

# Tahoe Hockey League (THL) Adult League Rules

Welcome to the THL Adult Hockey League! This guidebook will answer many questions regarding the league and rules. THL rules will mirror USA Hockey rules for all leagues with a changes noted in the rule book. Please make yourself aware of league rules. We hope you have a fun, competitive and SAFE season!

## Contact Information:

GM Michael Findorff - Michael@tahoearena.com

## Key Information:

- **Season Length:** 9 regular season games and two playoff games guaranteed for the top 4 finishing regular season teams
- **Price:** Discounted to **\$2500** per team if paid in first three weeks of the season. Full price is \$3000. (*See Payment Terms for payment options*)
- Three 15 minute periods
- Ages 18 & up only
- **NO CHECKING AND NO FIGHTING**

## Goals of THL:

- Provide Tahoe and surrounding communities with a competitive yet fun hockey experience
- Work on skill development for all players and balance the leagues in accordance with players abilities
- Play in a safe manner for all players, officials, and any other parties involved with programs

## Game Procedures

- **Game Check In:**
  - All players are required to sign in, every game, at the rink front desk before entering the locker room
  - If you are arriving late, you must check in with the scorekeeper
  - If a player does not sign in, the game will be forfeited
- **Game Length:**
  - Five minute warm-up
  - Three 15 minute, stop time periods
  - Two one minute breaks in between periods
- **Game Run time**

Games will enter running time if one of the following occurs:

  - Either team is ahead by 6 or more goals. Clock will stop if the difference comes back below 6.
  - With the assumption the game started on time, the scorekeeper notes that the time left on the clock coincides with the time left in the game slot. This will be limited to the third period only.
- **Forfeit**
  - Teams are required to have 7 players including a goalie to play a game

- Players must have waivers and sign in sheets signed in accordance with league rules
- Team Captain will be fined \$230 (one game fee)
- **Overtime**
  - Regular season: No overtime. Alternating shoot-out with one player on each side going to a max of three before the game is declared a tie. Players may only shoot one time.
  - Playoffs: One 5 minute, running time, sudden death overtime period will be played. If the game is still tied after overtime, the game will enter an alternating shoot-out with three players on each side. If there is no winner after three shooters, the shoot-out continues one on one until a winner is determined. No player may shoot again until everyone on the game roster has attempted a shot.

## **Player Rosters**

- THL promotes friends playing together and will do our best to keep teams together. However, THL admin reserves the right to move players to different teams and/or leagues to balance league skill levels and team size.
- Each team is required to roster 10 players including a goalie, and not more than 15 players. There is no dual rostering.
  - There will be NO players allowed that are not on your team's roster
  - There will be a post-warmup/pre-game roster check by the THL scorekeeper
  - Any team caught playing a non-roster player will automatically forfeit and the Team Captain will be fined the amount of 1 game fee (\$230)
- Prior to the first game of the season, all player waiver forms must be filled out in their entirety. If there is not a record of the waiver, the player cannot skate.
- All team members must sign the league rules acknowledgement form prior to their first game.
- Initial rosters must be submitted 7 days before the league starts. Final rosters are due by the Sunday prior to week 4. THL administration reserves the right to change rosters after week 4.

## **Substitute Players**

- Prior to suiting up for play, approval of substitute is required by THL Administration, as well as, both Team Captains
- Player waiver must be signed or on file prior to entering the ice surface
- \$20 per game played, paid directly to THL
- No player can substitute on a different team in the same league they are rostered
- No player can substitute down from the level of play they are rostered. Players can only sub up one level from the league they are rostered without THL approval. (Roster in B, can only be listed as a sub in A)
- Team captains are responsible for contacting players to substitute if they will be short the required players to play a game. THL can make available contact information of players that wish to be substitute players.

## **Equipment Required**

- **Required**

Helmet	Hockey Gloves
Hockey Pants	Hockey Skates
Hockey Stick	Shin Pads
Hockey Socks	Elbow Pads

- **Highly Recommended**
  - Numbered Jersey
  - Face Shield
  - Shoulder Pads
  - Protective Cup

*Helmets must be worn while participating in the game, on the bench and in the penalty box. Should a player's helmet come off during play, the ref will blow the whistle immediately to stop play. The player must go to the bench with a new player coming on the ice and a faceoff resuming play.*

## **On-Ice Rules and Conduct**

- **Icing**
  - Blue line icing is in effect. No icing will be called once the puck carrier has crossed their defensive blue line. This is a change from USA Hockey to promote the flow of THL games
- **Face-offs**
  - All face-offs will occur at one of the nine faceoff dots on the ice.
- **Checking**
  - Definition: The act of introducing player A's space into player B's space with the intent to gain possession of the puck via arms, shoulders, elbows, hips or legs.
  - Hockey is a contact sport. We allow each player the right to all space (other than the goal crease) to play the puck.
- **Penalties**
  - USA Hockey rules will be enforced
  - All players and officials are unquestionably expected to conduct themselves with maturity and respect for the game and others
  - Team captains are held to the highest standard of their respective teams and are the only team members that can speak to a ref regarding penalties or other game situations
  - Penalty Accumulation
    - Three penalties of any kind in one game will result in a game misconduct
      - All game misconduct penalties require a meeting with THL admin to return to THL ice
    - Twenty minutes of penalties accumulated from the start of week one will result in a one game suspension and meeting with THL admin prior to reinstatement
    - Thirty or more penalty minutes from week one will result in a two game suspension and a meeting with THL admin prior to reinstatement
    - Three game misconduct penalties throughout the course of a season will result in a season ending suspension and a meeting with THL admin prior to reinstatement
    - Game misconducts add 5 minutes to the season penalty total
  - Fighting and Major Penalties
    - Fighting is strictly prohibited
      - Definition: The act of squaring off one on one with a player and engaging in the exchange of fists or blows, gloves on or off
    - Game misconduct and 5 minute penalty to be served by another player
    - Automatic three game suspension after 1<sup>st</sup> offense
    - Automatic one full season (9-11 games) suspension after 2<sup>nd</sup> offense

- Automatic ban from THL programs after 3<sup>rd</sup> offense
- A conduct meeting with THL admin must be had prior to reinstatement to the league
- Match Penalties
  - Definition: Any attempt to injure/deliberately injure an opponent/official
  - Game misconduct and 5 minute penalty served by another player
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Automatic five game suspension
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Automatic ban from THL programs
  - A conduct meeting with THL admin must be had prior to reinstatement to the league

## Off-Ice Conduct

- **NO PLAYER IS ALLOWED TO BRING ANY FORM OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS INTO THE TAHOE ICE SPORTS CENTER AT ANY TIME**
  - Playing under the influence of drugs or alcohol is an immediate ejection from the current game and further suspension is at the discretion of THL administration.
  - Drugs and/or alcohol brought into the arena will lead to an immediate three game suspension for the offender and the Team Captain assessed a \$100 fine. Subsequent offenses will double the fine amount each time during the current season. A meeting with THL Admin is required prior to reinstatement to the league
- Anyone caught vandalizing (graffiti, holes in walls, destruction of property, etc) the Tahoe Ice Sports Center shall be banned from the rink. Estimates of the damage will be made and the person is responsible for restoring the rink to its original condition. Criminal charges may also be filed depending on the severity of the situation.
- Any adult league player may be suspended indefinitely for conduct deemed detrimental to THL, Tahoe Ice Sports Center, The City of South Lake Tahoe, or the overall well-being of programs to the arena. This includes but is not limited to: swearing at, threatening, or being verbally abusive to officials, other players, scorekeepers, fans, and arena staff.
- Leave locker rooms as you found them. Put all trash, including tape, beverages, and anything else, into the provided trash cans. Unclean locker rooms will result in a \$50 fine

## Officials and Arena Staff

- DO NOT ABUSE THE OFFICIALS!! Respect officials as they are expected to respect players
- Games will be played with two referees and a scorekeeper. There may be extreme instances where there is only one referee
- The referee's call is final and not open to discussion. The game officials, arena GM, and rink employees have final authority to evict any persons, players, spectators or otherwise, from the building, for actions detrimental to the game and its participants
- Any player who applies physical force in any manner against an official, attempts in any manner to injure an official, deliberately makes contact with an official, physically demeans an official or deliberately applies physical force to an official will be ejected from the league and may result in a ban from Tahoe Ice Sports Center
- The referees and scorekeepers will report to the league administrator, in writing, any incident that occurs during or after the game, immediately following the game
- Consistent disregard for league rules and safety of other players will result in ejection from the league
- It is one of the responsibilities of the scorekeeper to make sure the game ends on time. The scorekeeper has been instructed to go to running time as explained previously.

## Playoffs

- The structure will be based on the amount of teams in each league. If arena scheduling allows for it, there may be a play-in game or bye if there are uneven team numbers. The preferred structure is single elimination.
- Seeding will be set with team records during the regular season. In the event of a tie in total points, the following criteria will be used for seeding:
  1. Number of wins
  2. Goal Differential
  3. Head to head record
  4. Coin flip

## Payment options – Non-negotiable

- \$1000 deposit due prior to the start of Week 1
- Pay in full by the end of Week 3 of the current season - \$2500
- Payment Plan Structure (9 weeks, \$3000)
  - \$1000 deposit due before play of Week 1
  - \$500 due by start of weeks 3, 5, 7, 9

## Payment Terms

- THL reserves the right to stop any team from playing if payments are not made
- Payments may be made individually but preferred through the Team Captain
  - Captains are required to notify THL admin of a player who is delinquent on payments
  - Said player will not be allowed to participate until payment is made
  - Team captains are responsible for collecting money to pay in full if a player does not pay and is banned from playing
- All “stop payment” or “insufficient funds” checks will be charged a \$25.00 administrative fee. Cash, money orders, cashier’s checks, or debit/credit card will be submitted for replacement payment, including the \$25 fee.
- A refund on League fees will be given if a player is leaving the League due to a “season ending” injury or if a player is moving out of the area
  - If a player leaves the League due to a “season ending” injury, the player must provide THL admin with sufficient evidence to show that the injury is serious enough that the player cannot continue to play
  - We will prorate refunds to reflect the number of games played. In all cases, there will be a \$25.00 administrative fee deducted from all refunds
  - Team captains are responsible for ensuring the team pays in full regardless of players leaving the league
- THL does not offer “make-up” sessions for players who are absent from games. Injuries that cause absenteeism but are not “season ending” are not subject to refunds or prorating
- No refunds will be given to players due to any suspension from the league
- Fines
  - All fines are non-negotiable
  - All fines must be paid to THL or the team will forfeit games until the fines are paid. Game forfeiture will result in additional fines

### THL Adult League Rules Acknowledgement

I hereby agree to the terms listed above for the 2014-2015 Adult Hockey League rules in its entirety. Should I violate any of these rules, I will adhere to the punishment set forward by THL Administration.

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