



SOOKE & DISTRICT MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 383
SOOKE, BC V9Z 1G1
www.sookeminorhockey.ca

On Ice Helper Policy

Introduction

From time to time minor hockey teams enlist older hockey players or other volunteers to assist with practices, scrimmages and other activities. It is important to ensure that insurance is in place for anyone participating in sanctioned activities, that volunteers are screened and they possess the appropriate certifications.

Effective Date

September 4, 2021

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to our members, parents, teams and coaches on the selection and use of on-ice helpers, while ensuring the safety of SMHA players and safe opportunities for our volunteers.

Scope

This policy applies to all SMHA teams participating in Hockey Canada sanctioned events including games, practices, and other on ice activities.

Description of On Ice Helper Duties

- Assist with team drills during practices;
- Assist the Head & Assistant Coaches during practices;
- Assist players to understand drills;
- Be there to help players, not participate in the practice;
- Be encouraging and positive with players;
- Reports to the team Head Coach.

Requirements

- Any on-ice helpers **must** be a **current** registered member of BC Hockey / Hockey Canada. If the individual is not currently registered through a minor association, junior team, senior team or as an associate member, SMHA **must** register the individual as a volunteer with Hockey Canada;
- All on ice helpers **must** wear a CSA certified helmet with chin strap fastened and appropriate face protection required for the player's level of play. A BNQ certified neck guard **must** also be worn by all minor hockey aged players assisting as an on ice helper
- U15 and below on ice helpers **must** wear full gear. All other helpers (above U15) are to wear what is appropriate to their Division;
- Any helper who is not a BC Hockey minor or junior player **must** have **current** certification in Respect in Sport for Parents (RIS). Additionally, they **must** be under the direct supervision of the certified team officials;
- All on ice helpers over 18 years of age **must** have a **current** Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Check on file with SMHA;
- Non Members offering coaching or other on-ice help for a fee is not a volunteer, and **must** become an associate member prior to participation.

A summary of requirements can be found in Appendix A.

Selection

- On ice helpers must meet **all** requirements outlined in this policy **prior** to participating in on ice activities;
- Appointed by Head Coach (**must** have permission of Coach).

References

- BC Hockey bulletins 2011-04-R, 2013-01-R, 2014-024, 2017-033, 2018-042, 2021-010

Appendix A



On Ice Helper - Required Certifications and Equipment

Age of Helper	Registration	Equipment	Certification
14 years and below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be a registered member of BC Hockey or Hockey Canada If not registered they must be added as a "volunteer" on the roster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full equipment Bantam aged goalies may wear full player equipment instead of goalie equipment on the ice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HU – Planning a Safe Return to Hockey
15 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be registered member of BC Hockey or Hockey Canada If not registered they must be added as a "volunteer" on the roster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSA certified helmet, chin strap fastened, full face mask, certified neck guard, gloves Full tracksuit or pants and sweater are recommended to be worn on the ice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HU – Planning a Safe Return to Hockey
16 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be registered member of BC Hockey or Hockey Canada If not registered they must be added as a "volunteer" on the roster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSA certified helmet, chin strap fastened, full face mask, certified neck guard, gloves Full tracksuit or pants and sweater are recommended to be worn on the ice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect in Sport HU – Planning a Safe Return to Hockey
17 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be registered member of BC Hockey or Hockey Canada If not registered they must be added as a "volunteer" on the roster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSA certified helmet, chin strap fastened, full face mask, certified neck guard, gloves Full tracksuit or pants and sweater are recommended to be worn on the ice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect in Sport HU – Planning a Safe Return to Hockey All volunteers that are 17 years old turning 18 years old in the calendar year require a Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Check
Adult (18 and older)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be registered member of BC Hockey or Hockey Canada If not registered they must be added as a "volunteer" on the roster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSA certified helmet, chin strap fastened, gloves Full tracksuit or pants and sweater are recommended to be worn on the ice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect in Sport HU – Planning a Safe Return to Hockey Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Check
Non-members (offering coaching or on ice help for a fee)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must become an Associate Member Not to be rostered with a Minor Hockey Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must follow above outlines for ages for required equipment on ice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirements on Associate Member application

If you have any questions please contact your local association, Risk Manager or the BC Hockey office 250-652-2978 or info@bchockey.net

