



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ICE HOCKEY **ASSOCIATION**

International Teams Policy

Adopted by the South Australian Ice Hockey Association
Inc. at the Board meeting on February 1st 2012

CONTENTS

1. Policy	3
2. Principles	3
3. Procedures	3
4. Right of Appeal/Complaints	5

Periodically the South Australian Ice Hockey Association Incorporated (IHSA) will have the opportunity to send teams to compete in international tournaments. This document details the IHSA International Teams Policy that will be adhered to when such opportunities arise.

1. Policy

- 1.1 The fundamental objective of the International Teams Policy is to ensure that all procedures relating to sending a team, including having a fair and equitable process to make appointments to the positions of Team Coach and Team Manager are clear and enable all IHSA members to be fully informed of procedures related to international touring teams.
- 1.2 Subject to receiving and accepting a formal invitation to participate, IHSA will commit to send a team to international events, this includes the Pee Wee International Friendship Games held every 2 years.
- 1.3 In the case of the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, preliminary preparations such as appointment of a Team Coach and Team Manager and call for player expressions of interest to participate will begin whilst waiting for the invitation. The appointments are made subject to receiving the formal invitation. Should a formal invitation not be received all appointments will be dissolved with no recourse to the IHSA Board.
 - 1.1. In accordance with IHA policy the team must be accompanied by a Chef de Mission who acts as the representative of IHSA and IHA. The Chef de Mission must be a member of the IHSA board, preferably a member of the executive or, in the case of the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, the IHSA Junior Convenor. This person should be appointed as soon as possible and if no longer a member of the board in the year of the tournament should be co-opted to the IHSA Board for that year to speak and vote only on matters pertaining to the international tournament.
 - 1.2. To be appointed to any official position, a person must be a registered and financial member of IHSA and have a National Police Check Certificate.
 - 1.3. As the Chef de Mission is a representative for IHSA and is a mandatory requirement for sending a team, the airfares and accommodation of the Chef de Mission will be paid by IHSA, provided that there are adequate funds to pay for such expenses.
 - 1.4. As IHSA has international representative teams infrequently, the team entry fee will be paid by IHSA, provided that there are adequate funds to pay for such expenses.

2. Principles

- 2.1. These principles apply to all people who wish to be considered for appointment as a Team Coach or Team Manager for an IHSA competing in an international event.

3. Procedures

- 3.1. For all teams, with the exception of the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, the Team Coach and Team Manager will be appointed according to the IHSA State Team Coach and Manager Appointment Policy.

- 3.2. The Team Coach and Team Manager for the Friendship Games team will be appointed upon the return of the previous team, at least 18 months prior to the tournament. The appointments are accepted on the understanding that should a formal invitation not be received or accepted the positions will be dissolved with no recourse to the IHSA Board.
- 3.3. To be appointed to any official position, a person must be a registered and financial member of IHSA and have a National Police Check Certificate.
- 3.4. In addition, to be appointed to the position of Team Coach, a person must hold at least Level 1 Ice Hockey Australia Coaching accreditation.
- 3.5. Where a person is appointed to the position of Team Coach or Team Manager but is unable to fulfil their commitment to the position IHSA will take the following action. In the first instance, if there were other applicants for the position their applications will be re-evaluated and if it is deemed that amongst the other applicants a suitable candidate exists, that person shall be appointed. In the event that there were no other applicants or upon re-evaluation none of the other applicants were deemed suitable to be appointed, IHSA will call for new applications from any eligible IHSA member.
- 3.6. Where a person is appointed to the position of Team Coach or Team Manager but is deemed by IHSA to be acting in a manner which is not in the best interests of IHSA and its members and/or which does not comply with IHSA policies, IHSA reserve the right to remove the appointed person from the position and will take the actions. In the first instance, if there were other applicants for the position their applications will be re-evaluated and if it is deemed that amongst the other applicants a suitable candidate exists, that person shall be appointed. In the event that there were no other applicants or upon re-evaluation none of the other applicants were deemed suitable to be appointed, IHSA will call for new applications from any eligible IHSA member.
- 3.7. The reasonable airfare and accommodation expenses for the Team Coach and Team Manager will be shared equally by the players on the team; IHSA and in the case of the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, the IHSA Junior Council, may contribute to these costs where there are adequate funds to pay for such expenses, with the remainder to be covered by members of the team.
- 3.8. For all teams, with the exception of the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, the player selection shall be governed by South Australian Ice Hockey Association State Team Player Selection Policy.
- 3.9. For the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, players within the age range (including the exemption) will be sent an Expression of Interest Form by the Junior Convenor as soon as practicable in order to register their desire to be considered for the team. This will ask for the following information: Name, Address, telephone number, email, date of birth, number of seasons played.
- 3.10. For the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, the maximum number of players per team is set by the host nation. Provided there are sufficient numbers of players who wish to attend, IHSA will send the MAXIMUM number of allowable players to the tournament.
- 3.11. For the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, given the spirit of the tournament is one of friendship, criteria other than skill/ability alone are used to select the team. Provided there are enough vacancies on the team any player who is willing to commit to the team should be selected.
- 3.12. For the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, typically the tournament is open to players born between July 1st of a given year and June 30th two years later. For example, July 1st 1999 and June 30th

2001. Whilst it is at the discretion of the host nation, IHSA has a history of requesting and being provided with exceptions for players born 6 months before and after the eligibility dates. That is, those born, January 1st – June 30th 1999 and those born July 1st – December 31st 2001. IHSA support the continuation of this approach.

- 3.13. For the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, IHSA selection criteria recognise a player's support for the IHSA winter season. To this end, where there are limited places on the team, preference will be given to those players who are age eligible, i.e. born in appropriate age range (including the exemption) and have played the most seasons in the IHSA winter competition.
- 3.14. For the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, Should the number of players registering expressions of interest be over the allowed number of players, then players who have already attended a previous Friendship Games tournament will be deemed ineligible in order to allow other players the opportunity to participate.
- 3.15. For the Pee Wee International Friendship Games, final selection is at the discretion of the Team Coach, adhering to points 3.10-3.14 above, and will be based on ability, attitude, sportsmanship and dedication to the game. Just because a player is in the age group does not mean the Team Coach must select them.
- 3.16. The Chef De Mission and Team Manager must travel to and from the host nation with the team and assume responsibility for supervising team members unless in the case of junior players they have been formally handed over to their parents at the end of the event (and the parents have signed the appropriate form to take responsibility).
- 3.17. The players **must** travel **as a team to the event**. Players are free to make their own travel arrangements for the return journey to Australia. In the case of juniors this is provided they are with their parents who have assumed responsibility for their care and safety (and have signed the appropriate form to indicate IHSA are absolved of responsibility).

4. Right of Appeal/Complaints

- 4.1 Applicants for Team Coach and Team Manager only have the right of complaint where it can be shown that IHSA did not adhere to correct policy and procedures when making the appointments.
- 4.2 Any applicant for Team Coach or Team Manager who wishes clarification about the process may submit their query or complaint in writing to be tabled at the next IHSA Board meeting.