if there is sufficient interest, travel to tournaments may be arranged and is open to all interested.

U-10 Squirts

Following USAH recommendations, our squirt teams will seek to arrange a 15-25 game schedule.

U-12 Peewees

Following USAH recommendations, our Peewee teams will seek to arrange a 20-30 game schedule.

U-14 Bantams

Following USAH recommendations, our Bantam team will seek to arrange a 20-30 game schedule.

U-16 Midgets

BAHA's Midget will participate in a MAHA sanctioned league that includes Butte, Idaho Falls, Cody, and Missoula. The Midget schedule includes travel to tournaments and games within our region, seeking to arrange a 20-30 game schedule. Head coaches working with team managers are responsible for organizing the schedule.

U-18 High School

BAHA's High School team will play in the TSL, competing for the state championship.

U14 & U19 Girls

BAHA will designate teams for girls of U14 age and older as enrollment in these programs permit. BAHA encourages girls to play youth hockey with boys from the Termite to at least the first year of the Peewee age division. Girls will play a schedule with Western Montana, Idaho and Eastern Washington teams in a festival format. Girls will participate in the Montana Girls state championship. Head coaches working with team managers are responsible for organizing the schedule.

Tier II Designation

This year USAH has changed the requirements for teams registering as Tier II. In the past, Tier II teams were required to commit to district and national championships. These requirements have been dropped.

If four teams commit to Tier II play, MAHA will facilitate the organization of the schedule and sanction a year-end championship. State champions, if they have committed to be a nationally bound team, must advance. USAH has reorganized the national tournament along the following format:

Create (4) conferences within each age classification (1A, 2A, 3A and 4A)

Crown (4) National Champions (one each at the 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A) levels

The (12) largest States will compete in the 4A conference

The next (12) largest States will compete in the 3A conference

The next (12) largest States will compete in the 2A conference

The final (12) states will compete in the 1A conference

Montana is in 2A along with ID, WY, UT, AZ, TN, NC, GA, SD, IA and NE.

For 2010, the Youth Tier II National Championship sites will be April 7 – April 11, 2010 at the following locations.

U-12 —Reston, VA

U-14—Wayne, NJ

U-16—West Chester, PA

U-18—Rochester, NY

Equipment & Uniforms

Ice Hockey is a physically demanding sport requiring protective equipment. Players are required to wear full gear at practices and games, including helmet, elbow pads, shoulder pads, kneepads, hockey pants, protective cup, mouth guard, ice hockey gloves, skates, and ice hockey sticks. In line gear for rollerblading or skateboarding is not acceptable.

Properly fitting equipment is critical in making hockey a positive experience. Trying to buy skates large enough to accommodate growth is a mistake. Skates are your connection to the ice and sloppy fitting skates can make hockey difficult and may result in poor technique. Skates also require periodic sharpening to perform optimally. Helmets with chinstraps should fit snugly but not be so tight as to cause headaches. Adjustments are easy to make and the fit should be checked at the beginning of the season and periodically as kids heads grow.

A full line of hockey equipment is available locally at Play it Again Sports and Top Shelf Hockey.

BAHA travel teams wear light colored jerseys and socks at home and dark colored jersey and socks on the road. These are for *games only*. We prefer the use of black helmets. Each player is responsible for the purchase of team jerseys. Names on jerseys are decided on a team-by-team basis, but must be uniform, i.e., the entire team must have names.

IV. Youth Policies

Disciplinary Policies

Drugs & Alcohol

BAHA recognizes the illegal use of alcohol and drugs as a significant health problem for many adolescents. BAHA supports the efforts of Bozeman High School and the Montana State High School Association whose policies prohibit any use and/or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or other mood altering drugs. During the BAHA season, regardless of the quantity, a player shall not:

- a. Use an alcohol beverage
- b. Use tobacco, or
- c. Use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away, any controlled substance. (We exclude drugs prescribed by a medical doctor for a player's own use.)

Guidelines for Coaches

BAHA gives wide latitude to our coaches to administer discipline as they see fit, provided their actions comply with all relevant material in the BAHA annual guide and do not violate standards of reasonableness.

At a minimum, as part of their pre-season parents meeting, BAHA coaches will explain to parents and players how they plan to deal with discipline problems during the forthcoming season. The preseason meeting will serve as the warning for all such offenses.

MINOR INFRACTIONS (off and on ice) (e.g., bad language, inappropriate behavior, spitting.)

- 1st offense – 1 game suspension, 2 hours league service.
- 2nd offense – 2 game suspension, 5 hours league service.

MAJOR INFRACTIONS (off and on ice) (e.g., drugs, alcohol and tobacco use or possession, destruction of property.

- 1st offense – 3 game suspension, 6 hours league service
- 2nd offense – 6 game suspension, 10 hours league service

League service must be completed before player can participate in a game or tournament again. The players must continue to participate in practice during the suspension and league service period.

Disciplinary Committee

If the comments, actions and/or behavior of any player, parent, coach, consultant, employee, or board member constitute a violation of a BAHA policies described in the annual guide or otherwise adversely affects the operation or standing of the BAHA, he shall be required to appear before the BAHA Disciplinary Committee.

The BAHA Disciplinary Committee shall consist of the BAHA President and two board members whom he chooses to designate. The Disciplinary Committee will be formed after the BAHA President receives a signed letter describing the nature of the violation and the parties involved.

Based on the facts and circumstances as evidenced during the meeting the Disciplinary Committee will evaluate incidents in a case-by-case basis and can impose ANY sanctions it deems appropriate (e.g., probation, suspension from games/practices, exclusion from other activities or expulsion from the organization). A 2/3 vote of the Disciplinary Committee is required to expel a member from the organization. Disciplinary sanctions may be appealed through the BAHA grievance and dispute resolution process.

Dispute Resolution Policy & Grievance Committee

Problems or concerns that have to do with the coaching of a team, such as playing time, positions, practices, etc. should be taken **first** to the Team Coach, **then** to the Youth Director. Problems or concerns that cannot be resolved by the above or entail broader issues should be directed to the Grievance Committee. Those wishing to bring a complaint to the Grievance Committee will:

- (1) Promptly file a written grievance with the BAHA President. The BAHA President will then form the Grievance Committee (described below) and will schedule a meeting with the parties within ten days of receiving the complaint.
- (2) The Grievance Committee will consist of five people: two members from the BAHA Board and three non-board members. In the event of a conflict of interest, the BAHA President may designate individuals outside of the organization to sit on this committee.
- (3) The parties may introduce relevant evidence and testimony in support of their position. The Grievance Committee will conduct the meeting and issue a decision within five days of the hearing unless the committee requires additional time to reach a decision.
- (4) The BAHA Board of Directors will consider all appeals of the Grievance Committee's decisions. The appeal must be made in writing and submitted to the BAHA President. The Board of Directors will discuss, consider, and decide the appeal during the next regular meeting. Their decision is final.

Injured Player Policy

Any player injured while playing hockey for BAHA, in either game or practice is entitled to a refund that will be pro rated for the missed time extending beyond 4 weeks. A doctor's certification is required for a player to return to play. The Board will exercise reasonable judgment regarding injuries that occur outside of hockey.

Coaches

Responsibilities

Coaches are leaders and role models for young people. Their behavior, both on and off the ice, should at all time reflect positively on the organization. We seek coaches who:

- Follow the directions and policies developed by the Coaching Director.
- Develop a good rapport with the parent(s) of his players, the broader community, officials, and fellow coaches.
- Clearly state his goals for the season, and inform players and parents of his goal and expectations.
- Display and convey enthusiasm and a love for the game.
- Have the commitment to maintain through continuing education an up-to-date knowledge of the skills and tactics that they propose to teach.
- Understand the difference between a desire to win and winning at all costs.
- Emphasize the development of all players, rather than a select few.
- Acquire the necessary USA Hockey coaching certification.
- Are thoroughly familiar with the rules and regulations of the game as prescribed by USA Hockey.
- Attend coaches meetings as required by the Coaching Director.
- BAHA's Alcohol & Drug policy applies to coaches.

Coaches should clearly communicate to the players and parents what the goals of the team and the expectations for each player will be. These goals and expectations should reflect the level being played and should include playing time, positions played, attendance, and other policies or rules that apply.

Screening Policy

Coaches will be provided with a copy of the handbook. They are expected to support and abide by all BAHA policies and directions set forth by the Coaching Director. Further, all BAHA coaches are subject to an annual background check, as required by MAHA and USA Hockey.

Parent Code of Conduct

As parents or guardians we must be positive in our attitudes toward the game of hockey and emphasize the cooperative nature of the game. Negative and rowdy behavior in the hockey arena reflects directly and poorly on the whole organization. We must foster good relationships between our young players, within the League and with our competitors as well. Children are great imitators. As parents we must set positive examples for them.

Parents' role should be supportive. Parents are welcome at practices, but it is not conducive to

a player's development to undermine the coaching instructions. If you have concerns about your player's participation in any capacity, talk to the coaches only after observing the 24-hour cooling off period. Team managers are also available to answer questions or act as a liaison between coaches and players/parents.

Player Code of Conduct

Each BAHA player will strive to observe the following:

- Attendance: Reliable attendance is essential to personal skill development AND development of team continuity.
- Punctuality: Ice time is valuable and should not be wasted. All participants should arrive at games and practices in sufficient time to allow for suiting up and necessary pre-game/practice instruction and/or warm-up. Unless your coach has told you differently, it is recommended that you be ready to "take the ice" at least 15 minutes before the scheduled starting time.
- Conduct: It is expected that a player will conduct himself/herself in a controlled manner while on the ice.
- Foul Language: Foul language and direct insubordination are unacceptable behaviors.
- Fighting: Disciplinary action, consistent with the procedures and policies described above, will be brought against any BAHA player who starts a fight, engages in a fight, or deliberately attempts to injure another player during a practice or game.
- Stealing: Any player found guilty of stealing shall be dismissed from the program.

Play Time

BAHA believes in a policy of "equal play for equal effort." Our coaches are instructed to follow this policy.

Equal play for equal effort means that over the course of a season all players who are giving equal effort on the ice at practice/games, have good attendance at team events, display a good attitude both on the bench and in the locker room, and conduct themselves as good citizens should play approximately an equal amount of time.

However, if a player is not giving good effort, is causing disruption to their team on or off the ice, not listening to the coach, missing team events, taking bad penalties, playing selfish hockey, not following team rules, etc. they may be subject to discipline which can include 'sitting' the player. It is expected that any discipline will be applied in a consistent manner to all players on the team.

BAHA believes that all players on every team be given the opportunity to experience and develop in all facets of the game. This includes "special teams play," i.e., power play and penalty kill in game situations. It is BAHA policy that coaches work with ALL players to develop their skills for these situations and give ALL players opportunities to demonstrate their ability to

perform on special teams. Exception to this policy must be rare and exercised with good judgment, balancing the priority of developing players with winning closely contested games.

Roster Changes

BAHA' prefers that all players play at their appropriate age levels as established by USAHockey (USAH). Departure from this policy must be rare. Decision to place players with a higher age group will be made at the sole discretion of the Youth Director. A player seeking to move up an age level for developmental reasons must be evaluated as being in the top 10 percent of the upper group he seeks to join.

A player granted a move-up is allowed to tryout and play on the highest level team he is able to achieve, however, a player may not revert to his old level after a requested move up is granted. All players will tryout with their appropriate age group. If a family does not want their child playing in a particular age group, e.g., they want their 16-year to play Midgets instead of High School, the parents should contact the Youth Director prior to fall evaluations.

- Players MUST still tryout with their appropriate age group.
- An invitation to tryout with the requested level should not be considered placement at that level.
- The parents and/or player may request an explanation of the decision, which the Youth Director would be happy to provide.

Rostering with Another Team

Granting permission to play with a team outside of BAHA is made at the sole discretion of the individual team coach and the BAHA Coaching Director. They will consider the effect on other players, on the team, team chemistry, and any other criterion they feel is relevant to the specific situation.

Players seeking such accommodation must make arrangements with their team coach and the BAHA Coaching Director. This arrangement should be made well in advance of league play and be made clear to all other team members. There should be no last minute surprises.

The Evaluation Process

General Information

- The purpose of the player evaluation processes is to place each player on a team commensurate with his skills, and, to keep the selection process fair, standardized, and as impartial as possible.
- The Youth Directors will determine the number of teams and their classifications (e.g., A or B) following the annual registration and with guidance from MAHA.
- Ideally, tryouts will be over one week. Each age level will be evaluated at three on ice sessions, for example Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

- All player should bring their home and away Icedogs game jerseys.
- Players will not be allowed to tryout if they have NOT paid in full on their registration fees, tryout fees, and prior year's ice bills.
- If possible, all volunteers assisting with tryouts will be adults. On-ice volunteers will not be allowed on the ice during their own child's evaluation session. If there are not enough adult volunteers, high school players will be considered for on-ice and bench assistance. Whenever possible, an on-ice referee will be utilized during scrimmages.
- During the tryout process, it is essential that there be no unnecessary contact or communication between parents and the evaluators, on ice volunteers, and coaches. Any attempt at "lobbying" will be reported to the full board for appropriate action.

Evaluators

- The Youth and Coaching Directors will seek outside evaluators for the evaluation sessions. All players (skaters & goalies) will receive scores from each evaluator.
- The outside evaluators, Youth and Coaching Directors will evaluate the players individually (not as a group).

Metrics for Evaluation

The Youth Director, in consultation with outside evaluators will design a standard rating system for evaluating individual players during BAHA tryouts. Evaluation criteria may include, for example:

Stick handling/passing/skating.

Game situation awareness.

Performance in controlled scrimmages.

Intangibles: effort/attitude/dedication/team presence.

After each ice session, the evaluators will meet briefly. After the final try-out the evaluators will meet the Youth Director and Coaching Director to place players on a team.

ADULT HOCKEY

Adult hockey has been a mainstay of BAHA since the beginning of the club in 1982. Programs have expanded to meet the needs of adult skaters of all abilities, but space is limited.

2009/2010 BAHA ADULT PROGRAM OUTLINE

Haynes Hockey League

09/10 Season is approximately Oct. 19 – April 1 (subject to weather and other factors).

Advance USA Hockey membership is required for all BAHA members www.usahockey.com

NOTE: ALL SKATERS MUST REGISTER for BAHA ONLINE: www.bozemanhockey.org

INTRO LEVEL (men and women) \$150.00

- Skaters rated 1 & 2 combine for group or team play with a 15 sessions (50 min) with coaching.
- Minimum of 15 skaters and Maximum of 35 skaters.
- Discounted Puck Lunch Fees.
- May cross roster with D3 League.

D3 (Novice) LEAGUE (men and women) \$240.00

- Skaters rated 1, 2 and 3 combine for group or team play with a 20 game schedule with referees.
- Minimum of 13 skaters per roster and a maximum of 15 skaters per roster plus goalie.
- May cross roster with Intro Level sessions.
- Discounted Puck Lunch Fees.
- End of year play-off bracket.
- Limit 4 teams.

OVER 40 (men and women) \$300.00

- Skaters aged 40+ combine for group or team recreational play with a proposed 25 game schedule with referees.
- This is your primary league selection. No Cross Rostering with other leagues, unless limited space becomes available. If less than 30 skaters apply, players will be given the option to pick D3 or Rec Leagues and teams will be formed.
- No team can have a combined player average higher than **3.5**, with a minimum of 15 skaters per roster and a maximum of 20 skaters per roster plus goalie.
- Discounted Puck Lunch Fees.
- Target: 2-4 teams.

REC LEAGUE (men and women) \$300.00

- Skaters rated 3, 4 and 5* to form recreational competitive teams with a proposed 34 game schedule with referees.
- No team can have a combined player average higher than **3.5**, with a minimum of 17 skaters per roster and a maximum of 20 skaters per roster plus goalie. Level 5 skaters are strongly encouraged to play in Power League and may be moved out of Rec if determined skill level warrants.
- Discounted Puck Lunch Fees
- End of year play-off bracket.
- Target 8-10 teams.

POWER LEAGUE (men and women) \$300.00

- Skaters rated 4 and 5 to form competitive power teams with a proposed 25 game schedule with referees. Minimum of 17 skaters per roster and a maximum of 20 skaters per roster plus goalie.
- Lower Level 4 skaters are strongly encouraged to play in Rec League and may be moved out of Power if determined skill level warrants.
- Discounted Puck Lunch Fees
- End of year play-off bracket.
- Target: 6-8 teams.

GOALIE PACKAGE**\$100.00**

- All BAHA privileges (public skating, adult pick-up, puck lunch sessions – subject to availability, reservation policies, and additional charges).
- Can play in any league, subject to any substitution policies rules and rankings.
- Can skate *out* in up to 4 games as a substitute or in pick-up games.

PUCK LUNCH**\$6 BAHA Adult Members / \$12 Non-Members**

- 11:00 am – 12:50 pm on designated dates (normally Monday through Friday). First Come, First Serve. Limited to first 30 skaters and first 4 goalies per session.
- Attendees **MUST** pay fees and sign in PRIOR TO skating. Poachers will forfeit puck lunch privileges for the season and face league suspensions.
- Prepaid Punch Cards available for convenience through rink manager. Prepayment does not guarantee reservation and are valid for same season only. See web for additional information.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Space is limited and subject to availability. First come first served. No multiple memberships (cross rostering) accepted with initial Rec & Power sign-up. Cross Rostering will only be permitted IF numbers and programs allow and will be evaluated and posted after regular registration concludes and season begins. Extra slots will be allowed on a first come first served basis or lottery as determined by the League Director.

Regular registration ends September 11, 2009. Late sign-ups will be available if, and only if, space is available on teams established. A \$40 late fee WILL apply. Late season memberships are NOT subject to prorated fees for missed games. Rosters will be filled by League Director as necessary to meet minimum numbers. If you want to skate with certain individuals, make sure they sign up on time and note the right team. No reservations allowed for those who may have missed sign-ups. No refunds after November 1st unless approved due to significant injury or medical reasons. All refunds will be subject to a \$50 processing fee and may be prorated by date. Requests for refunds must be in writing and submitted to Operations Director. Processing will be within 30 days.

Adult league format and schedules will be dependent on registration numbers and available ice times to be determined. Anticipated games slots are every evening of the week, with varied start times. Morning sessions (6:30-8 am) are also in the mix. Early AM and later PM scrimmage slots may be offered as necessary, with or without referees. Early season game schedules will be developed following registration and posted/distributed prior to season start and updated as season progresses. Special ice times during holidays, tournaments and playoffs will be as posted online. No unregistered, unconfirmed, non-USAH skaters are allowed in scheduled league games. Captains and knowledgeable individuals will be held responsible for valid registrations.

Captains of each league will form a committee to finalize all rosters and skater rankings prior to the start of league play. League and rosters closed once desired teams and roster numbers have been met for each league. All additions to rosters during season are subject to approval by Adult Director. Late fees will apply.

Skater Ability Ratings (incl. goalies) will be based on a 1-5 scale, with 5 being the best.

Level 1: New to organized hockey

Level 2: Lower skating and puck handling skills

Level 3: Average adult skating and puck handling skills

Level 4: Advanced skating and puck handling skills usually resulting from past significant experience in organized/coached youth hockey leading to

Level 5: High skill level. Experience in advanced hockey programs (ex: high school; juniors, college, pro).

Captains vote on any disputed player ranking.

Games will be (3) 20 min. run-time periods with certified referees. First week of season ice and major holidays will have all adult slots designated as pick-up or public skating. Tournament weekends may also impact regular scheduling. Schedule will be subject to change and posted. The 9th Annual BAHA Winter Classic Invitational Hockey Tournament (Feb 11-14 2010) team fees are not included with individual membership. A 10 game mixed league Spring Scramble is planned for the last 5 weeks of the year (Approximately April 1 – May 15). Details to be posted in Early March.

See rules posted on the BAHA website for additional important rink and league policies as well as USAH policies on the USA Hockey website:

http://www.usahockey.com/uploadedFiles/USAHockey/Menu_Officials/Menu_RulesEquipment/USAH%20Rulebook%200911_WEB.pdf

Other rules and policies posted at the rink. Skaters are encouraged to attend referee training and the pursuit of official certification and service.