

ALPENA HOCKEY ASSOCIATION DRAFT PROCEDURE

Revision 2006

This procedure is hereby adopted by the Alpena Hockey Association for the drafting of players in all divisions for house (B) league teams.

1. A minimum of two registration dates (preferably one in August and one in September) shall be advertised in the local paper, radio, grade school fliers, and posted at the arena. They must also be in the pre-season President's letter sent to all previously registered players along with registration fees and information.
2. After the final registration, the AHA Board of Directors determines the number of teams in each division based on the number of players registered in each division. The Coaches Committee then selects the coaches for each division prior to the draft.
3. If there are 18 players and 2 goalies (or less) registered for any division at the time the number of teams are decided, the Board of Directors may determine that there will be only one team in that division. Therefore, any player registered after that time will be put on a waiting list for that team. In the event of a player leaving the team, players on the list will be added to the roster in order of the date they registered. Every effort will be made to allow players on the list to get ice time in keeping with USA Hockey and MAHA guidelines.
4. AHA will hold a minimum of three mandatory draft skates for each division having more than one team. The AHA Registrar will send post cards to every registered player notifying them of the date and time of their draft skates.
5. Coaches, or their designated representatives, will be provided with a list of all players including their birth year prior to the first draft skate. It is highly recommended that an adequate number of individuals other than the coaches in that division direct the activities on the ice, allowing the coaches to observe the players from a location of their choice.
6. A draft skate plan should be developed for all draft skates and presented to head coaches prior to the first session. The input of the head coaches should be considered for the plan. Sufficient activities should be conducted on the ice to include, but not limited to, drills demonstrating age appropriate skills, small ice scrimmages, and large ice scrimmages.
7. Players are to be separated into two groups based on birth year during drills, and wear some type of indication during scrimmages. In the event that a player was in the division as a "moved up" player the previous year, because that player's birth year is that of a first year player, he is considered a first year player.
8. The local MAHA Rep and the local Registrar will set the date and time of the drafts, preferably having as many divisions as possible on one night. The local MAHA Rep will notify a District MAHA Rep of the draft date (preferably two weeks in advance).
9. Required attendees at all drafts; MAHA Representative, local Registrar, Division Director (mediator), team coaches or their designated representative (preferably one per team).

10. The coaches rate a certain number of players as being the top players in that division. The number of players so rated is the same as the number of teams in the division. For example, if there are four teams in the division, the coaches pick the players they consider to be the top four players and then rank them 1, 2, 3, 4.
11. The coaches then pick the next four best players in the same manner set forth above and rate them 5, 6, 7, 8. However, the second row of players is placed on teams beginning with the player rated lowest in that row instead of the player rated best as was done with row 1. This procedure is followed until all of the players in the division are selected. For purposes of illustration and clarification, assuming there are 4 teams in a division, the players would be placed on teams in the following manner:

<u>TEAM A</u>	<u>TEAM B</u>	<u>TEAM C</u>	<u>TEAM D</u>
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
9	10	11	12
16	15	14	13

And so on until all players in a division have been placed on a team. Goalies are then blindly drawn for each team. The registrar then verifies that all registered players in the division are assigned and the distribution of first and second year players is in accordance with MAHA guidelines. Prior requests for siblings, ride shares and assistant coaches can now be considered. Any trades must be done in the **same** row of a different team.

12. The MAHA Representative will verify that all rules and regulations from the most recent MAHA Guide Book have been followed.
13. Prior to team assignment, each coach reviews the teams and verifies to the division director (mediator) that he/she believes the teams are evenly balanced. The teams are then assigned to each coach by blind draw. Prior to the blind draw, no coach has any way of knowing which team he/she will be assigned to.
14. If there are any adjustments necessary for a coach's son/daughter (protected player), that player can only be switched with a player on the **same** row of a different team.
15. Sponsors are assigned to teams with first preference being to the team with the sponsor's child, then coach's choice.
16. All ratings of players and order of players in the draft are to be considered "Confidential" information and should therefore not be released or discussed outside the draft with parents or players.
17. With regard to any division accepting players after the initial draft, such player or players would be assigned to existing teams by agreement of all coaches in that division, with the first option being to assign a new player to the next team to get a player from the original draft. Other options are only to be entertained if the first option would severely offset the balance of the teams in the division. All disputes are to be resolved by the Division Director.
18. In the event of an unforeseen scenario at the draft, any deviations to these procedures during the draft must be approved by the MAHA Rep present at the draft. The MAHA Rep should notify the AHA President and/or Vice President as soon as possible.