



NHIHOA – New Hampshire Ice Hockey Officials Association

BY LAWS

Preamble

We, hockey officials of New Hampshire, in order to promote the sport of ice hockey, develop more efficient hockey officials, to maintain better standards of officiating, to provide a medium for dissemination of information on hockey rules, to establish a forum for discussion, to create a better understanding and a more uniform interpretation of hockey rules among officials, coaches and players and to advocate rule changes for the advancement of the game of hockey in the public and private schools, universities and institutions within the State of New Hampshire, do hereby adopt the By-Laws for our corporation.

Article I - Name

The name of this corporation shall be New Hampshire Ice Hockey Officials Association, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "Corporation")

Article II - Membership

There shall be three classes of membership in the organization; active, honorary and applicants for active membership (hereinafter referred to as "apprentices"). To qualify for active membership in the Association, a person shall have an interest in promoting the sport of ice hockey, shall be honest, courageous, exercise good judgment, be able to skate well, and have a thorough knowledge of the Ice Hockey rules and their application. A yearly examination must be taken and passed by each active member and apprentice to maintain their membership within the Corporation.

Active members shall include those members of the New Hampshire Chapter of the National Ice Hockey Officials Association as of November 15, 1964, who reside in New Hampshire, and such additional officials as this New Hampshire Ice Hockey Officials Association, Inc. may hereafter elect to active membership. Election of candidates will be by majority vote of those members present and voting at a duly called and legal meeting of the Corporation. Only those candidates receiving approval by a majority vote of the Membership Committee shall be considered for active membership.

Apprentices shall be at least 18 years of age and no longer a student at a public or private secondary school. Apprentices shall file an application for membership with the Secretary in such form and with such recommendations as may be required by the Executive Committee. An apprentice shall pay to the Treasurer of the Corporation an initial examination fee and an annual membership fee in such amount as may be required by the Chapter.

Honorary members shall be persons who meet the qualifications of active members but shall not need to meet the skating or yearly examination requirements.

Article III - Officers

The officers of this Corporation shall be a President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Secretary (Information Officer), a Treasurer, Supervisor of Officials, and an at-large member to be served by the chairperson of the Membership Committee. They shall be elected for a two year term from the active members of the Association at the Annual meeting with the exception of the at-large member which shall have a 1 year term corresponding to the term of the Membership Committee Chairperson. The President is limited to two consecutive terms. If an officer cannot complete his term of office, a successor shall be elected at the next scheduled meeting or at a special meeting to fill the balance of the term.

Members may be considered for an office of the Corporation provided they meet all of the following:

- a) submit a brief statement of intention to the Secretary no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled meeting wherein the election will take place.
- b) Is an active member of the chapter in good standing at the time he/she seeks nomination for office and at the time of the meeting wherein he/she seeks election to take office.

Article IV - Committees

There shall be a Membership Committee elected by the membership consisting of six (6) members with six (6) year terms so staggered that the term of one member shall expire each year. The Assigner of the Corporation shall automatically sit as a member of the Membership Committee in addition to the six (6) elected members. There is no specific term for the assigner. No member of the Membership Committee shall serve two consecutive terms. Upon completion of a six (6) year term on the Membership Committee that member must sit out one year before being re-nominated.

The function of the Membership Committee is to screen individuals for membership, accepting or rejecting applications as it may deem appropriate and recommending such apprentices as it considers qualified for active membership.

Other special committees shall be elected or appointed as the President deems necessary or as directed by the membership of the Corporation.

Article V - Meetings

Meetings shall be held at least three times during each year. All active members and apprentices must attend two (2) out of three (3) meetings to maintain their membership status. Failure to attend two (2) out of three (3) meetings shall call for immediate termination as an active member or apprentice of the Corporation. An active member or apprentice terminated under this section may request a hearing before the Executive Committee for reinstatement.

The Annual meeting of the Corporation shall be held in April of each year. The Fall meeting shall be held between the first (1st) Sunday in October and the first (1st) Sunday in November with a 30 day notice to Members. Attendance at this meeting for the full duration of the meeting is mandatory for all active members and apprentices. Failure to attend the Fall meeting for its full duration shall call for immediate suspension as an active member or apprentice of the Corporation. Individuals suspended under this section may request a hearing before the Executive Committee for reinstatement.

Special Meetings may be called by a majority vote of the Executive Committee or upon petition to the Executive Committee by ten (10) percent of the active members. Fourteen (14) days written notice shall be given to the membership of any meeting.

Any notification referred to in these by-laws can be accomplished by direct communication means such as postal mail, delivered in hand, email or other means generally considered suitable for person to person communication.

Article VI - Dues and Fees

Annual dues for active members and apprentices are payable before the conclusion of the annual spring meeting of the Association. The amount of dues will be established by the board of directors. Each member and apprentice may be assigned additional dues if the dues are not sufficient to cover the expenses of the Chapter.

Each active member and apprentice shall be presented with the current High School and NCAA Rule Book each year and additionally each apprentice admitted to membership shall be presented with the NIHOA Insignia.

Article VII - Expulsion or Suspension

A majority vote, of those active members present at a duly called and legal meeting of the Corporation, shall cause the immediate expulsion or suspension, for as long a time as it deems necessary, of any active member or apprentice for any of the following reasons:

- (a) Nonpayment of dues.
- (b) Officiating an interscholastic or intercollegiate game with an official who is not a member of a recognized hockey officials association.
- (c) Officiating a game for a fee smaller than that agreed to by this Corporation.
- (d) Failure to take or pass the annual examination.
- (e) Accepting an NHIAA tournament assignment but not having worked at least 50% of the patched worked games. (See Art. X)
- (f) Any other actions deemed unworthy of membership.

Before a vote may be taken for expulsion or suspension of an active member or apprentice for reasons b, c, e, or f, the individual shall have an opportunity to be heard by the Executive Committee.

Article VIII - Uniform

The official uniform is as described in the current edition of the High School and NCAA Hockey Guide. Every active member or apprentice officiating a game shall at all times present a neat appearance.

Article IX - Fees

The Corporation shall represent its members in negotiations with colleges and schools to establish fees to be paid to Corporate Members for referee and services.

Article X - Tournament Eligibility

No official will be eligible to work any of the NHIAA Tournament games unless he shall have worked at least 50% of the patched worked games average. (E.g. Corporate assignments average games worked = $22 \times 50\% = 11$ games). For an official to work NHIAA Tournament Games, he must have officiated 50% of the patched average games during that season. (11 in this example)

Article XI - Reports

Within thirty (30) days of the close of each fiscal year, the Treasurer shall make his written financial report to the President.

Article XII - Amendments

In order to amend the By-Laws of the Corporation a proposed amendment must be raised at a regular or duly called special meeting of the Corporation. A proposed amendment must be placed on the table by a two-thirds vote of active members in attendance at any duly called special or regular meeting and a vote to accept or reject the proposed amendment shall be taken at the next regular meeting or a duly called special meeting. A two-thirds vote of the active members in attendance at a regular or duly called special meeting is required for a proposed amendment to pass. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be mailed to each active member of the Corporation at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which its adoption shall be considered.

Article XIII - Voting

Any action of the Corporation to be taken by a vote of the membership shall be authorized by a majority of the votes cast at a meeting by those active members present except in those elections for positions in which instance the individual obtaining the greatest number of votes shall prevail.

Article XIV - Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the officers of the Corporation. In the event a director is unable to fulfill his term of office a successor shall be elected at the next scheduled meeting or at a special meeting.

Article XV - Dissolution of Corporation

In the event that the Corporation shall dissolve any assets held after the payment of all outstanding debts shall be liquidated and the proceeds shall be distributed to any successor organization or to serve the hockey programs at public and private schools as the directors shall determine.

Revision History

Date	Revision	Change Description
03-Apr-2005	2.0	Started Tracking Revisions; Added at-large member to Article III (Officers). Previous update Oct. 2002
21-Oct-2007	2.1	Changes to Article III, Article IV and Article V