



The Gardens Adult Hockey League Rules and Procedures (Original - 5/15/02; Revision -7/10/24)

League Philosophy

**Provide a safe, fun, competitive, and respectful environment,
in a family setting, for adult recreational hockey.**

**The Gardens Ice House Adult Hockey League is a team enrollment league.
Each team's captain is solely responsible for managing their own team.**

The Captain's role is voluntary

There is an essential set of responsibilities that goes along with being the team's captain.

Captain's Best Practices:

- A. The Team Fee
 - a. Ensuring that the full team fee gets paid
 - b. Allocating fees to players
 - c. Determining if and how any player refunds will be done for overpayments
- B. Recruiting players for your team's roster
- C. Ensure all your players know and understand the rules of the league and facility and behave accordingly
- D. Team jerseys
 - d. Making sure all players have similar colored jerseys
 - e. Making sure that all players have their own unique numbers

- E. Managing game rosters
 - f. Knowing who is and who is not eligible to play
 - g. Knowing who is and who is not planning to play in a game
 - h. Verifying the game day score sheets to ensure everyone was properly checked in.
 - i. Assigning a captain if they are not going to be present at a game
- F. Being the Liaison between the team and the league, including but not limited to:
 - i. Sending suspension notifications to your players
 - j. Submitting questions or concerns your players may have
 - k. Submitting schedule requests in writing prior to the schedule being released
 - l. Submit to the league any scoresheet corrections within 48 hours of the game ending
 - m. Communicating with the league and team opponents regarding any requested game rescheduling and or forfeits.
- G. Any other duties that may arise during the season

Refund Policy:

Individual Player Refunds are not done by the rink. Since each player is paying a portion of a team fee assigned to them by their team captain, refunds are an internal matter to be handled within each team.

Team refunds will not be granted regardless of the cause.

NO REFUNDS for forfeited games. The league does not refund teams when opponents forfeit scheduled games.

Team Overpayment Refund: If a team overpays their league fee, a refund will be issued back to the captain once all teams have paid in full. The captain will then be responsible for distributing the fees back to his players as they see fit.

Playing Rules and Procedures

The Adult Hockey League is a USA Hockey Program. All games are played using the

2021-2025 Official Rules of Ice Hockey (click on the link to view the entire USA Hockey rule book, except where modified by the league in this document to strengthen a rule.)

The Gardens Ice House also fully supports and enforces the USA Hockey Zero Tolerance Policy. For the purposes of the Adult Hockey League, players will be penalized an Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty (Zero Tolerance) any time they:

1. openly dispute or argue any official's decision;
2. use obscene or vulgar language directed at the officials, players on the opposing team, in the penalty box, or loud enough for spectators and off-ice officials to hear it;
3. visually demonstrate any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision.

A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.

Age Requirement

All participants in our league MUST be at least 18 years old. NO EXCEPTIONS!

League Modifications

Player Identification - all players who have properly registered with USA Hockey and the league will appear on the team roster in Pointstreak. Any player who does not appear on the team roster will not be permitted to play. The League Commissioner will handle any issues regarding player eligibility, and their decision will not be subject to protest.

Player Check-In and Game Credit

For the first 30 days of the season until rosters Freeze, all players are required to check in at the front registration table and present a valid Photo ID.

Failure to present a photo I.D. could result in a loss of playing privilege for that day's game. The name on your drivers license should match the name provided to USA Hockey and your name in Pointstreak. If the names do not match the league reserves the right to ask for additional identification or deny service.

Before every game, the Captain must Check-in his players (including the goalie). When the game is over the captain needs to double-check the paper score sheet and then sign the paper score sheet verifying the attendance for that game is correct.

In order to get credit for playing in a game a player must actually be fully dressed in their hockey gear and actually take to the ice. Players must make every effort to participate in the game. Checking in for a game and then not showing up, hopping on the ice and immediately hopping off or standing on the bench in a coaching capacity does not count towards the games played requirements for playoffs.

Illegal Player - An illegal player is any player who:

1. Participates in a pre-game warm-up or a game while suspended; or
2. Is not properly registered with the League; or
3. Is not on the team roster.

Knowingly Using an Illegal Player - It is the responsibility of all team Captains to be aware of who is and isn't eligible to play for their teams. If the captain is not present at the game, responsibility will fall to a team representative/acting captain. Any player who knowingly plays while being an illegal player as defined above will be suspended a minimum of 1 game from all his teams. In addition, the Captain (team representative/acting captain if the captain is not present) of the team that the player has illegally played for will be suspended for a minimum of 2 games from all his teams. The League will review the circumstances surrounding how and why the player was allowed to play on a case-by-case basis and assess the appropriate suspensions. There will be an automatic game forfeit if a team is caught using an illegal player. If an illegal player is suspected the opposing captain must request an ID Check during the game, the league will not go back after the game has been played and completed.

Player Identification Check - A team captain may request the officials perform a player ID check any time before the game and during the game up to the beginning of the third period. When requested, the officials will require the player(s) in question to immediately leave the ice surface. The game will continue as soon as the player leaves the ice. The scorekeeper will call the Duty Commissioner to the scorer's bench. The Duty Commissioner will require the player(s) in question to produce photo identification and will verify that the player's name(s) appear on the team roster. If the player in question is an illegal player, the team that he is playing for will forfeit the game. (**Once the game is forfeited, The score sheet will still reflect goals, penalties, shots, etc, up to the point where the game is forfeited. If there is a tie in the standings when playoff seeding is determined, the final score of 2-0 will be manually applied for tie-breaking purposes**) If the player is not an illegal player, the team requesting the ID check will lose their team time out, if the check was requested before the start of the game; or be charged with a bench minor penalty for delay of game, if the ID check is requested during the first or second period of the game. All time used for the ID check is lost time and will not be added to the curfew time of the game.

League Management, Referees and Scorekeepers reserve the right to request a player ID Check if they believe a player to be illegal.

Failure for a player to produce a valid Photo ID will result in the player in question being asked to leave the ice. League management will investigate the situation to determine if the player is in fact an illegal player. If the player is not an illegal player then no further action will be required. If however the player is an illegal player league management will assess Captain and Player suspensions.

Mercy Rule - At any time during the game, if the difference in the score reaches 7 goals, the referee shall instruct the scorekeeper to change the game time to a running clock. If the difference in the score later drops to 6 goals the game time shall return to stop clock. At any time during the game if the difference in the score reaches 10 goals,

the game will be terminated, with the existing score and statistics considered final. The teams will go through the end-of-game handshake and the referees and scorer will depart the rink. The score will be removed from the clock. The time remaining in the ice slot will be placed on the clock and started. The teams may practice or scrimmage for the remainder of the ice slot.

Team Jerseys - All players and goalies on the same team must have similarly colored jerseys. If team jerseys are deemed too similar in color by the referees, the visiting team will wear league-provided vests. The jersey for each player and goalie of the team must have a unique number on the back of the jersey. This number must correspond to the number for that player or goalie on the team roster. Jerseys numbers may not be taped or drawn on, numbers must be sewn or heat pressed on. This requirement is in effect from the opening day of the season. If a player is wearing a different number on their jersey than what is on the Pointstreak roster, the scorekeeper must be notified of the number change before the game starts. Any player who is caught playing without a jersey number on the back of their jersey may be removed from the ice.

Names on Jerseys - players are permitted to have their Legally Spelled Last Name or a LEAGUE APPROVED Nick Name on the back of their jersey. Players who have nicknames on the back of their jerseys will need to submit the name to the league for Approval. If your nickname contains vulgar, profanity or sexual verbiage, your request will be DENIED by the league. Anyone caught with a non-approved nickname on the back of their jersey will be removed from the ice and their captain will receive a 1 game suspension for allowing them to wear the non-approved jersey.

Rule 201 - Composition of Teams:

USA Hockey Limits the number of players on the Bench to 18 skaters and 2 goalies per game

The league limits the number of players that can initially register to 30 players per team (Captain + 29 Players). The Captain controls how much of the team fee each of these first 30 players will pay.

After the initial 30 player limit has been reached, we will allow teams to add additional sub players to their roster, however they will be required to pay a \$50 administrative fee, which does not apply towards the team fee. (NON REFUNDABLE)

ALL players (even subs) must be registered by the roster freeze date.

* If rosters freeze and a team has less than the 30 player maximum that's the roster the team will have to stick with, players will not be permitted to register after the roster freeze date even if the maximum roster is not reached.

ALL Players (including Subs) Must be registered by the roster freeze date.

Players may skate on multiple teams. If the teams play at the same time the player must choose one of the teams to play for. If a player plays on multiple teams in the same

division the player must choose which team he is playing for when the two teams play against each other.

No players who play on a Silver 3 team and above, may play on a Bronze 1-3 team without prior approval from the league. The captain of the Bronze team must submit a letter in writing as to who the silver player is and why they should be allowed to play Bronze.

Bronze 4

Any Full-time or Part-time Rostered players and subs who play on a Bronze 3 team may play on Bronze 4 without approval from the league.

Any Full-Season or Half-Season rostered players and subs who play on a Bronze 1 or 2 team who wish to play on a Bronze 4 team must submit a request for exception to the league. It must be a letter in writing as to who the player is and why they should be allowed to play

No players that play on a Bronze 4 team may play on a team that is higher than Bronze 1.

***Captain Ringer Suspension Rule* Implementing as of Apr 30, 2023**

The League will be implementing a Captains Suspension of two (2) games for any Bronze captain who has been caught with a " Ringer Player" on their teams roster that requires the league to remove the player.

- Player will be removed by the league, any fees paid by the player will be up to the teams captain to reimburse the player
- Captain will be suspended for 2 games. Same number of games as being caught allowing an illegal player.

What Constitutes a Player who does not belong-

Bronze 2- (will be assessed on a case by case basis)

1. Player who is currently playing Gold, Silver Upper or Middle or who has played silver within the last 2 years and/or does not have league approval.
2. Player who is listed on Elite Prospect and played College Division II hockey or higher

Bronze 3-

1. Any player who is listed on Elite Prospect and or played any college hockey
2. Any player who has played Junior, Midget AA, prep school or Varsity Highschool Hockey
3. Any Player currently playing Gold, Silver Upper or Silver Middle Hockey or who has played within the last 2 years and/or does not have league approval.

Bronze 4-

1. Any player who has played Youth Club Hockey Past Bantam within the past 10 years

2. Junior, Midget AA, prep school or Varsity High School Hockey and College Hockey
3. Any player who is listed on Elite Prospect
4. Any Player who is currently playing on ANY level Gold or Silver Team
5. Any Player who has ever played on Any level Gold or Silver Team

Exemptions can be made if:

1. If the captain recruited a player that had no history the captain could research and the captain self reports the player to the league prior to the league taking action to remove the player from the league
2. Player has pre approval to play in the division (pre approved players would be either a Player that is a true Bronze player that wants to play up or a player who is coming back from a serious injury)

Identification of captains: Team captains and alternates will wear a “C” or “A” on their jersey. They are the only players who may discuss game situations with the officials. If none of the team captains or alternates are present, the team will appoint a bench captain for the game and notify the officials of this before the start of the game . Goalies may not act as a team captain. Goalies who have acted as captain (organizing the team, making registration payments, etc.) must appoint an on-ice captain during games.

Rule 304a - Equipment: All players are required to wear full hockey equipment (face mask and mouth guards are strongly recommended, but optional for adults. Players not wearing the required equipment will be assessed a minor penalty and will not be allowed to play until the proper equipment is in place.

Required equipment: (all equipment must be approved for ice hockey use)

Helmet

Elbow pads

Mid-section protection - hockey pants or girdle/shell

Gloves

Knee/shin protectors

Ice Skates (obviously)

Strongly recommended, but optional equipment:

Mouth guard

Full or partial face protection

Shoulder/chest protector

Rule 401(B) - Misconduct Penalties (Excessive penalties):

If a player receives **four penalties** in a game, he/she will be excused from the remainder of the game with no game suspension. If a player receives **five penalties** in a game, the player will receive a game misconduct and a one game suspension.

If a team receives **15 penalties** in a game, the game will be terminated. If the offending team is losing, the score will be recorded as the final game result. If the offending team is winning or tied, the score sheet will still reflect goals, penalties, shots etc, up to the point where the game is Terminated. If there is a tie in the standings when playoff seeding is determined, the final score of 2-0 Loss for the offending team will be manually applied for tie breaking purposes.

Progressive Penalty Rule- (New Rule as of Spring 2016)

If a player receives 20 penalty minutes or more in their team's first 7 games, they must sit the 8th game (5 games, sit 6th game for Summer)

If a player receives 40 penalty minutes or more in their team's first 14 games, they must sit the 15th game (10 games, sit 11th game for Summer)

If a player receives 60 penalty minutes or more in their team's first 18 games, they must sit the 19th game (12 games, sit 13th game for Summer)

If a player reaches or surpasses 60 penalty minutes in their team's final game, they must sit the first playoff game

If at any point a player reaches 70 penalty minutes, they are suspended for the rest of the season and next season. If that player plays only Winter or only Summer, they will be suspended from the next corresponding season.

DURING PLAYOFFS*:

If a player receives 20 penalty minutes or more they will be suspended for 1 additional game.

If a player receives 40 or more penalty minutes they will be suspended for 2 additional games.

If at any point a player reaches 70 penalty minutes they will be suspended for the entire next season. If that player plays only Winter or only Summer, they will be suspended from the next corresponding season.

For players who play on multiple teams, these terms will be imposed on a "per team" basis. This means that the accumulated penalty minutes are not combined across any player's multiple teams. Penalty minute totals are accumulated for each individual team for each individual player. However, per our League Rules, if a Progressive Penalty suspension is earned with 1 team the player is suspended from ALL teams they registered on in the Gardens Adult League until such time as the suspension from the original team has expired. These suspensions are in addition to any other suspensions earned by USA Hockey and/or League Rules.

League Rules.

Repeat offenders of the Progressive Penalty Rules will be permanently expelled from The Gardens Ice House Adult League with no reinstatement privileges. The Gardens Ice House league philosophy is to provide a safe, fun, competitive and respectful environment, in a family setting, for adult recreational hockey. These types of penalty issues will not be tolerated in our League.

Rule 410 - Supplementary Discipline: League Management, at their discretion, will investigate any incident that occurs in connection with any game and will assess additional suspensions for offenses that may occur before, during the game, or after the game, whether or not the offense has been penalized by the referee.

Rule 601 E 3: : Language that is Offensive, Hateful, or Discriminatory

As of October 30 2019 Per USA Hockey, Change to USA Hockey Rule 601(E 3)
A Match Penalty will now be assessed by the referees to anyone they hear using language that is offensive, hateful or discriminatory in nature anywhere in the rink before, during or after the game.

Rule 601F(1) - Physical abuse of officials: Any player who physically abuses or threatens physical abuse of any league official, the referees, or score keeper shall be permanently expelled from the league. Threatening physical abuse includes, but is not limited to: chasing the official, making verbal threats towards the official, bumping the official, touching or grabbing the official, or acting in any way that would make the official fear for his or her safety. Permanent expulsion means the player has a lifetime ban on playing adult hockey, both ice and inline, at The Gardens Ice House.

Rule 601F(3) - Other Misconduct: Any player who verbally threatens another player (as noted above) may be permanently expelled from the league. This includes threats made before, during or after the game.

Rule 615 - Fighting or fisticuffs: Any player given a fighting penalty will be suspended for three games for the first offense, five games for the second offense, and for the third offense shall be expelled from the league for remainder of the season and will forfeit any fees paid. Fighting, for the purposes of the Adult Hockey League includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Punching, or attempting to punch another player. A Punch , or an attempted punch, thrown by any player in the direction of an opponent, regardless as to whether contact is made, is considered fighting.

2. Any quarrel, wrestling, or shoving between players that requires stoppage of play or disruption in the game to resolve or break up.

3. A Major Plus a Game Misconduct penalty shall be assessed to ANY PLAYER who engages in Fighting. An additional Minor penalty shall be assessed to any player who

starts or instigates a fight.

A Minor, Double Minor or Major Plus game Misconduct penalty, at the discretion of the referee, shall be assessed to any player who, having been struck, continues the altercation by retaliating. A player who does not retaliate after being struck shall not be assessed a penalty for fighting under USA Hockey Rule.

Rule 620 - Icing: All divisions use the red line for icing calls, per the USA Hockey rule book.

Rule 634 - Slashing: Officials shall award a minor penalty to any player who makes stick contact with a goalie while he is in the crease, who has covered or caught the puck, regardless of whether or not the Referee has stopped play.

League Management, at their discretion may assess additional suspensions to any player who intentionally or unintentionally swings his stick at an opponent or injures an opponent as a result of slashing.

Rule 636B - Start of Game and Periods: If the start of a game is delayed by events that are not the responsibility of the teams participating in the game, e.g., the ice is not resurfaced on time, an earlier game runs over the allotted time slot, etc., then the game curfew time shall be adjusted so that the full one hour and 20 minutes is allowed. Any questions regarding game curfew times shall be referred to the Duty League Commissioner before the game starts.

If the start of a game is delayed by a team failing to appear on the ice promptly, the situation shall be addressed under Rule 633B.

If a team does not have enough players on the ice to begin the game after the designated warm-up period has ended, the referee shall direct the scorekeeper to place 5 minutes on the clock and start the clock. If, after the 5 minutes have expired, a team still does not have enough players on the ice to start the game, the game shall be declared a forfeit in favor of the opposing team. If neither team has enough players to start the game the game shall be declared a double forfeit. Both teams would get zero (0) points in the standings for this game..

Rule 636A- Time of Match: All games shall consist of three 15-minute, stop-clock periods. There will be one minute allowed between periods. The ice will not be resurfaced between periods. All games must be completed in the one hour, 20 minute curfew time. Before the third period starts the officials will confirm that at least 30 minutes remain in the ice slot. If less than 30 minutes remain, the official will direct the scorer to put half of the time remaining on the clock for the third period.

Beginning with the 2006-2007 season, officials shall strictly enforce the USA Hockey Standard of Play and Rules Emphasis on calling of stick infractions.

Rule 638 Tied Games: There will be no tie games. If the game finishes with at least 10 minutes remaining in the ice slot, a 5 minute over time period may be played if both captains agree to it. The first team to score in Overtime Wins. Winning team earns 2 place points, losing team earns 0.

If the score is tied at the end of three period and there is not enough time left in the slot or the captains don't agree to an over time period, the game will go IMMEDIATELY to a 3 player shootout to determine a winner. Home team gets choice of shooting first or shooting last. Each team takes three shots. The team with the most goals wins. If the game is still tied after the "round of three", every round thereafter is sudden death (each team gets a shot) until the game is decided. Once one team has exhausted all players during the shootout, both teams may re-use players. Any player who is serving a penalty at the end of regulation time is disqualified from participating in the shootout. Winner of the Shootout gets 2 standings points. Loser of the Shootout gets 1 standings point for the regulation tie.

During all playoffs and championships round the following procedures will be followed: 5- minute "sudden death" overtime period; 5-player shoot out; team shoot out. Any player whose penalty has not ended when the overtime period is over is not eligible to be one of the players selected to participate in any of the shootout procedure(s).

Suspensions

The suspended player list will be posted on Pointstreak and the league web site. Suspensions will be posted on the day after the game in which the infraction occurs.

The Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey Association is responsible for contacting the player, setting the date for and conducting the hearing. Suspended players may attend the games as a spectator but may not be in or near the player's bench, penalty boxes or scorekeeper's bench area.

Match Penalty Hearing-

If a player receives a Match penalty and avoids or fails to respond to the PVAHA'S request for a hearing in an attempt to avoid suspension, the league will not allow the player to return to game play and the player will remain as suspended indefinitely until a hearing has been held.

If the PVAHA fails to contact the player within 30 days of the Match Penalty, the league will allow the player to return to game play after the 30 days has expired until such time a hearing has been held and a suspension has been determined, at which time the player will be suspended to serve the suspension. As USA Hockey Rule States

"If extenuating circumstances prevent the proper authorities from conducting the hearing within the 30-day period, the player or Team Official shall be automatically reinstated after the 30-day period. The failure to offer the hearing shall not prohibit the hearing body from conducting the hearing after the 30-day period and imposing further disciplinary action."

Avoiding or Failing to respond to PVAHA's Request for hearing is not considered an Extenuating Circumstance .

Carry-over suspensions - Game suspensions assessed but not served before the end of a season will be served at the beginning of the next season in which the player participates.

If a player does not re-register for the team he earned the suspension on, the suspension will carry over to the first team he registers on for the next season.

Players not eligible for the playoffs who earn a suspension in the regular season games, the playoff games will not count towards the players suspension. Suspension will carry over to the following season that they register for.

If a player gets suspended from ANY of his/her teams, they are suspended from ALL teams they registered on in the Gardens Adult League until such time as the suspension from the original team has expired. *If a player does not re-register for the team he earned the suspension on, the suspension will carry over to the first team he registers on for the next season.*

Non-Rostered Sub Goalie- Will be suspended from playing as sub goalie from all teams until such time the suspension term for the original team has been served.

Protests and Complaints

Recognizing that a vital objective of league play is development of concepts of sportsmanship, protests are not favored and normally may be expected to be denied except in instances of a gross violation of the rules. Protests which are submitted shall be handled in the following manner.

Winning teams may not file a protest, only losing teams.

Protests must be submitted in writing by the team captain to the League Director within 48 hours on the completion of the game. Emails are acceptable.

Protests submitted by any other team member will not be considered.

The League Director, the League Commissioner, or one of the Duty Commissioners will respond to the protest within 72 hours or receipt (unless more prompt response is needed). ALL referees' judgmental decisions are final and are not subject to protest, appeal or review. **Live Barn will not be used as a tool by captains or players to dispute calls made during games. **

A situation may occur which is not appropriate for protest, but with respect to which a team wishes to complain. In such a case, the same basic procedures as for a protest shall be followed. The result of a complaint will have no effect on a game's result, but may serve to clarify league, club, team or individual membership actions and policy.

Registration, Fees and Team Rosters

All teams are required to pay a non refundable deposit when they register their team. Teams must register and pay typically one month before opening day of the season. Registration will close on the date the deposit is due.

The remainder of the registration fee is due approximately 30 days from the start of the season. The exact due dates will be posted on the web site.

Rosters are populated when the individual players who are expected to be on the team, goes online and registers him/herself onto the teams roster. A player is not considered on a teams roster unless they actually go online and register themselves onto that teams roster EACH SEASON. It does not matter if they played on the team in previous season or if the captain is counting on them as part of the roster, THEY ARE NOT ON THE ROSTER UNTIL THEY REGISTER WITH THE LEAGUE FOR THE CURRENT SEASON.

Registration is done online with payments made by Visa or Mastercard. Failure to make payment will result in games forfeited.

USA Hockey registration/membership is required for all participants. All players on each team's roster, including those players considered substitutes, must be registered with USA Hockey within one month after the opening date of the season. If they are not registered with USA Hockey they will be removed from the team's roster. The League Commissioner will inform the team captain in writing before any players are removed from the roster.

USA Hockey membership provides player insurance. Everyone participating in a league game or practice must be a USA Hockey member or the coverage for all players is invalidated. All players who participate in the league must register individually on-line with USA Hockey. Participants must present their confirmation code to the League Commissioner before joining any league activities - games or practices.

There is a 30-player limit on the number of players on a team roster (captain + 29). USA Hockey limits the number of players on the bench to 18 skaters and 2 goalies per game. (Inline Hockey Allows 15 skaters and 2 goalies to be Rostered/Benched) All rosters will be "frozen" 30 days after the opening day of the season, NOT from each team's first game. No team may add players to the roster any time the rosters are "frozen" except in the following instances:

(1.) Any team who loses a player due to season-ending injury or moving out of the area

may add a player on a one-for-one basis. Player being added pays a \$50.00 Player add-on fee required. (Fee is NON REFUNDABLE)

No players may be added during the final two months of the regular season regardless of reason. New players must be registered with USA Hockey before playing. All rostered players must have played a MINIMUM of 1/3 of the regular season games (7 in the Fall/winter season and 5 in the spring/summer season) to be eligible to play in the playoffs. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS Regardless of the reason.

Score sheet printed rosters - no one may make pen-and-ink changes to the rosters except the League Commissioner or a Duty Commissioner. Scorekeeper may only make a change with the approval of the league commissioner.

Sub Goalies: A goalie registered on a team (as a goalie) roster may substitute for any team at or above his/her level, regardless of " Tier". Rostered goalies in Bronze may sub for any level, Silver may sub for any Silver teams (Silver 1, Silver 2, etc) or any Gold teams, and Gold may sub for only Gold teams. There is no minimum games requirement for a goalie to play in the playoffs, however only goalies who are on the roster of another team (as a goalie) that is at or below that level will be allowed to sub. The use of any goalie who is " playing down" will result in a forfeit by the offending team for use of an illegal player. If the game is forfeited the Score sheet will still reflect goals, penalties, shots etc, up to the point where the game is Forfeited . If there is a tie in the standings when playoff seeding is determined, the final score of 2-0 will be manually applied for tie breaking purposes. Non-Rostered Goalies may NOT sub in the playoffs.

All non-rostered sub goalies must have a valid USA Hockey Number on file with the league before they can play in any regular season game.

Schedules, Standings, Statistics and Playoffs

Games days and starting times for all divisions:

Sunday: 11:30AM - 10:50 PM

Monday through Friday: 7:00PM - 10:50 PM Saturday: 1:00PM through 10:50 PM

When an odd number of teams make up a division, occasionally one team may need to play an additional game so that every team plays the specified number of games. When this occurs the first game following either the winter mid-season break or the summer Independence Day holiday will not count in the standings for the team that is playing the additional game. The game schedule gets posted on Pointstreak.

Schedule Changes

Schedule changes will be made by the league only to accommodate games that cannot be played due to rink equipment failure and the closing of the rink due to inclement weather (hurricanes, blizzards, etc.).

Teams that have conflicts with published schedule times have two choices.

1. Show up and make the best of the game
2. Not show up and forfeit

Any team that fails to appear for three consecutive games will be removed from the schedule without any refund.

The League offers you a 3rd opportunity to try and swap games with other teams from within a team's own division or ask the league for open ice slots so you can try and reschedule your game.

If the team has an issue with a scheduled game the team captain must send us an email *at least 4 days prior* to the game date that they want swapped. We will get back to the team captain with a list of possible dates/times/teams to swap with/or open ice slots. The captain requesting the change must then contact his opponent's captain, and if you're trying to do a game swap, the 2 other captains that he wants to swap slots with. If any of the other 3 captains declines the swap, all games will remain as scheduled. If all 4 captains agree to a swap, email us the agreement and the change will be processed. The League will not take these steps for you. It is the captain's responsibility to work out their own game swap. If the captain can't, then the league rules listed above will be followed. Under no circumstances will the league simply cancel a game and reschedule it for a later date.

***In Extreme situations the Gardens Adult Hockey League will make an exception and allow teams to reschedule their game with less than 4 days advanced notice IF:

1. Both teams agree to reschedule the game AND
2. The team requesting the game reschedule pay an additional fee to reschedule the game officials. The rate will vary between \$154-\$162 depending on the level. Both conditions MUST be met or the game will not be rescheduled***

*Teams must submit in writing special events such as weddings, tournaments, religious holidays, or any event that will cause them to be unable to play before the season schedule is completed. If we have this information up front we can work the schedule around them. Schedule request accommodations are not guaranteed. The league reserves the right to make final decisions on all league games.

Game Forfeits

There are three types of game forfeits

1. Advanced -prior to the game date and time
2. At start of game
3. Forfeit due to use of illegal player

If a team knows in advance that they do not have enough players and must forfeit the game, the team captain should contact the league by both Email and Phone, as well as reach out to their opponents if possible. The players of the team that are forfeiting do not get credit for the game, every player of the opposing team will get credit for that

game since the league does not know who would have attended the game.

If it is game time and one team does not have enough players show up for the game and they have to forfeit. Only the players who were actually in attendance for the game will get credit, Players must be sure to properly check in with the scorekeeper. The teams may use the ice to practice, only players from their teams are permitted to use the ice; they may not invite anyone else on the ice with them.

If neither team has enough players to start the game the game shall be declared a double forfeit. Both teams would get zero (0) points in the standings for this game.

Any team that fails to appear for three consecutive games will be removed from the schedule without any refund.

NO REFUNDS for forfeited games. The league does not refund teams when opponents forfeit scheduled games

Use of an Illegal player there will be an automatic game forfeit if a team is caught using an illegal player, Plus Game Suspensions for the player and Captain- Refer to above section **Knowingly Using an Illegal Player**.

Postponement of games due to inclement weather or equipment failure

Any games postponed due to inclement weather or equipment failure will be immediately posted on the web site. Every effort will be made to contact the teams' captains by the quickest means available (phone, email, etc.) It is important that each team captain set up some way of rapidly communicating with the rest of the team. It is also critical that the captain and alternate captains of each team keep their contact information updated with the League Office. These games will be rescheduled at the end of the season just before the start of the playoffs. If necessary, the start of the playoff schedule will be delayed to accommodate the make-up games.

Standings

Pointstreak will be the official site for standings. When an odd number of teams make up a division, occasionally one team may need to play an additional game so that every team plays the specified number of games. When this occurs the first game following either the winter mid-season break or the summer Independence Day holiday will not count in the standings for the team that is playing the additional game.

Tie breakers for teams with the same number of place points

- 1. Most overall wins;**
- 2. Points awarded in head-to-head competition;**
- 3. Goal differential in head-to-head competition;**
- 4. Total goal differential;**
- 5. Fewest penalty minutes;**
- 6. Coin Toss**

Statistics

Game scores, player and goalie statistics will be kept on Pointstreak. Captains will have 48 hours (2 days) after a game is completed to contact us with any discrepancies on their roster or statistics and only their roster or team statistics. After that 48 hours (2 days) no corrections or changes can or will be made. All season long, Before every game the Captain must Check-in his players (including the goalie). When the game is over the captain needs to double check the paper score sheet and then sign the paper score sheet verifying the attendance for that game is correct. Once the roster is signed, no changes will be made to the attendance unless what was verified was posted correctly in Pointstreak.

Playoff Procedures/Schedules

All teams make the playoffs. All rostered players must have played a MINIMUM of 1/3 of the regular season games (7 for fall/winter and 5 for spring/summer season) to be eligible to play in the playoffs. As of September 2014 There will be NO Exemptions for Playoffs Regardless of reason weather it be Medical, Work, Etc... There is no minimum games requirement for a goalie to play in the playoffs, however only goalies who are on registered on the roster of another team(as a goalie) in the current season and that is at or below that level will be allowed to Sub. Single elimination playoffs will be used to determine division champions If the division has an odd number of teams in it, the first playoff game will be a qualifier between the last place team and the next- to-last place team. All other playoff games will be first place vs. last place, second place vs. next to last place, etc. Semi-finals will be the highest place survivor vs. the lowest place survivor, and the 2nd place vs. third place survivor. The playoff schedules will be posted on the league schedule page prior to the end of the season.

Players not eligible for the playoffs who earn a suspension in the regular season games, the playoff games will not count towards the players suspension. Suspension will carry over to the following season that they register for.

* Players will be required to present a PHOTO ID to play in the playoff games. They must check in with the commissioner at the front desk and present their ID's. The commissioner will then mark them as showing their ID on the paper score sheet. If a player is NOT checked in when the scorekeeper receives the score sheet or comes late to the game the player must present their ID to the scorekeeper before playing. Failure to present an ID will result in preventing the player from playing in the playoff game.