



GENERAL HOCKEY LEAGUE RULES



Adult Hockey Leagues General Rules and Regulations

I. Player and Team Eligibility

- A. Any person 18 years of age or older and not currently participating in high school sports. Undergraduate or graduate students at the university are eligible, but are subject to non-resident fees unless they can prove permanent city residency.
- B. Falsification of a player's address or signature will result in the entire team being required to re-sign a new roster, which will be held at the Park Administration Office.
- C. All players must sign the official roster before they will be eligible to play in any league game. Failure to do so will cause those players to be ineligible.
- D. Players may play on only one team in the same league
- E. Players who currently hold professional status in the given sport program are not eligible to compete.
- F. In order for players to be eligible for playoff games or league tournaments, a player must be placed on the team roster by the add/drop deadline point.
- G. Players who are lost for the remainder of the season (for whatever reason) may be replaced by another upon approval of the Adult Recreation Director (even if the add/drop deadline has passed). These situations will be handled on a case by case basis between the team captain and the Adult Recreation Director, or an approved staff member.
- H. Games in which ineligible players participate may result in said players being suspended and/or game forfeiture.

If there is ever a question of eligibility, this must be brought to the **official's** attention immediately. If the game has not started, the player(s) in question will be given the opportunity not to participate and the team and player will be at no risk for penalty. If the player(s) has/have already been participating, the player(s) and team will risk forfeiture of the game and possible suspension if player(s) is/are determined to be ineligible. Player(s) in question will be asked to provide photo identification proving who they are, as well as be required to sign their name on the official score-sheet.

THIS MUST BE ADDRESSED BEFORE MATCH IS COMPLETE!

1. Tournament Play – If the team in question has been found guilty of using an illegal player, they will receive a one (1) game forfeit. If this one (1) game forfeit is the team's first loss in a double elimination tournament, **the entire team will be required to show a photo identification** prior to the start of their next game. Failure to do so will put the team at risk of another forfeit.
2. Player(s) must be able to provide photo identification prior to the start of the next game.

II. Roster, Deposits, Entry Fees and Waivers

- A. Rosters – teams should consist of enough players to field a team each week, there is no minimum.
- B. Roster Deposit – when a team submits a roster, a deposit of \$100.00 must also be submitted.
 - 1. If a team is accepted into the league, the roster deposit will be applied to the base entry fee.
 - 2. If the team is not accepted into the league or withdraws before the entry fee deadline, the deposit will be refunded.
 - 3. If the team withdraws from the league after the entry fee deadline, the deposit will not be refunded.
 - 4. No monies will be refunded if a team is expelled from the league.
- C. Entry Fee – determined by the Park Department Administration, must be paid by each team prior to the specified deadline.
 - 1. All team entry fees and individual fees must be paid before your team will be allowed to participate.
 - 2. No monies will be refunded if a team is expelled from the league.
 - 3. If circumstances arise which prevent a sponsor from issuing a check prior to the entry fee deadline, the sponsor may issue a letter of “intent to sponsor”. This letter **MUST**:
 - a. accompany the roster when it is submitted (by fax, mail or in person).
 - b. indicate the amount of money paid by the sponsor for the team,
 - c. indicate the team name to be sponsored and captain’s name, and
 - d. must be signed by a representative of the sponsoring business, authorized to issue sponsor checks.
- D. Teams will be accepted on a first come/first serve basis.
- E. All participants are required to sign the physical waiver or may also sign the waiver on the online roster in QuickScores.

III. Adds and Drops

- A. Any teams allowed into the league after the roster/entry fee deadline, will be assessed a late entry fee in addition to all other costs.
- B. Any roster changes (add-ons, transfers, etc.) made after the start of the official season may be done through the QuickScores website through the Roster Lock Deadline.
- C. Players being added/dropped from the team roster may do so without the captain or co-captain notifying the office.
- D. Players are ONLY allowed to be on one (1) roster per league. Captain and/or Co-Captain of teams which have a player transferring must remove player from their roster in QuickScores.

- E. Players transferring teams may do so only once during any one season.

IV. Captain and Co-Captain Responsibilities

- A. General Rules and Regulations, as well as specific sport rules are expected to be known and abided by: team captains, co-captains, players and others associated with the team (i.e. spectators).
- B. Any matter not covered by the General Rules and Regulations will be left to the discretion of the Park Department Administration. Rules not covered in each specific sport rules will be governed by the established sports governing body.
- C. Must attend or send in their place a team representative to all captain's meetings at which time general rules & regulations, sport specific rules (including changes), and current league schedules will be discussed and distributed.
- D. Upon request, captains and/or Co-Captains must assist Park Department Staff in determining and making available any or all members of their team for inquiry or identification.
- E. When possible, shall notify Park Office before 4:00pm of forfeit of scheduled game/match prior to game/match time. If after office hours, please email Dan Lukes at dlukes@valpo.us and also attempt to contact the other team through QuickScores.

V. Conduct of Captains, Players, Team Personnel & Spectators

- A. All team members and others associated with the team are required to know the rules of the game, as well as to abide by them.
- B. Player Conduct – Typically, a three step disciplinary procedure will be enforced when unsportsmanlike conduct is present. Should circumstances warrant, league officials reserve the right to skip steps.
 - Step 1 - 1st offense: Captain is officially given a team warning. Captain and team are expected to calm/control offending player.
 - Step 2 - 2nd offense: Offending player (whether he/she is the 1st offender or not) is ejected for match (can play in 2nd match in case of doubleheader) point/side out, is awarded.
 - Step 3 - 3rd offense: Game forfeit.

*Any ejection will automatically result in a minimum one match suspension; upon further review from league officials, the suspension may be longer.

Player conduct is defined as follows:

1. Definition – Unsportsmanlike conduct includes actions which are unbecoming to ethical, fair, and honorable behavior towards an individual. It consists of acts of deceit, disrespect or vulgarity.
2. CONDUCT: PLAYERS – No player shall act in an unsportsmanlike manner while on or near the rink before, during or between games.
3. Unsportsmanlike conduct by a player includes:
 - a. Use of disconcerting acts or words when an opponent is about to play the puck;
 - b. Derogatory remarks to officials of opponent;
 - c. Questioning or trying to influence officials' decisions;
 - d. Showing disgust with officials' decisions;
 - e. Using insulting language or gestures of baiting acts, which engender ill will;
 - f. Making any contact with an opponent which is deemed unnecessary and which incites roughness.
4. CONDUCT; SPECTATORS - When a spectator becomes unruly or interferes with the orderly progress of the game, the referee shall suspend the game until he/she resolves the situation and the game can proceed in an orderly manner.
 - A. The team captain and/or co-captain are responsible for the discipline and proper conduct of team members and spectators.
 - B. The captain and/or co-captain are the only players who may address an official. The captains may address the officials on matters of rule interpretations only!
 - C. Misconduct prior to, between and/or following games will result in sanctions in the games(s) following such misconduct.
 - D. Teams shall be notified immediately when a sanction is imposed against their team. Ejected team members will be permitted the opportunity to remain in the vicinity of the playing area provided they can refrain from further misconduct. If they are asked to leave the rink/park, they will be allowed one minute to gather their belongings and depart peacefully. Further delay will result in team forfeiture and possible further sanctions against player and team.
 - E. Ejected players will serve a minimum one game suspension; this does not include the game that they are ejected from. Further penalties and suspensions (which may include game, season, year(s) or permanent suspension) may be assessed depending on the circumstances.
 - F. Any person suspended and desiring to appeal the decision may do so in writing to the Park Department Administration. **Ejections may not be appealed!**

VI. Protests

- A. No protests will be recognized in any VPRD League and all teams entering the league(s) does so with this understanding.

- B. In case of a dispute during play, the team captain and the game official may confer. Other team members shall not enter the discussion. A violation may result in the player involved being ejected.

VII. Park Administration, Adult Recreation Director, League Directors and Officials

- A. Park Administration – develops and administers all VPRD and Recreation programs, policies and procedures and league/player fees.
- B. Adult Recreation Director – park staff member immediately responsible to develop, direct and administer the various adult recreation leagues.
- C. League Directors – assists the Adult Recreation Director in the administration of a given league.
- D. Officials – responsible for the on rink/field interpretation and enforcement of specific sport rules. Officials will have complete authority regarding any decisions and/or judgments involved in that immediate game/match.

VIII. League Tournament Winners

At the end of the season, upon conclusion of the tournament, a team may be moved up to the higher division at the start of the following season should they participate.

IX. Alcoholic Beverages Policy

Alcoholic beverages shall not be permitted at the site of any activity organized or sponsored by the Valparaiso Department of Parks and Recreation. This includes all playing fields, bleachers, parking and picnic areas. Participants violating this policy will forfeit their game and may be asked to leave the facility/field/park. Spectators will be subject to this same policy. Alcoholic beverages may not be sold, purchased or consumed by any person or team attending tournaments conducted at one of Valparaiso Park Department's parks/fields or facilities. The Department reserves the right to immediately terminate any tournament or rental should this policy be violated.

Furthermore, players who by park staff, League Director or Official's judgment are under the influence of alcohol will not be permitted to play in any games until it is proven they have not been drinking.