

CONSTITUTION  
&  
BYLAWS

UPPER TOWNSHIP INLINE HOCKEY  
ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2010

## CONSTITUTION

### **Article I Foundation**

The Upper Township Hockey Association (UTHA) has been established as a nonprofit organization to foster the development of youth hockey in Upper Township.

### **Article II Mission Statement**

The mission of this organization is to instill in the youth of our township, the principles of good citizenship, good sportsmanship, and teamwork, through knowledge of and association with the competitive sport of hockey.

### **Article III Affiliation**

The association will partake in programs provided by the Cape May County Hockey Association, the Township of Upper and U.S.A Hockey Association. The Association will encourage participation in its widest possible definition. To this end, no child will be denied the opportunity to play because of lack of ability to play hockey (child must possess basic skating skills) in the Recreation Hockey League.

### **Article IV Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President(s), Treasurer, and Secretary(s). They shall be elected by a majority vote at an annual election.

They shall serve a one year term or until their successors have been duly elected. These officers shall be eligible to succeed themselves in office. Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed with or without cause by the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast by the Board.

The Board may appoint trustees to head committees. These trustees serve at the pleasure of the Board and may be removed at any time, with or without cause by a majority vote.

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the policies of the League, the team organization and the playing rules. A quorum for the transaction of business by the Board of Directors shall consist of at least 50% of all members of the Board.

All members of the Board of Directors have equal voting power which shall consist of one vote (regardless of number of positions held).

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**Article V Meetings**

The annual meeting of the UTHA shall take place in the month of August to coincide with the officer elections. Changes to the meeting date will be made at the digression of the Board.

Any general meeting shall be open to all adult personnel associated with or interested in any part of the program, but only voting members or the appropriate trustees may vote.

No general meeting will be held without prior notice to the Board of Directors.  
Notice may be by telephone call, letter, email or personnel contact.

## Bylaws

### Article I - Name and Organization

**Section 1** The name of this nonprofit organization shall be the Upper Township Inline Hockey Association, Herein after referred to as UTHA.

**Section 2** The location of this organization shall be the Township of Upper, Cape May County, New Jersey.

**Section 3** Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all the assets of the Corporation by donation to charitable organization, and nothing will be kept for personal gain.

### Article II Voting Membership for Election of Officers

**Section 1** The voting Membership shall be composed of the Board of Directors. Trustees may vote at the discretion of the Board. .

### Article III Registration / League Membership

Dates for all registration will be established on a year to year basis and advertised in the local news publication. Fees for registration are set by the UTHA Board of Directors. Players registering after the last advertised registration date will be accepted onto a team based on the need for players for their specific age division.

Any youth will be eligible to play in the league who meets the following requirements:

1. Is a resident or student of Upper Township, Cape May County, NJ.
2. Out of town players can be eligible if they are approved by the CMCHA.
3. Has written permission from a parent or legal guardian which also certifies they are physically fit to play.
4. Meets the age requirements set forth by the league.
5. Conforms to any other rules which the Board may see fit to establish regarding eligibility.
6. Players must play in 50% of regular season games to be eligible for playoff and championship games.

### Article IV Officers

#### Section 1:

The Board of Directors shall be as follows:

1. President
2. Vice President(s)
3. Treasurer
4. Secretary(s)

#### Section 2:

The duties of the Officers shall be as follows:

##### 1. President

The President shall call and conduct all meetings according to the bylaws. He/she shall be the Executive Officer in charge of carrying out policies approved by the Board of Directors. He/she shall be the Chairman of the Board of Directors and shall be an ex officio member of all the committees. He/she shall be in charge of all public relations and publicity including such matters as awards, presentations and opening day ceremonies, if any. He/she shall be the principal interface between the league and any organization with whom the UTHA affiliates in developing, promoting and coordinating hockey programs within Upper Township.

##### 2. Vice President(s)

Vice Presidents shall assist the President as directed, shall have full powers to act in all matters in the absence of the President. A Vice President shall be appointed to be the principal interface between the League and the Upper Township Recreation Department and attend monthly recreation meetings.

##### 3. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be in charge of the deposit and distribution of the League's funds. The Treasurer shall make an annual report and be prepared to render other reports as requested by the President, including reports at monthly meetings. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the annual UTHA budget to be presented to the UT Recreation Board

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## 4. Secretary

The Secretary shall record and distribute minutes of all meetings to all Board members and shall announce all meetings as required in these bylaws. He/she shall handle all League correspondence and perform such other secretarial duties as necessary.

### **Most importantly the entire Leagues' Membership shall be responsible to promote and uphold the UTHA rules, Policies and Mission Statement.**

**Section 3:** Trustees - All persons who have been selected to coordinate a league activity or committee responsibilities and duties that shall be spelled out by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4:** The Board of Directors shall have the authority, by vote of the majority, to suspend any member/participant/parent/guardian whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interests of the program as outlined in Article II of the Constitution. '

**Section 5:** The Board of Directors shall have the authority to act in cases of serious misconduct of any youngster. It shall have the authority to suspend or suitably deal with any violation of the spirit of these bylaws as outlined in Article II of the Constitution.

## **Article V. Coaching Personnel**

### **Section 1:**

Each team shall be supervised by one head coach and one assistant coach to be named before the draft of players. After said draft additional assistants may be picked from team roster. Coaching personnel shall be selected based on the following qualities;

1. Their good character
2. Their ability to work with youngsters
3. A reasonable knowledge of the game of hockey
4. Their willingness to conform to these bylaws and the goals of the league

Head coaches and assistants must be 18 years of age or older. Coaches for the 16-18 division must be 21 years of age or older.

All coaches must attend in its entirety the Upper Township Recreation Department required seminar and meetings/training designated by UTHA

### **Section 2:**

Each head coach shall be responsible for the actions of their assistants, their players and their fans. Furthermore, all involved must set the proper example for the youth participants by adhering to the highest ideals of good sportsmanship.

The good of every child involved should be kept uppermost in the minds of the persons responsible for putting the teams in the rink.

The head coach may not release an assistant who in their opinion is not acting in the interest of the program but they shall report this individual to the UTHA immediately.

A coaching term is for one season and interested members must apply for reinstatement for the upcoming season.

### **Section 3:**

All coaches must comply with all the rules and certifications set forth by their respective affiliated leagues and the UTHA.

### **Section 4:**

The Board of Directors will have the power, by vote, to dismiss or suspend any coach whose action is detrimental to the League goals as outlined in Article II of the constitution. Such suspended persons shall have the right to appeal the suspension by requesting, in writing, to the League President a reconsideration of the suspension and a re-vote.

## **Article VI - Amendments**

### **Section 1:**

The Bylaws of the UTHA may be amended as follows:

- (a) Any member, in good standing, may present proposed amendments at a UTHA general meeting. Upon the close of discussion the proposal will be tabled until the next Board of Directors meeting, where a vote will be taken.
- (b) The amendment must be passed by a majority vote.
- (c) Once an amendment has been voted on, the result of that vote may not be changed for a minimum of one calendar year.

## **Article VII League Rules**

### **Section 1:**

Rules of Play - The Official USA Hockey rules shall be accepted as the official League rules with such exceptions stated under Division Rules. Further exceptions may be proposed annually and approved by the Board of Directors. Changes in the rules during the season can be approved by the Board only by unanimous vote.

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### **Section 2:**

Equipment - The League will furnish each player with a Hockey Jersey. Each child is responsible for the equipment issued to them. Parents assume a liability for the current replacement cost of the jersey when they register their child. The following equipment is mandatory at all practices and games. No child will be allowed to take the rink without this equipment.

1. Inline or hockey skates (skates optional for goalies)
2. Shin guards
3. Elbow pads
4. Hockey gloves
5. Mouth guard
6. Cup (boys), pelvic protector (girls)
7. HECC approve hockey helmet with cage (helmet must be marked HECC approved)

Each child is responsible for obtaining such equipment. Goalie equipment that is the property of UTHA will be loaned out to players on a first come first served basis. Jerseys are to be returned to the association at the end of the regular season. Failure to return jersey will result in player paying a fine to cover the cost to replace jersey. Cost for 2009 season is Adult sizes \$35.00, Youth sizes \$30.00.

### **Section 3:**

Protests - In keeping with the stated purpose of the League, the decisions of the officials shall be final. No protests shall be allowed based upon judgment of the officials.

### **Section 4:**

Siblings - Brothers/sisters of players and children/brothers/sisters of coaches shall be assigned to teams in the following manner:

1. Brothers/sisters of players - When a newly admitted player who has a sibling on a team in the same division for which they are eligible, every effort will be made to be assigned to that team if they so desire.
2. Children/brothers/sisters of coaches - The rules as set forth in 1 above shall equally apply to the above specified relations of coaches.

### **Section 5:**

Team Formation and Drafting Order - Each player shall be drafted and assigned in an attempt to balance the teams with the intent of equalizing the competitive balance within the league. Team selection will be based on announced evaluations, open to League members registered for that particular season. Selection will be made by the coach(es) and supervised by members of the Board of Directors. A minimum of 9 and a maximum of 12 players will be selected. There will be no players added to any team after the first game of the season has been played. Any player not in the original draft, but registering before the first game must be evaluated. Coach with lowest number of players must take any additional players and will have first pick. Any Upper Township residents must be accepted first before any outside players may be considered. Nonresidents, who played in the 2008 fall season, are grand fathered in as residents for the following registration period. No trades shall be made of any players.

**Section 6:** Schedule/Practice/Games – Coaches for each division are responsible for scheduling practices, the decision as to how many is at their discretion. Games are scheduled by the Cape May County Inline Hockey Association, with input from each Townships' board members. .

### **Section 7:**

Playing time - Players shall all play equal time. This means no one player shall play more than one extra shift of any other player and players playing the extra shift shall rotate from week to week. '

## **Article VIII - Game Rules**

### **Section 1:**

7-9 Division play and practice will focus on building the players knowledge and skills of inline hockey.

### **Section 2:**

10-12, 13-15, 16-18 Divisions Rules are taken from the CMCHA bylaws (Article IV-Game Rules)

Games will be three ten minute periods with a stopped clock.

The clock will run if a team is trailing by seven or more goals at the five minute mark of the third period.

In case of a tie there will be a five minute, sudden death, clock running overtime played. If after sudden death play there is still a tie, a five player shootout will be conducted. If there is still a tie, the game will remain a tie with each team getting one point. In a play-off situation, 5 minute sudden death periods will be played until a team scores.

Tie Breaker Formula: Head to Head Record; Least Amount of Goals Allowed Between Tied Teams; Least Amount of Goals Allowed During Season; Coin Toss.

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One timeout, per team, per game.

Coaches may not be on rink during play.

Only players and 3 coaches are permitted on the bench.

Players will play four on four with one goalie for inline hockey.

There is no checking or contact.

Penalties are two minutes. Clock is stopped.

Any player that receives 3 minor penalties in a game will receive a game misconduct penalty and will be ejected from the game. Any player that receives 2 major penalties in a game will be ejected from the game and receive a one game suspension. Each team is responsible for its fans.

Fighting will not be tolerated. If a player initiates a fight then he/she will be disqualified from any further league play. If a mutual fight ensues then the participants will immediately be ejected from the game and suspended from the following two games. If a player is involved in two violent altercations then he/she will be removed from the league without question.

**The referee will determine what constitutes a fight and whether or not the altercation was mutual. He/she will at that time instruct the official scorer to make the appropriate notation on the score sheet. This information will be shared with the Board.**

Major misconduct penalties are five minutes, served by another player and offending player is ejected from the game. Major misconduct penalties will be documented and presented to the Board.

Improper and/or foul language will not be tolerated on or off the rink. If used during the game by a player, the referee will enforce a two minute penalty. If penalty was already given, 2 minutes will be added. If behavior is still improper, player will be ejected from game, team will receive a 5 minute major and player will be suspended from next game. If coach is using improper/foul language, team will receive two minute penalty. If behavior is still improper, coach will be ejected from game, team will receive 5 minute major. If used by spectators, they will be asked to leave.

If a referee determines that a player uses a stick in any manner with intent to injure a player or official, he/she will be removed from the league.

If a player is ejected for any reason from the game, they will remain in the penalty box until the game is over or a parent/guardian picks them up. At this time they must leave the premises.

### **Section 3: Referees –**

Referees must be 16 years or older and older than the division they are officiating.

Referees must attend certification class held by USA Hockey or UTHA

10 and older divisions shall play games with two referees, in extreme cases one referee may officiate game. Under no circumstances will a 16 – 18 year old game be played with only one referee.

Referees must provide proper uniform, and wear helmet at all games. Skates are optional.

Referees must sign game stat/penalty form or they will not receive payment.

Referees work at the pleasure of the Referee Trustee and the Board, and may be replaced with or without cause.

Referees must follow guidelines and rules set forth by Trustee.

Playoff and Championship games only – visiting team is allowed to schedule (at their own expense) one referee.

Official scorekeeper/timer must be 18 years of age or older. Scorekeeper/timer must review (for accuracy) and sign the score sheet at the end of each game.

### **Article XI: Rules**

UTIIA follows USA Hockey rules, with exceptions stated.

The Board of Directors of UTHA has the discretion to address and take proper measures on any disciplinary measure.