

Greer Upstate Recreational Hockey Association

Bylaws, Regulations, House Rules for the League

(adopted by Review Board 7-18-2021; amended 12-10-2023)

Greer Upstate Recreational Hockey Association LLC (GURHA) is a private hockey organization.

1. USA HOCKEY ASSOCIATION membership:

- A. Membership to USA Hockey will be required for all players. Participants can become members by visiting [USA Hockey Member Registration](#) page. There are multiple benefits to being USA hockey members, including participation in a supplemental accident insurance program.
- B. GURHA's USA Hockey Member Associate code is SCH0013.

2. Eligibility for play:

- A. Anyone 18 and older is eligible.
- B. Eligibility for play can be revoked for non-payment, and for reasons such as inappropriate conduct towards any league official, to the Review Board, or any association of any rink where play is held; vandalism to rink, etc. A hearing will be held to determine revocation of eligibility

2(a). Substitute player eligibility:

- A. In most cases, sub players are no longer utilized during league play. In some circumstances we allow subs. In all cases, it must be approved through the league director (Robert Magnus 864-346-3968)
- B. Subs, other than team subs, must pay a sub fee of \$26 prior to game time. Payment can be made through Venmo, PayPal or cash paid to League Director, Robert Magnus.
- C. A team that purposefully plays a sub player that has not registered, has failed to pay, or has not been given full permission from league director is subject to a forfeiture loss of game.

3. REGISTRATION IN PLAYERS SKILL SET

- A. Our goal is to run balanced divisions. Players must register and play in an equivalent league to their skill set. When we have players that play in a division below their skill, we reserve the absolute right to either move a player to another division or remove and refund. This decision can be made during

the season or after and communications with captains will be made prior to a decision.

4. Hockey programs:

- A. Divisions are subject to change based on registrations: A,B, C, D+, D- ,over40ish, Propel
- B. Player league fees are \$26 per game multiplied by total games plus 1 playoff game in the season (SportsEngine charges a processing fee if paid online). There are other ways to pay to avoid processing fees.
- C. 13 players plus goalies are a required minimum for a full roster. (This is how the league finances are budgeted.) If a team wishes to roster less players, the team registration fee is \$364 x number of games in the season + 1 playoff game. Teams are guaranteed one playoff game.
- D. Teams are allowed to roster up to 17 players whether they use Team registration or not
 - 1. Rosters will be frozen after completion of 5 games in a regular season. Teams may not adjust their roster after their 5th game. Exceptions to this rule are an injury to a player that will keep them from finishing the season. In all cases, the hockey director must approve all changes and may consult the captains in the division.
- E. After registration, captains if not predetermined, will be nominated.

5. USA Hockey rules/additional house rules:

- A. GURHA is a member of USA Hockey, which offers support for hockey, rules and an insurance program. Rules can be found [here](#) or add the USA hockey rules app to your smart phone. Players are responsible for knowing the rules.
- B. USA Hockey rules are being used in this league with additional house rules.
- C. Players are responsible for their own health-care costs in the event of an injury or accident on or during league play or during any GURHA event. Supplemental USA Hockey insurance is included with the USA Hockey membership. In the event of an injury requiring professional care, a player should seek that first. USA Hockey supplemental accidental insurance forms are available by contacting the league director. If you do not have a primary care insurance, this limited supplemental insurance may become primary insurance if the event of an injury.
- D. Any team must start a game with a minimum of 6 players. Any time that a team has been reduced to 4 players, the game will be forfeited and result in a 1-0 score.
- E. Player safety is the number one priority. Players who experience a head injury or potential concussion can be removed from play under the discretion of an official

and/or captain. Removal does not disqualify them from returning to the game. This is to ensure the player does not need further medical attention. Players must determine for themselves whether they are fit to return to the game.

- F. GURHA league management reserves the right to suspend or exclude a player from league play, after a hearing, for conduct detrimental to the league and could result in loss of league fees.
- G. GURHA may audio and/or video record events and participants agree to be audio and/or video recorded for the purpose of reviewing incidents on ice. Games may also be recorded and posted to viewing platforms.

6. Review Board:

- A. The league's Review Board is made up of unbiased individuals. The league director will appoint these representatives. As of 10/20/2023, GURHA's Review Board consists of Ice Station representative, **George Fowler, official Michael Cara and Dale Garay.**
- B. The purpose of the Review Board is:
 - To adopt/change bylaws and house rules
 - Review and determine further disciplinary action when there are match penalties, abuse of officials, major penalties, etc.

7. Officials:

- A. **RIC is Michael Cara, appointed on 10/19/2023.**
- B. GURHA strives to hire quality USA Hockey-certified officials who are passionate about the game.

8. General regulations include:

- A. Helmets are mandatory and all straps must be fastened securely.
- B. HECC-approved, full-protective equipment and face shield or cage is highly recommended.
- C. **Cut resistant clothing like neck and wrist guard are recommended.**
- D. Any player suspected/determined to be extremely intoxicated will be deemed ineligible for play at the officials' and captains' discretion so as to prevent injuries or other issues on the ice.
- E. All players and spectators are expected to respect arena property. We ask that all members try to help maintain a clean facility. We understand trying to make the basket with the hockey tape, but since you missed, pick it up!

- F. Team captains are required to review all rules with their players.
- G. Team captains are responsible for validating weekly score sheets. Team captains or a team representative will be responsible for reporting correct scoring stats (G,A) on the SportsEngine site. This is for precise scoring entry.

9. Penalties and suspensions:

- A. The Review Board will decide additional supplemental discipline based on USA Hockey rules and/or additional house rules. All players shall be provided a hearing in accordance with USA Hockey Bylaw 10, before additional discipline is assessed.
- B. Players shall be given a 7-day notice of a hearing. The scheduled hearing will proceed whether the player is in attendance or absent.
- C. The player and captain will be given the league's decision based upon the nature of the altercation and the players' history.
- D. GURHA leagues are "No Check" and "No Boarding." GURHA leagues are No Check and No Boarding. Any infraction of the rules as determined by the official will result in the assessment of appropriate penalties per USA Hockey Rules.
- E. Any player receiving 3 minor penalties in the same game will be given a game misconduct (for the balance of that game).
- F. FIGHTING: GURHA enforces a strict ZERO-TOLERANCE policy for fighting. If the official determines an on-ice altercation as a fight, USA Hockey rules apply. The official makes the decision regarding what is considered a fight on the ice.

G. Suspension minimums

1. Fighting 2 games
2. Conduct detrimental to the league 1 game (we add this to almost every Suspension)

H. RUNNING CLOCK RULES: the clock will run if

- Any one team that received 10 penalties in a game
 - A 5-goal differential in the third period
 - If a major penalty is called on the ice, referees will indicate to scorekeeper to run the clock until the next stoppage (This is to deter major Penalties). Intentional use of this rule will result in an delay of game penalty and potential of time being placed back on the clock.
- I. Physical abuse of any official, on or off the ice, or any player given an intent to injure penalty, or fighting off the ice, or any player deemed to be a habitual offender can result in a hearing to determine the suspension of the player from the league for the remainder of the season.

- J. Any player demonstrating chronic behavior detrimental to the league can receive suspension time and/or brought before the league's Review Board for determination of that player's eligibility for future seasons.

10.Regular/playoff season format and rules:

- A. Season standings will be determined by total points. Two points for a win, one point for a regulation tie, and no points for a loss. In the event teams have an identical number of points at the end of the season, final season standings will be determined as follows:

- Record versus each other during season
- Goal differential
- Least amount of penalty minutes

- B. Regular Season games will consist of a 3-minute warm up, one minute before start of game and three 12-minute stop time periods plus 30-sec between periods.

3v3 5-minute running clock in the event of a regulation tie in regular season

- C. Hybrid Overtime is still 3v3 5-minute run clock. The format will run 3v3 the full overtime unless a player scores to end the game. Any penalties carrying over in the overtime results in a stop clock penalty shot. **Penalty shot rules:**

- A regulation game ending in 5 on 3 = 2 penalty shots
- 5 on 4 = 1 penalty shot
- A regulation game ending in a major penalty = 2 penalty shots
- A regulation game ending in a double minor = 2 penalty shots

Any penalty in the overtime period results in stop-clock penalty shot. Any player is eligible to take the penalty shot. During OT, in the case of coincidental minors, there is no penalty shot but both players serve time in the penalty box and return to the ice after penalty expires and during stoppage of play.

- D. In playoff games, the 3v3 format during overtime will remain but penalties result in a power play (no penalty shots). Overtime periods are 12-minute stop clocks.

- F. One 30-second timeout per team is allowed per game. No timeouts are during overtime.

- G. Stats will be recorded for each game; goals, assists and points. It will be the responsibility of team leader to check back with league director of corrections to the scoring. Our goal is to have accuracy of reporting all points earned. Goals for, goals against, and penalty minutes will be tracked for each team. Jersey numbers in our system is how we record stats, so please have captain change or let us know of number changes.

- H. Any game complaints/appeals must be submitted in writing to the league director @ robert@gurhahockey.com only after a 24-hour “cooling-off” period. Game complaints may only be submitted by team captains and appeals allowed per USA Hockey rules.
- I. Hybrid red line icing is used for GURHA games. Icing shall be waived if attacking team beats the defensive team to the defensive zone face-off dot in the direction of the puck. Judgment will be made by the official whether attacking player or defensive player may reach the puck first. Icing is nullified if the goalie makes any attempt to play the puck. This rule is similar to USA Hockey icing rules and what is observed in the NHL.

11. Waiver information:

- A. By participating in any league, you are hereby releasing GURHA, The Ice Station and their affiliates, and any sponsors, administrators, or officials of any liability due to injuries, accidents or any costs incurred for any medical-related expenses and personal injuries, including death.
- B. Loss of equipment. The league or affiliates are not responsible for lost or damaged equipment. We will make attempts to keep equipment if left at the rink.

12. Changes to bylaws:

- A. Changes to the bylaws can be made and adopted by the Review Board.
- B. Suggestions for rule changes are welcome by all.

Greer Upstate Recreational Hockey Association LLC:

Robert Magnus - General Manager & League Director