

SALT LAKE COUNTY

ADULT HOCKEY LEAGUE RULES AND PROCEDURES

I. Philosophy

The Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation Adult Ice Hockey Program provides its participants with an opportunity to play ice hockey in a competitive but recreational environment. This program promotes the ideals of sportsmanship and physical fitness to all participants regardless of sex, race, creed, or color. More important than any game are the participants and their needs. The Adult Ice Hockey program strives to bring area residents closer together through their common interest in sportsmanship, cooperation, and appreciation of the game.

II. Sportsmanship

It is expected that participants in the Salt Lake County Adult Ice Hockey program will exhibit good sportsmanship, which includes respect for the officials, teammates, opponents, and facilities. The Salt Lake County Adult Ice Hockey program follows the rules provided in the USA Hockey rulebook and the Salt Lake County Patron Standards of Conduct. It is the manager's responsibility to ensure all players know and adhere to these rules.

The Salt Lake County Recreation Division has the authority to disqualify, suspend or remove any team manager, coach, player, spectator, or team which behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner before, during or after a game.

III. Program Administration

- A. Team establishments - Team Managers are responsible for managing their respective teams and obtaining their own players.
- B. Facilities – Acor Ice Center, County Ice Center, and Salt Lake City Sports Complex
- C. Schedule – The League Administer and Salt Lake County Hockey Committee will organize the season schedule. For the 2026-2027 season there will be 10 regular season games and Single elimination playoffs. Every effort will be made to evenly rotate time and arenas for the teams to play.
- D. Scorekeepers/Off-Ice and On-Ice Officials – Salt Lake County will contract the services of the Wasatch Ice Hockey Officials Association (W.I.H.O.A.). W.I.H.O.A. is responsible for the training and scheduling of the scorekeepers and officials. They will be an extension of the league organization and have decision-making powers to ensure the games run smoothly in accordance with County guidelines and USA Hockey rules and regulations of play.
- E. Team Manager Meeting – League Administer may offer a team manager's meeting before or after each hockey season.

IV. Fees

- A. Fees are assessed based on a team fee, not individual fees. The per player fee charged by a Team Manager may be different with each team based on the # of players per team or other fees charged by a particular team over and above the County fee.
- B. The Team Fee is \$2750.00 due Wednesday September 2, 2026
 - a. Optional payment installment plan:
 - i. First payment of \$916.00 due by September 2, 2026

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- ii. Second payment of \$917.00 due by October 9th, 2026
 - iii. Third payment of \$917.00 due by October 23rd, 2026
- b. If installment payment is not received on the due date listed above, the team manager will be sent to collections, and the team will forfeit the remaining games.
- C. The Team Manager is responsible for making payment(s) to the Acord Ice Center. Individual team members do not pay individually at any County facility. Players are to pay their Team Manager

V. Uniforms

- A. It is mandatory for all players to have matching jerseys. The jersey must be the same color and design with at least an 8-inch contrasting number on the back. Team jerseys may not have duplicate numbers. Every player must have an individual number.
- B. Matching hockey socks are highly recommended.
- C. All teams must have jerseys by October 25th, 2026.
 - a. PENALTY: After October 25th, 2026, any player out of uniform will be assessed a minor penalty as soon as he/she steps on the ice for the scheduled game. The penalty will be assessed to the player and will be eligible to play after serving the minor penalty.
 - b. If both teams happen to have the same color jerseys one team will need to change into different colored jerseys and no penalties will be handed out for mismatched jerseys.
- D. It is suggested that team managers carry extra jerseys for team members who may have forgotten or lost their jersey.

VI. Division of Teams

The League Administer and Salt Lake County Hockey Committee reserve the right to split divisions as needed. Not all divisions will be offered each season.

- A. **Division 1** – designed to be the top caliber division of play. It is typically comprised of Former Pros, College, Junior, Midget Major, and players who were at the travel team level as they progressed through the youth hockey ranks.
- B. **Division 2** – designed for players who may have played at a higher level.
 - a. Any player that is currently playing or has played the past Winter season at a Men's College hockey program, Juniors, Midget Major (AAA), or a level administration deems equivalent, that player will not be eligible to play in this division.
 - b. Any player who is currently or has played the past 5 Winter seasons at a Professional or NCAA College level will not be eligible to play in this division.
 - c. Women that have played at a high level of hockey their eligibility for this division will be determined by league administration.
- C. **Division 3** – designed for players who may have played at a higher level.
 - a. Any player that has played the past 3 Winter seasons at a Men's College, Senior Check, Junior, Midget Major (AAA) level will not be eligible to play in this division.
 - b. Any player who is currently or has played the past 7 Winter seasons at a Professional or NCAA College level will not be eligible to play in this division.
 - c. Women that have played at a high level of hockey their eligibility for this division will be determined by league administration.

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- D. **Division 4** – designed for the intermediate level player.
 - a. Any player who is currently playing or has played the past 10 Winter seasons at a College, Senior Check, Junior, or Midget Major (AAA) level will not be allowed to play in this division.
 - b. Any Player who is currently or has played at a Professional or NCAA College level will not be eligible to play in this division without prior league approval.
 - c. Any Player who has played Division 1 hockey must be over 40 years of age and have been removed from playing division 1 for the past 5 Winter seasons in order to be eligible to play in this division.
- E. **Division 5** - designed for the beginning level player (5 years or less playing experience) or over 40 players who have not played travel team, college, junior or professional hockey in the past.
- F. **Division Over 40** – designed for players who are 40 and older. The only exception will be goalies.

VII. Team Placement

- A. League Administrator/ Hockey Committee reserves the right to move teams up or down a division depending on how the team finished the past season.
 - a. The first-place team in each division may move up to compete in the next division for the following season. The last place team in a division may move down for the following season.
- B. Players are encouraged to play on a team at their skill level.

VII. Player Eligibility

- A. No more than 20 players may roster on a team.
 - a. No additional substitute players are allowed.
 - b. Any substitute player must be taken from the team roster of 20.
 - i. A player must be dropped and replaced with a substitute player.
- B. The minimum number of rostered players on a team is 11.
- C. Team managers must send a roster list to the League Administrator before the season starts.
- D. New players must be registered on-line with Salt Lake County by 12:00 pm on the Thursday before the next scheduled game.
 - a. Salt Lake County: slco.org/hockey/
 - i. Players must click on the player registration link then Salt Lake County Adult Summer Hockey Player registration.
- E. No player will be allowed on the ice without being registered with Salt Lake County.

VIII. Team Managers and Team Rosters

- A. Rosters are open for adding/deleting players until the roster deadline of December 3rd, 2026. The League Administrator must be notified by e-mail (cbilleter@saltlakecounty.gov) by noon on the Thursday before the next scheduled game. Team managers are responsible for the adding/deleting of players.
- B. Rosters will be frozen on December 3rd, 2026.
- C. Prior to the start of each game, the Team Manager or designee will provide the Scorekeeper a list of the eligible players in attendance for the scheduled game.

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- a. The Scorekeeper has the right to request identification of players from any team to ensure eligibility.
- b. PENALTY: If a player is found to be ineligible, the game will be declared a forfeit.
 - i. The player's team will incur the loss.
- D. An unrostered player may not play under the name of a rostered player.
 - a. PENALTY: If this occurs, the manager and the illegal player both become ineligible for the remainder of the season.
- E. All players must have reached their 18th birthday by **December 3rd, 2026**.
 - a. A player must be 18 years old in order to be rostered and eligible to play on a team.
- F. Players may be rostered only on one team in the division. Players who wish to roster on more than 1 team can only roster on another team in an adjoining division. This means a player can only play on two teams in the league during a season and only in adjoining divisions.
 - a. Example: a player may roster on one team in Division 1 and 2 or 2 and 3 but not 1 and 3.
 - b. If a division is split into an A & B division, players can still only play up or down a division. Example: a player may roster on one team in Division 1 and 2A or 2A and 2B or 2B and 3. A player is not allowed to play in Division 1 and 2B or 2A and 3.
- G. A player must play in **3** regular season games to be eligible to participate in playoffs. If a player is rostered with two teams, he/she must play in **3** games for the higher division team and **7** games for the lower division team.
- H. **New Rule: No team may roster more than 3 players from a higher division on their team.**
 - a. **Example: no more than 3 players from Division 1 can play on a Division 2 team.**
- I. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to keep his/her roster current. Any changes must be transacted in writing between the Team Manager and the League Administrator.
- J. Goaltenders for Divisions 1, 2 & 3 may be freely substituted from team to team only in the event the team's regular goalie cannot play in a regular season or playoff game. It is recommended that the sub goalie be of comparable skill level for the division he/she is filling in for.
- K. Goaltenders for Divisions 4 & 5 may be freely substituted from team to team only in the event the team's regular goalie cannot play in a regular season or playoff game. It is recommended that the sub goalie be of comparable skill level for the division he/she is filling in for. Goalies that currently play division 1 or who have played Professionally, NCAA College or Junior Hockey are not allowed to play in these two divisions without prior league approval. This approval must be in writing via email with the league administration. Any team violating this rule may forfeit their game.
- L. Salt Lake County reserves the right to remove player/players from a team if their skill set is not in harmony with the division and team they are rostered on.

VIII. Rules and Regulations

- A. The USA Hockey rule book is enforced with the following modifications:
 - a. Warm-up: 5 minutes with the warm-up beginning at the scheduled game start-time not when the players get on the ice.
 - b. Game Format: games will be 1 hour and 15 minutes in length. This consists of three 13-minute stop-time periods. There is no overtime during the regular season.
 - c. Penalties:
 - i. **Minor Penalty – 2:00 minutes**
 - ii. **Major Penalty - 5:00 minutes**

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iii. Misconduct Penalty - 10:00 minutes

- d. There will be a 1-minute break between periods with an ice-make after each game.
- e. Five Second Rule: After every whistle, the referee conducting the faceoff will allow both teams 5 seconds to make a line change simultaneously (there will be no designation of home team during the regular season). The referee will then blow the whistle and at the end of 5 seconds, the centers for each team must be in position WITH THEIR STICK DOWN and THEIR BODY SET ready to take the faceoff. Failure to do so will result in the puck being dropped without the center being there OR the center's expulsion from the faceoff if he/she is there but is not down and set. The puck will be dropped if both centers are in position WITH STICK DOWN and BODY SET OR if neither center is in position and down and set OR if one center is in position and down and set and the other center hasn't arrived yet.
- f. Any player who receives 4 penalties in a game will result in a game ejection.
- g. Any player who receives a Major Penalty will automatically receive a game misconduct.
- h. Any team during the preseason or regular season (excludes playoffs) receives 13 penalties in a game, the game will be stopped and declared a forfeit. The non-offending team will be declared the winner, and the score will be marked as a 1-0. If both teams reach the 13-penalty mark at the same time the game will be stopped and the game will be declared a tie 1-1.
- i. If a game is forfeited due to the 13-penalty rule both teams must leave the ice and are not allowed to stay on the ice and scrimmage without officials, even if there is a fair amount of ice time left.
- j. Any team receiving their third Match Penalty against their team will forfeit the next scheduled league game. If a team receives four or more match penalties against their team in a season, that team will be suspended for the remainder of the season (including playoffs).
- k. One time out (1 minute) allowed per team per game (including playoffs).
- l. Overtime rules. No game will end in a tie. There will be a 3-man shootout and if the game is still tied after that it will go to a sudden death shootout. A team must go through 5 different shooters before starting over. Any player in the penalty box at the end of regulation will not be allowed to participate in the shootout. The team that scored the last goal will shoot first. If the game was 0 – 0 at the end of regulation, there will be a coin toss to see who shoots first. The winning team will get 2 points for the win and the losing team will get 1 point for an overtime loss.

B. Game Misconduct Penalties

- a. The County will have a progressive policy towards Game Misconduct Penalties. The first Game Misconduct Penalty/Penalties in a game will carry the normal one game suspension for each game misconduct handed out.
- b. Any Player that has previously been assessed a game Misconduct/Penalties in a season and receives second Game Misconduct Penalty/Penalties in a different game of the same season will incur a three-game suspension on top of the game misconduct/misconducts handed out. In addition, that player will need to serve out the entire suspension for that team he/she received the second game misconduct/misconducts on, before they would be allowed to play for another team they may be rostered on.
- c. A player that has received their Second Game Misconduct/Penalties near the end of the season, will have this suspension carry over to the next season. That player will not be allowed to play for a second team until they have finished out their suspension for the team, they received that

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suspension for. If the player changes teams that player would then serve out the suspension for the new team.

- d. Any player that has previously received a Game Misconduct/Penalties already in a season and receives a second Game Misconduct/Penalties in a different game in that same season will be placed on probation for one year. Probation will start after they have served their entire suspension. During the probation period if that player receives a game misconduct for any reason, they will be suspended from the SL County Adult Hockey League for one year.

- e. Game misconduct penalties incurred at the end of the season will be served once a player rosters on a Salt Lake County Adult League Team in a future season. The player must serve the suspension for the team he/she played for when receiving their Game Misconduct Penalty/Penalties. If the player switches to a different team and/or plays on multiple teams the league will decide which team the player must serve his/her suspension for.

C. Match Penalties

- a. Any player/coach who is assessed a match penalty will be immediately removed from the game they are playing in and suspended from any other Salt Lake County games and practices pending a hearing. All Match Penalties will receive a hearing, except for the two situations below. The player/coach will be notified of the hearing panel's decision and the appeal process.
- b. Any player/coach who is assessed a match penalty under the USA Hockey Rule 601 (E 3) "Uses language that is hateful or discriminatory in nature anywhere in the rink before, during or after a game" will be suspended for a minimum of two games and placed on probation for a year.
- c. Any player/coach who is assessed a match penalty for removal of their own helmet or an opponent's helmet during an altercation, will be suspended for a minimum of two games and placed on probation for a year.

D. Game Ejection Rule

- a. If a player/coach is ejected from the game for misconduct, game ejection, game misconduct or match penalty he/she must go to their locker room and leave the facility after changing.
 - i. PENALTY: If the player/coach is found in the facility, including the stands or lobby after he has changed, the team will receive a forfeit. The player/coach's team will incur the loss.

E. Team Penalty Threshold Rule

- a. If a team's penalty minutes exceeds an average of 11 minutes per game (Example 15 Game season = 165 minutes) that team will be placed on probation with the league for the next two seasons. This includes regular season and playoff games.
 - i. PENALTY: If that team averages more than 11 penalty minutes a game while on probation that team will be suspended from the league for 4 years.

IX. Zero Tolerance Policy of USA Hockey, Inc

(Adopted by Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation Adult Ice Hockey Program)

- A. "In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, the USA Hockey Youth, Junior and Senior Councils have instructed the Officiating Program to adhere to certain

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points of emphasis relating to sportsmanship. This campaign is designed to require all players, coaches, officials, team officials and administrators and parents/spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey sanctioned games. Thus, the following points of emphasis must be implemented by all On-Ice Referees and Linesmen":

- a. **PLAYERS** - A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed whenever a player:
 - i. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
 - ii. Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing even if not directed at a particular person.
 - iii. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. Any time a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.
- b. **COACHES** - A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed whenever a coach:
 - i. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
 - ii. Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
 - iii. Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players, or spectators. Any time a coach persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.
- c. **OFFICIALS**
 - i. Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial, and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited. On-ice officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.
- d. **PARENTS/SPECTATORS**
 - i. The game will be stopped by on-ice officials when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. The on-ice officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced, and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:
 1. Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
 2. Taunting of players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
 3. Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, player's bench, penalty box or on the ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.
- e. **LOCKER ROOMS**
 - i. Locker rooms are assigned to a team. It is the responsibility of all team members to make sure the locker room is left the way it was when they arrived. A \$50.00 cleaning fee will be assessed if the room is left a mess. Teams will be held responsible for any damage to the facility. Remember, this is a public facility, and it is used by many children. As with all public county facilities, **NO ALCOHOL IS ALLOWED ON THE PREMISES.**

X. Playoffs

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- A. Each team will be eligible for **single** elimination playoffs. Teams will be seeded in the playoffs by the place they finish during the regular season. If at the end of the season teams are tied for points, the placement for playoffs will be determined by, Winning Percentage, Head-to-Head, Head-to-Head Goal Differential, Total Goal Differential, Total Goals For and Average Goals Against.
- B. A player must play in **3** regular season games to be eligible to participate in playoffs. If a player is rostered with two teams, he/she must play in **3** games for the higher division team and **5** games for the lower division team.
- C. One time out (one minute) allowed per game per team in playoffs only.