

Discipline

- 1) Discipline Review Committee – The AAHA Board of Directors shall annually appoint one (1) AAHA Disciplinary Subcommittees. They will operate in Phoenix, Arizona to be chaired by the AAHA appointed Chairman. The Committee, through its Chair, is directly responsible to the Board of Directors of AAHA in performing its functions. The Disciplinary subcommittee will be comprised of no less than members of 5 affiliated clubs. It is advisable to have additional members without club affiliations.
 - a) Committee decisions may be made by as few as three (3) of the members if there are abstentions, absences, or conflicts of interest. Committee actions and decision are based on a simple majority vote. In situations in which a tie vote is possible, a vote by the chair will be reserved and occur only as a tiebreaker. The Chair may note conflict of interest or appearance of conflict of interest and excuse him/herself or request another member of the committee to excuse him/herself from the proceedings in which the conflicts or appearance of conflict is thought to occur. The chair, as necessary to compensate for abstaining or absent members and conflict of interest exclusions for the time being, will appoint members. The Vice-Chair will serve as Chair should the appointed Chair be absent, or in a conflict situation. The committee will notify the association to which the player(s) belong in writing of the action taken by the Discipline Review Committee as soon as possible after the hearing.
 - b) The general business of the Committee is to be conducted in open session; general business conduct by telephonic communications is to be available to the public upon request. Any hearing involving a discipline or other similar action of a confidential or quasi-confidential or personal nature shall be conducted in a closed session with those present being members of the Committee and:
 - 1) The person against who an action is being considered (including a parent or designated guardian and/or coach for players); and/or
 - 2) Designated representative(s) of the team or AAHA affiliate against who an action is directed: and/or
 - 3) The aggrieved people, including parents or designated guardians and/or coach for players, team or affiliate involved: and/or
 - 4) Individuals providing testimony in such proceeding shall appear in the proceeding singly, and be excused after providing testimony. Any discovery or allegation by an individual shall be presented in writing to the Committee. Accusations in writing must be presented 48 hours following the incident with sources of the accusation identified in documentation. The Chair will only enter evidence and testimony into the record if sources are identified and content deemed pertinent to the Hearing. The Chair may accept documentation at a later date based on hearing schedule and discovery.
 - c) The deliberations of the Committee in session will be duly recorded and a written copy of same will be provided to the AAHA President no later than the next regular meeting of the

AAHA Board of Directors. The Chair shall submit a written report to the AAHA President, Association President, Associate Registrar and VP of Tournaments.

- d) USA Hockey rules notwithstanding, AAHA has determined that the running of the 30-day time limit for holding a required hearing shall commence upon a receipt by the appropriate Discipline Review Committee of the officially transmitted written incident report. An official hearing may occur after the expiration of the 30-day time frame for the convenience of the Discipline Review Committee and/or penalized individual so long as the initial scheduling occurs within the stated 30-day time frame.
- e) Committee actions can be initiated by:
 - 1) Notice to the chair of an infraction of USA Hockey or AAHA rules that require match penalty, by a referee or an appropriate designated tournament official, in writing, or verbally followed by an annotated score sheet or other appropriate written notice
 - 2) A request from the AAHA President or Board of Directors
 - 3) A Tournament Director
 - 4) A designated member of Tournament Disciplinary Committee.
- f) The Committee will respond/act on any such notification at its next regularly scheduled meeting or as soon thereafter as all pertinent materials and persons involved in the issue at hand can be assembled.
- g) **Scheduled meetings of the Committee** will be at 6:00 PM on the first (1st) and third (3rd) Mondays of each month, November through March. The Committee shall keep a schedule weekly meeting September 1-October 31. The Committee will convene on this schedule unless the Chair, for lack of active issues, cancels the meeting. The AAHA President, Board of Directors, or the Chair may call ad hoc meetings for specific issues at any other time during the full calendar year.
- h) **Appeal Procedures** – Any person or team that considers himself/herself aggrieved by sanctions imposed by the Committee may appeal that decision to the AAHA Board of Directors. The AAHA President must receive written appeals of a decision or action of the Committee fifteen (15) days of notification of the decision of the Committee (or on Monday following the fifteenth (15th) day if that day is Friday) for consideration. Such appeal must be accompanied by all written documentation from the original proceeding. The AAHA President will present the appeal to the full Board of Directors at the next Board's regularly scheduled meeting for reconsideration, and will be responsible for all appeal proceedings and actions.
- i) Committee actions and decisions will be based on USA Hockey published rules and regulations, AAHA Hockey rules and regulations, specific tournament rules and regulations, and generally accepted policies for implementation of all such rules and regulations.
- j) Penalties imposed by the Committee may affirm the original penalty imposed by a game official, or may be additional to that penalty at the discretion of the Committee.
- k) Additional disciplinary duties of the Committee will be assigned by the AAHA President.
- l) The Chair of the Discipline Review Committee will bill directly to the Affiliate Association, through the treasurer, any costs exceeding \$20.00 that the committee incurs in the course

of reviewing any actions concerning a member of that Affiliate. This may include, but is not limited to, long distance telephone audio or video conference charges, travel expense, or collections accounting expenses.

2) Penalty Enforcement

- a) The member clubs, teams, coaches and other team officials are responsible for ensuring that all game misconducts incurred are served at the next game in accordance with USA Hockey and if applicable, league or tournament rules. This includes any games that are played outside the AAHA boundaries.
- b) Match Penalties – Match penalties shall be reported by the referee in a written report to the Local Area Officiating Supervisor who shall report to the Referee-In-Chief, AAHA President, and to the AAHA Disciplinary Review Committee. Any player or team official receiving such a penalty shall be suspended from any further USA Hockey sanctioned games or practices until the AAHA Discipline Review Committee determines the appropriate penalty and disposition for the infraction.

All match penalties must be referred to the AAHA Discipline Review Committee for referral and advice. In no circumstances will the penalized player/coach be allowed on the ice, on the bench, in the locker room, or to practice with the team during the suspension period. Therefore, any suspension will be “total” during the suspension period. All associations should advise their coaching staffs of USA Hockey playing rule 405(c), the circumvention of which will be dealt with severely by the AAHA Discipline Review Committee.

The chart below is a guideline only for the committee when deciding what suspensions to hand out.

Rule	Infraction	No of Months	No of Games
601(f) (1)	Attempt to injure official	6-12 Note 1	N/A
601(f) (2)	Attempt to injure Team official	6-12 Notes 1,2	N/A
601(f) (3)	Conduct detrimental to the game	1-3 Notes 1,2	3-10 Notes 1,2
602(a)	Attempt to injure an opponent	1-2 Notes 1,2	3-10 Notes 1/2
602(a)	Deliberate injury to an opponent	1-4 Notes 1,2	5-10 Notes 1,2

606(b)	Butt Ending	1-4 Notes 1,2	3-10 Notes 1,2
608(c)	Checking from Behind	1-4 Notes 1,2	3-10 Notes 1,2
615(c)	Deliberately removing helmet During altercation	1-2 Notes 1,2	3-10 Notes 1,2
619(b)	Head Butting(602a)	1-2 Notes 1,2	5-12 Notes 1,2
620(c)	Head Contact (602a)	1-2 Notes 1,2	3-10 Notes 1,2
622(c)	Holding/Grabbing Facemask (602a)	1-2 Notes 1,2	3-10 Notes 1,2
627(b)	Kicking an opponent	1-4 Notes 1,2	5-12 Notes 1,2
633(a)(b)	Coaches refusing to start play or come on ice	1-3 Notes 1,2	5-10 Notes 1,2
634(c)	Slashing/swing stick during Altercation (602a)	1-3 Notes 1,2	3-12 Notes 1,2
635(b)	Spearing (603a)	1-2 Notes 1,2	3-10 Notes 1,2

End of Year	Any Match Penalty that is not successfully appealed that cannot be served in its entirety in the hockey season (August 1-July 31) in which it was assessed will carry Forward to the following season for completion or Implementation regardless of any change in USA affiliate by the penalized player
Note 1	One (1) year probation beginning at date of infraction
Note 2	Credit is awarded for time serves
Other	Hearing will be heard after proper notification, with or without the presences of the accused. If requested by the committee, referee attendance is mandatory. However, every effort will be made to resolve the issue based on the referee's statement.

All game reports will be sent to the association representative, Disciplinary Chairman and AAHA President within 48 hours of receipt of referee's written report.