

Yuma Youth Hockey League

Recreation Rules

Article IV: General

Section 1: Mission Statement

The primary mission of Yuma Youth Hockey Inc. (YYHI) shall be to promote, develop and instill fundamentally sound skills, sportsmanship, fair play, and team unity in Yuma's dedicated youth athletes in the sport of hockey.

Section 2: ***These recreation rules have been adopted by YYHI for the Yuma Youth Hockey League (YYHL) as the detailed policy that will be followed by COACHES, PLAYERS and PARENTS/FANS. These recreation rules are in addition to the rules and policies of the YYHL and [Roller Hockey Alliance \(RHA\) rules.](#)***

1. All YYHL coaches must attend Concussion Certification Classes, bi-annually.
<https://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/coach.html>
2. All YYHL coaches will be required to complete an annual background check.
3. All YYHL coaches will be required to sign the YYHL Code of Conduct and Discipline form.
4. A good example by players, coaches, referees, and volunteers will be set at all times while on rink property as you are representatives of the YYHL.
5. NO use of obscene or abusive language or behavior on the bench, on the rink or in the stands at any time while at the sporting event. The YYHL Board will investigate any reports of such actions, and by a majority vote, may remove the responsible party for any behavior deemed unsatisfactory.
6. NO abusive language or behavior from players, parents, spectators, or coaches towards game officials (referees), anyone from or with the opposing team, or any rink personnel, at any time before, during or after the game. This also includes any involvement in social media. Coaches may remove any player or coach from the bench during a game for abusive behavior. The YYHL Board will determine the penalty for coaches violating this rule.
7. Coaches will not tolerate abusive behavior from players or parents; nor will they tolerate any obscenities from players or parents at any time.
8. It is the Coach's decision to suspend or remove players from the game and/or roster for violating the abusive behavior rules; the coach will submit a proposal for suspension/removal to the YYHL board for final decision by majority vote.
9. Coaches are responsible for the players and their actions before, during and after games and practices and at all times while on rink property while assembled as a team.

10. Fighting will not be tolerated. Fighting will result in an appearance before the YYHL Board.

11. It is an expectation that players notify their coach when they cannot attend a practice or a game.

Section 3: Divisions/Eligibility

Division is determined by the player's date of birth as of December 31 of the current year. Girls may have one additional year of eligibility in each division. YYHL will strive to have the following divisions, although some divisions may be combined to support an adequate number of players and teams in each division:

- 6U
- 8U
- 10U
- 12U
- 14U
- 16U
- 18U (must be enrolled in high school)

The Board of Directors reserves the right to place a player in a different division more appropriate for his/her skill level.

Section 4: Rules and Regulations of the Game:

YYHL will follow the rules and regulations as provided by RHA or an approved national organization. Any changes made to the rules and regulation will be approved by the Board of Directors before the playing season starts. A list of changes will be reviewed by the referees and coaches at a scheduled meeting before the season starts.

A. *Playing Time:* The coach will make every effort to ensure that all players receive equal playing time.

The only exceptions to this rule are:

1. Injury or illness;
2. Disciplinary reasons (reason for action must be noted on score sheet prior to game start);
3. Short-handed teams.

Coaches in the 6U and 8U Divisions will match lines to the skill level of the opposing team's lines (i.e., a weaker line vs a weaker line, a strong line vs a strong line).

- B. *Positions:* Coaches should rotate team members in as many playing positions as possible to allow them to learn the game. However, positioning of players is at the discretion of the head coach.
- C. *Registration:* Player membership in YYHL is acknowledged only after the player has registered and required fee has been paid. All teams are final as of the date of the draft. Late registrations may be considered by the YYHL Board of Directors on a case by case basis.
- D. *False Registration:* Any players who is illegally registered will be suspended pending Board review. "Illegally registered" includes, but is not limited to, providing a false birth certificate.
- E. *Player Safety:* No player will be allowed to play if they are wearing anything that could cause injury to themselves or other players. No player will be allowed to play with any type of orthopedic cast (exception Rule 305(a) of RHA Rules). No player with an injury that may be aggravated by playing, or that may endanger others, will be allowed to play.

Equipment Requirements:

- Mandatory: HECC approved Hockey Helmet with full attached face guard and chin guard
Shin/Knee Guards
Hockey Gloves
Elbow Pads
Skates for roller hockey (no brakes)
Hockey Stick (no plastic blades for 10U and up)
Athletic supporter and cup for boys
- Recommended: Shoulder and chest pads, girdle, mouth guard

- F. *Practice:* Coaches are to practice no more than three hours per week. Player conduct at practices is subject to the same standard as listed above.
- G. *Ejections:* Any player, coach, spectator, or referee may be ejected from a game and future games for the following reasons:
 - 1. Serious physical play or physical assault directed at another player, coach, spectator, or referee.

2. Any foul language or obscene gestures used or directed at another player, coach, spectator, or referee.
3. Any violations that warrant ejection under the league approved rulebook.
4. Any second ejection would require the participant to go before the Board to petition for reinstatement.

Excessive Penalties- If a player has received 3 penalties within one game, there will be an automatic removal of that player from the remainder of the game. This player will be removed from the game and escorted to the dressing area after he/she serves the penalty.

This rule supports our Mission Statement which is to promote both fair play and sportsmanship among our players at all age and skill levels, regardless of the skill level of the player or opponent.

Section 5: Coaches

All coaches must provide full name, birthdate, and SS# for use in background screenings.

Any coach who violates the Code of Ethics and/or Rules and Regulations is subject to disciplinary action by the Board up to and including suspension and/or removal.

Section 6: Uniforms

Uniforms purchased by YYHL will be of like construction purchased from a Board approved supplier. Only the player number and sponsor information will be printed on player uniforms. No player names will be printed on the uniforms. Any league member making any alterations to league uniforms will be required to replace the uniform at their expense. Uniforms should only be worn during scheduled games. Players that do not have their uniforms for game time may be provided an appropriate uniform to wear.

Section 7: Draft

A player draft will be completed prior to the start of the playing season. Rules for the draft will be reviewed with all coaches prior to the draft.

Section 8: Rosters

- A) Teams will consist of no more than 14 players
- B) No changes to the team rosters will be made unless they are reviewed and approved for a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of YYHL Board Members.