

Big Mountain Hockey Conference (BMHC)

Bylaws, Policies & Procedures

As of August 1, 2021

Article I – NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The name of the organization is Big Mountain Hockey Conference, a Colorado Not-For-Profit 501 (c) (3) Corporation, henceforth referred to as the “Corporation”, “League”, or “Conference”. The principal office of this Corporation shall be 4740 W. Mineral Avenue, #101, Littleton, CO 80128, or such other place as may subsequently be designated by the Board of Directors.

Article II – MISSION STATEMENT AND PURPOSE

1. Mission Statement: The Big Mountain Hockey Conference (BMHC) is an organization comprised of American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) Division 2 Programs. The Mission of this league is to promote structured competitive regional collegiate ice hockey with the intent of providing a reasonable number of games, while reducing the cost of travel for its participants. The Conference will also act as an ambassador to bring Regional and National events to the area, including Regional Playoffs, National Championships, and various other tournaments.
2. Purpose: The Conference will strive to operate under the following guiding principles:
 - a. The Conference will operate under the rules of USA Hockey and the ACHA. Where rules established by the conference conflict with rules of USA Hockey and ACHA, the rules of USA Hockey and ACHA will prevail.
 - b. The Conference will promote fair play, sportsmanship, integrity, and competition. The fostering of these characteristics will be the responsibility of each team, on behalf of that team, all teams, all players, all universities and colleges represented by the teams, and the reputation of the Conference.
 - c. The Conference will foster a collegiate athletic experience to and for its student-athletes. While the Conference and its teams strive to compete nationally, and to win ACHA National Championships, the Conference will balance the athletic requirements of its athletes with the educational requirements of its students.

Article III – LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

3. The BMHC shall consist of hockey teams from any two-year or four-year college or university located in or around the Rocky Mountain Region of the United States of America that is playing (or will play) ACHA D2 hockey.
4. Teams participating in the BMHC shall have a primary facility to host all of its home games.
5. Effective with the 2021-2022 season, the BMHC members are as follows:

- a. Colorado State University (D2)
 - b. Metropolitan State University of Denver
 - c. University of Colorado - Boulder (D2)
 - d. University of Denver
 - e. University of Northern Colorado
 - f. University of Wyoming
6. ACHA D2 teams seeking admission to the BMHC as a conference member subsequent to the 2021-2022 season must submit an application (paperwork and a fee to be agreed upon by the BMHC Board of Directors, but not to exceed the Annual Conference Membership Dues, unless changed by unanimous approval from the current Conference members) to the BMHC Commissioner on or before November 1 of the preceding year for which the team is seeking admission (i.e., on or before November 1, 2021 for the 2022-2023 season).
7. Applications for admission will be considered for the full season of play that starts during the next calendar year.
8. The November 1 deadline may be waived for any individual team petitioning for membership if the current BMHC membership votes unanimously to allow for the exception for that particular team at that specific point in time.
9. Any new conference member joining the Big Mountain Hockey Conference is required to pay a fee equal to the voted and approved Annual Conference Membership Dues (currently \$2,000 per team). These fees (in amount and use) may change with approval from the current Conference members, and notification to the applicant new conference member.
10. All Applications for admission to the BMHC will be reviewed and voted upon by the BMHC Board of Directors (Existing Member Teams).
 - a. Non-Four Year Colleges and/or Universities will require special approval.
 - b. Teams without a primary rink facility for all its home games will require special approval.
 - c. Teams not currently playing at the ACHA D2 level will require special approval.
 - d. Teams significantly outside the geographic region, requiring a significant increase in travel costs, will require special approval.
11. A unanimous vote of approval from the existing BMHC member teams is required for an application for admission to the BMHC to be granted.
12. Upon admission to the BMHC, newly admitted league members must complete a mandatory one (1) year probationary period. During this probationary period, newly admitted league members will be expected to attend BMHC conference meetings and participate in the BMHC play as an “auxiliary member” but will not be accorded any voting rights at BMHC Conference meetings. Upon satisfactory completion of the probationary period, newly admitted league members will be afforded all rights and privileges as existing BMHC member teams.
13. BMHC member teams seeking to depart the BMHC must provide written notice to the BMHC Commissioner of such intentions at least two (2) playing seasons in advance of the actual date of departure. If prior to December 31st of the current playing season, this means that current playing season, and the next full playing season. A playing season is defined as August 1 – March 31st. This notice period will permit the remaining teams in the BMHC adequate time to consider their respective position within the BMHC, and take appropriate action to ensure the viability of the Conference. A departure fee may be imposed if costs to its members or to the conference are incurred which may not be recovered or which may harm the financial viability of the conference.

Article IV. COMMISSIONER AND COMMITTEES

14. The BMHC member teams shall elect an individual to serve as BMHC Commissioner to manage all business and affairs involving the BMHC. The Commissioner shall serve until such time as he/she voluntarily relinquishes his/her duties as Commissioner or a unanimous vote of the BMHC member teams to replace the current Commissioner with another individual.
15. A Rules Committee will be created to handle any disputes between BMHC member teams during the season.
16. The Rules Committee will consist of the BMHC Commissioner and a representative from each BMHC member team that is not a party to the dispute at issue.
17. Allegations of BMHC and/or ACHA rules violations and protests must be submitted to the BMHC Commissioner in writing within forty-eight (48) hours after the actual incident occurs. The Rules Committee will sit in judgment of allegations of rules violations and protests. All protests must be acted upon by the Rules Committee within fourteen (14) days of submission to the BMHC Commissioner.
18. An Appeals Committee consisting of the teams at hand or any BMHC member team having an issue with the ruling/resolution of a matter by the Rules Committee can be summoned, and appeal the ruling/resolution within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving said ruling/resolution. The Rules Committee will then have forty-eight (48) hours to reconsider the original ruling/resolution and resolve the issues and concerns raised on appeal.
19. Any issue in need of a Rules Committee can be submitted to the BMHC Commissioner for consideration. If the BMHC Commissioner determines that said issue needs immediate response (other than as set forth above), a Rules Committee can be summoned for consideration and resolution of said issue (timetable TBA).

Article V: LEAGUE/CONFERENCE MEETINGS

20. Two (2) league meetings will be held annually, which may be held in person and/or telephonically:
 - a. Summer/Fall Meeting – Rules clarification and interpretation, finalize schedule details, etc.
 - b. Spring Meeting – held in conjunction with ACHA Annual Meeting, review of season, ACHA issues, etc.
21. Additional league/conference meetings may be called and held as deemed necessary by the BMHC Commissioner.
22. The BMHC calendar year will be the same as the ACHA calendar year (August 1 to July 31).
23. A representative of each BMHC member team must be in attendance at each league/conference meeting. Any team not providing a representative at the league meeting may be fined an amount to be agreed upon by the Board of Directors.
24. A quorum shall constitute at least 50% of the BMHC member teams in attendance.
25. Each BMHC member team is accorded one vote on applications, motions, non-budgeted expenditures and other items discussed at league/conference meetings.
26. All BMHC member teams are to furnish and update names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses for their respective Head Coaches, General Managers, Team Officers, and Club Sports/Student Affairs Directors.
27. All votes not specified herein with a percentage shall be decided by majority vote.

28. In any situation in which a team does not have a vote, it shall not prevent said team from expressing their opinion/position on the matter being addressed.
29. In the event of a tie vote, the BMHC Commissioner will render a vote to break the tie.

Article VI: MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS AND BENEFITS:

30. Membership Requirements:

- a. Annual payment of Conference Team membership dues to the BMHC Commissioner by November 1st for the current season, unless agreed to by unanimous vote. Each team will receive an invoice from the BMHC for payment.
- b. All BMHC teams shall be a member in good standing and must adhere to all American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) Division 2 standards, policies, and procedures.
- c. Every player on a BMHC team must electronically or otherwise sign the ACHA/USA Hockey waiver, roster, and other forms deemed necessary by the ACHA and USA Hockey.
- d. Each BMHC team must be a registered student organization, sports club or other similar classification in good standing with their respective institution.
- e. BMHC teams must participate in mandatory organizational meetings, provide timely response to requests for information and feedback, and communicate regularly with the BMHC Commissioner. All scores and statistics are to be entered electronically in the on-line scoring application required by the ACHA no later than each Monday evening following weekend play. Each team is also required to save each paper scoresheet for verification to the ACHA is required.

31. Membership benefits: BMHC members shall receive the following benefits (including but not limited to)

- a. A website which includes game schedules, results, general BMHC information, links to individual team websites and the ACHA.
- b. An accounting of all funds received and expended in performing any and all conference functions and activities.
- c. A plan generated and supported by all conference members for the growth and promotion of the conference.

32. Suspension of Membership Benefits:

- a. Membership affiliation and benefits may be suspended or withdrawn for non-compliance with any and all BMHC rules or regulations.
- b. To clarify, membership affiliation and benefits may be withdrawn with or without cause by unanimous vote of the Rules Committee. For example, the BMHC may withdraw membership due to dissatisfaction with general on-ice or off-ice demeanor or overall competitiveness of a member team. The BMHC is not limited to these remedies. Any perceived variation from overarching vision or strategy of the BMHC or its individual teams would be a sufficient reason to review.
- c. Suspension of benefits may include, but are not limited to, the removal of team participation from conference, probationary status for one or more seasons, or forfeiture of games for violation of player eligibility requirements.
- d. All suspensions of benefits for violations shall be decided by the BMHC Commissioner.
- e. All suspension of benefits may be appealed in writing within five (5) days to the BMHC Commissioner who shall present any new information to the other BMHC member teams and a decision shall be rendered within three (3) days. All appeals decisions will be final.

Article VII: LEAGUE DUES AND INSURANCE

33. Annual BMHC conference dues will be determined by the Board of Directors for operation prior to the beginning of each season. Said dues will be due in full by November 1st of the season, unless agreed to by unanimous vote. Suspension of participation in Conference activities may result due to non-payment.
34. A Budget and Financial Summary will be prepared with estimates for any/all expenditures that may occur throughout the year (August 1 – July 31). This budget will then be voted on and approved by the Board, and Conference Membership Dues will then be determined based upon the financial need. All teams will share equally in the cost of operating the Conference. At the conclusion of the year, an updated Budget and Financial Summary with Actual expenditures will be prepared, demonstrating a net profit or loss for the conference for that year.
 - a. At no time may the conference operate with a negative account balance.
 - b. The conference may operate with a positive account balance at the end of each year.
 - c. This positive account balance may be used for emergencies, unforeseen expenditures, and additional uses such as All Star Events, Marketing and Growth Events, Alumni Events, Recruiting Events, etc.
 - d. All such non-budgeted expenditures will be voted on by the Board, and approved by simple majority. All ties will be decided by a vote by the Commissioner.
35. The conference members may agree on additional fees for such things as hosting tournaments, including BMHC Conference Playoffs, ACHA Regional and/or National Championship playoffs.
36. All BMHC member teams are required to submit the full roster (players and coaches) to the ACHA via online registration to be insured through USA Hockey. This must be done prior to the first game played by the respective BMHC member team. If not submitted prior to the first game played by the respective BMHC member team, that team and/or its individual players and/or coaches may potentially forfeit any rights to insurance provided by USA Hockey if an incident occurs.

Article VIII: OFFICIALS

37. For all BMHC games, BMHC member teams must utilize ACHA certified officials who comprehend and abide by all ACHA officiating rules regarding game play.
38. A 4-Man referee crew is required (2 referees, 2 linesmen). If an emergency arises, a game can be considered official if it is required to utilize a 3-man officiating crew (1 referee, 2 linesmen, or 2 referees, 1 linesman).
39. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide officials for each BMHC game.
40. All complaints regarding officiating should be directed to the BMHC Commissioner, and the appropriate CIHRA Head Official/Signer/Scheduler for the BMHC/ACHA.

Article IX: TEAM ROSTERS

41. General Player Eligibility: All players must meet ACHA D2 eligibility requirements.
42. Academic Requirements: The BMHC shall use the same academic requirements established by the ACHA Division 2.
43. Team rosters must be submitted on-line via the required Registration Systems for the ACHA and USA Hockey prior to a team's first scheduled league contest. As well, any required Eligibility Documents must be completed by each team, signed by each school's Registrar, and sent in to

the ACHA before any player/team is allowed to participate in any ACHA-sanctioned game. The ACHA may levy fines or suspensions for non-compliance.

44. Any additions to the original roster must be submitted to the ACHA prior to the individual(s) in question playing in a League game.
45. Final rosters will be frozen on January 31st for participation in any ACHA post-season play. All fall semester eligibility sheets are due by October 1st. All spring semester eligibility sheets are due January 31st to the ACHA.
46. Any players not academically eligible in either fall or spring semesters that play in ACHA/BMHC games will have their team forfeit each game in violation.
47. Both the fall and spring roster must be certified (stamped) by the school's registrar to verify player eligibility as a bona fide student. After the registrar completes and verifies the roster, it is to be sent by the registrar's office directly to the ACHA D2 Commissioner.
48. Any challenge regarding the eligibility of a player on a BMHC team roster must be presented in a timely manner to the BMHC Commissioner in writing. The BMHC Commissioner may request proof of eligibility from the team/university of the player in question.

Article X: LEAGUE PLAY, GAME REGULATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

49. The BMHC will use the rules of play specified in the NCAA Rule Book unless specified otherwise in the ACHA Division 2 Policies and Procedures.
50. For each conference season, each BMHC conference member will play an equal amount of conference games based upon the current number of conference members. For the 2021-2022 Season with 6 Conference Teams, each BMHC conference member will play fifteen (15) conference games, three games against each opponent, with an annually alternating matrix of 3 teams hosting 2 Home Games and 1 Away Game.
51. Conference Game Details:
 - a. All Conference games will follow ACHA Division 2 game rules.
 - b. All conference games will consist of three twenty-minute stop time periods, with ice makes at the end of period 1 and period 2.
 - c. The Home team will decide if pre-game warm-ups are conducted on dirty ice, then requiring an ice make before the start of the 1st period, or if warm-ups will be conducted on clean ice, and then begin the 1st period of play at the conclusion of warm-ups.
 - i. It is the responsibility of the home team to inform the visiting team of which approach will be used prior to the start of the warm-ups.
 - d. If the game is tied after regulation, a five (5) minute, 4-on-4 sudden death overtime period shall commence.
 - i. The teams shall switch ends similar to the format of the 2nd period.
 - ii. An additional time-out will be allocated to each team, with a maximum of 1 time-out to be used during the OT period.
 - iii. A penalty resulting in a short-handed situation will be played 4-on-3.
 - iv. A second penalty resulting in an additional short-handed situation will then be played 5-on-3, until all penalties expire. The 5-on-5 play will then return to 4-on-4 on the next whistle.
 - e. If still tied after the overtime period, a three (3) player shootout shall determine the winner. If still tied after the three player shootout, a sudden death shootout shall determine the winner.

- i. All players must participate in the shootout before a player can repeat his participation in the shootout.
 - ii. Since Shootout results do not factor into ACHA Division 2 Rankings or record, a maximum of 10 shootout attempts can take place.
 - iii. If after 10 attempts, neither team has scored, the game will end in a tie.
 - iv. The Home Team will have the choice of shooting first or second in the shootout.
- 52. A point system will be followed when determining the BMHC Conference standings, as follows:
 - a. A regulation win in a conference game is worth 3 points;
 - b. An overtime/shootout win in a conference game is worth 2 points;
 - c. An overtime/shootout loss in a conference game is worth 1 point;
 - d. A tie after the shootout in a conference game is worth 1 point to each team; and
 - e. A regulation loss in a conference game is worth 0 points.
- 53. BMHC teams shall be permitted to have the option of dressing a maximum of 18 skaters and 3 goaltenders or 19 skaters and 2 goaltenders. However, failure to dress at least 2 goaltenders shall result in a forfeit as dictated by ACHA Division 2 rules.
- 54. BMHC teams shall roster no less than 16 players per game.
- 55. Disqualification procedures will adhere to the procedures recognized by the ACHA. No special situations shall be taken into consideration regarding the disqualification of a player or coach.
- 56. Any player who receives a disqualification penalty must sit out the prescribed number of games in accordance with ACHA and NCAA rules. The penalty for playing a disqualified player in the player's next conference game is an automatic forfeit.
- 57. If at all possible, no league games will start after 10:00 p.m. local time.
- 58. All players, coaches, and officials on and off the ice shall observe sportsmanship of the highest order, before, during, and after the game in which they represent the BMHC. Unsportsmanlike conduct displayed by players or coaches towards the opposing team or officials will not be tolerated. At the conclusion of the game in which unsportsmanlike behavior has occurred, a written assessment may be submitted by team officials/coaches directly to the BMHC Commissioner's office for review and consideration. Any player, coach, or team who continues to display unsportsmanlike conduct may be brought before the league for disciplinary action. These reviews and any enforcement will take place as soon as possible after a written report is submitted. Subsequent infractions will be handled on a case-by-case basis and may use progressive discipline.
- 59. The BMHC Commissioner, with the agreement of the conference members not involved in the action, may suspend a BMHC player or coach that has a history of severe abuse to preserve the integrity of the game and/or conference, even if the abusive action(s) are not expressly denoted as violations of any NCAA, ACHA or rules contained herein. This suspension may be appealed to the Rules Committee.
- 60. **SUPPLEMENTAL DISCIPLINE:** The BMHC Commissioner, with the agreement of the majority of its conference members, has the right to instill supplemental discipline to preserve the integrity of the conference.
 - a. The BMHC Commissioner will forward for review all game reports received from officials and any other pertinent information that may lead to potential supplemental discipline to a consulting USA Hockey official selected at the discretion of the BMHC Commissioner.
 - b. The USA Hockey official selected at the discretion of the BMHC Commissioner will review and forward all information along with a recommendation to the BMHC Commissioner should he/she deem that supplemental discipline is necessary.

- c. Any party who receives supplemental discipline may appeal the decision of the BMHC Commissioner to a Disciplinary Appeals Board in a timely manner.
 - d. The Disciplinary Appeals Board will consist of representatives from three league teams as assigned by the BMHC Commissioner on a rotating basis. More specifically, the Disciplinary Appeals Board will be assigned on the basis of the next three teams in alphabetical order of team name and will only consist of representatives of teams who are not a party to the issue at hand. Where possible, it will be expected that each team-affiliated Disciplinary Appeals Board member will be a non-coaching/administrative representative.
 - e. The Disciplinary Appeals Board has the right to uphold, rescind, or amend the penalties levied by the BMHC Commissioner in whole or in part.
61. Game contracts are RECOMMENDED. Game contracts should be filled out completely for all games, not just conference games, and retained by each team. A copy of every game contract is to be submitted to the BMHC Commissioner.
- a. Should Electronic Scoring from League Stats (HockeyTech), or another tool chosen by ACHA, be used, so long as all notes are entered into the game summary regarding discipline issues, then this can act as the game contract for that specific game.
 - b. All teams should have paper scoresheet backup for each game. Paper scoresheets can be purchased from the ACHA via the ACHA Website.

Article XI: EQUIPMENT

62. All BMHC players must utilize playing equipment as permitted and/or required by the NCAA rulebook and as modified by the ACHA rules and regulations.
63. Each team must have a complete matching set of home and away jerseys. Both sets shall consist of large permanent numbers on the backside of the jersey. Player numbers for individual players should remain stable throughout the season.

Article XII: HOME TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

64. To provide timer and scorer (paper or electronic).
65. To schedule certified officials. Each home team must have contracts with the referee association in their district for all conference games. Expenses relating to the failure of a referee(s) to work a game are the direct responsibility of the home team.
66. To send out contracts for all contests (if appropriate) including directions to home arenas.
67. To provide a certified athletic trainer (ATC), emergency medical technician (EMT), a fully stocked first aid kit, and/or access to immediate ambulance/emergency medical services.
68. To submit team rosters to the registrar and subsequently to the BMHC Commissioner by the specified dates.
69. To submit the ACHA score sheet for each game played the preceding week to the ACHA Commissioner and the BMHC Commissioner on or before 5:00 P.M. on each Monday via fax or email.
70. To submit the game results to the ACHA Commissioner and the BMHC Commissioner immediately after the conclusion of a game via phone, text or email.

71. To submit game disqualifications to the BMHC Commissioner for all contests, conference or non-conference via phone, text or email.
72. To provide practice pucks for warm-ups for the visiting team.
73. To provide adequate security and as reasonably as possible keep fans away from the visiting bench, locker room, or behind the visiting goaltender.
74. To report/score all home games and any non-ACHA away games into the ACHA's website in a timely manner.
75. Should repeated instances of late or non-submission of score sheets and/or game results occur, the conference and its members may institute a fine for each instance of non-compliance.

Article XIII: REGULAR SEASON CONFERENCE CHAMPION

76. The regular season BMHC champion for the season shall be the team that has the highest winning percentage from league games (calculated as total league points earned divided by total league points possible).
77. Any additional games that are played against non-conference teams will count neither towards conference standings nor as a tiebreaker in determining conference standings.
78. In Case of a tie at the end of the regular season, the tie breakers are as follows:
 - a. Most conference regulation wins;
 - b. Head to head win/loss record (total conference points in head-to-head games);
 - c. Head to head goal differential in conference games;
 - d. Goal differential in all BMHC regular season games;
 - e. Coin flip.
 - f. In the event of a multiple-team tie-breaker, if one team owns a head-to-head win/loss tie-breaker advantage over all other teams involved, then it will advance. If a team has a head-to-head win/loss disadvantage over all other teams involved, then it will be eliminated. Tie-breaker criteria starts over if a team is eliminated from a multiple-team tie-breaker scenario.

Article XIV: POST SEASON TOURNAMENT/PLAYOFF

79. The BMHC will host a conference Playoff Tournament at the conclusion of each regular season. A regular season Champion will be crowned, and a Conference Playoff Champion will be crowned.
 - a. The format of this Playoff Tournament will be agreed to in advance by the Board of Directors.
 - b. The Conference Membership Team Dues should cover the cost of this Playoff Tournament.
80. The current ACHA rule is that leagues/conferences with 8 teams or greater will become eligible to receive an auto-bid to the ACHA Men's Division 2 West Regionals for its champion.
 - a. Should the BMHC grow to 8 or more Teams, and therefore become eligible for a possible ACHA West Regionals Auto-bid, the BMHC will be required to determine if the Conference Regular Season Champion or the Conference Playoff Champion will become that eligible team.
 - b. That decision is required before the start of each season and reported to the ACHA.

Article XV: AWARDS

81. The BMHC conference members have elected to create a traveling trophy called the Union Pacific Brass Spittoon, to be awarded to the Conference Regular Season Champions. This trophy will be awarded at the end of the season to its regular season champion. A Champion Banner will also be awarded to the regular season champion, at the beginning of the next conference season.
82. The BMHC conference members have elected to create a traveling trophy called the Tivoli Brewers Barrel, to be awarded to the Conference Playoff Champion. This trophy will be awarded at the conclusion of the Playoff Tournament to its Champion. A Playoff Champion Banner will also be awarded at the beginning of the next conference season.
 - a. The BMHC Champions Award Trophies must be returned to the BMHC Commissioner's office by January 31st of each calendar year, or a fine commensurate with replacing the award will be assessed. If the BMHC Champions Award is in need of repair, lost, or stolen, it must be fixed or replaced by the school in possession before being returned to the BMHC Commissioner, or the cost of repair/replacement will be assessed to the Team by the BMHC.
83. A BMHC All-Conference team (First Team and Second Team) comprised of 12 players (6 forwards, 4 defensemen, and 2 goalies) will be selected each season. Voting for said All-Conference team shall be by BMHC coaches. Coaches will be permitted to vote for their own players; however, coaches will be permitted to vote only one of their own players for First Team consideration and only one of their own players for Second Team consideration.
 - a. All Award recipients will receive framed certificates for their accomplishments, to be presented at the beginning of the next conference season, at a designated home game.
84. Awards will also be provided for the season's "Coach-Of-The-Year" and "Player-Of-The-Year", to be presented at the beginning of the next conference season, at a designated home game.
85. The announcement of all award winners will be made at the conclusion of the conference playoffs, shortly after the Conference Playoff Tournament has concluded.

Article XVI: TEAM ACTIVITIES/OPERATIONS

86. AHCA has moved to an electronic and automated ranking process. At the conclusion of the rankings process, teams will be determined for Nationals Auto-bids and Regionals bids. Teams have the right to decline such Regionals bids. However, continued failure to participate in the ACHA D2 ranking process and Regionals bid acceptance may result in expulsion from the BMHC.
87. Any BMHC team which fails to honor a confirmed scheduling commitment except under an act of God may have membership benefits suspended immediately and declared ineligible for the conference championship. Compensation may be rendered to the relevant team for travel expense and/or ice and referee costs.
 - a. Such suspensions, forfeitures, and/or financial penalties could be instituted by the ACHA, or could be voted on by the BMHC Board of Directors.
88. Any team using an ineligible player in a BMHC game shall forfeit the game in which the player participated. A notice to the ACHA shall be written alerting it of the incident. The team who used the ineligible player may be subject to suspension of membership.
89. League scheduling: All teams will attempt to first schedule BMHC games before it schedules any non-league games in any upcoming season. The BMHC Commissioner shall present a proposed

conference schedule to the BMHC member teams on or before April 15th of the preceding season for review and consideration by the conference membership. BMHC member teams may present the BMHC Commissioner with a list of available dates for their respective ice hockey facilities as soon as possible to permit the proposed league schedule to be assembled and presented for consideration on or before May 15th of the preceding season.

- a. As handled today, all coaches will work in good faith with other member teams' head coach/scheduler to complete the schedule in a timely manner, such that conference teams can plan their non-conference schedule and tournament/travel schedule appropriately in advance.

Article XVII: CONFERENCE OPERATIONS

90. The Big Mountain Hockey Conference will establish its own bank account for the purposes of receiving funds from each conference member (Membership Dues and expense reimbursement) and paying funds necessary for running the operations of the BMHC.
91. The BMHC may establish other special Committees as appropriate for conducting the business of the BMHC.
92. The BMHC will establish a budget for its operations, which then must be approved by the Conference Members via a vote (in person, via telephone, or via email). This budget, along with a ledger of its expenditures and revenues, will be distributed to the member teams on a regular basis.
93. Any action which has a material impact on the Conference or any of its members will require a vote before such action is taken. Such actions may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Unbudgeted expenditure of funds
 - b. Additional requests for revenue to fund the operations of the BMHC
 - c. Material Additions or Changes to these Bylaws, Policies & Procedures
94. A Board of Directors will be established that consists of:
 - a. A BMHC Commissioner, appointed by the member teams
 - b. A voting representative from each team, to be appointed by each member team (typically the team's Head Coach or GM)
 - c. Other volunteers to help facilitate the operations of the Conference
95. Any votes required will be cast by the voting representative from each team (or their designee).
 - a. At the current time, with 6 member teams in the conference, a quorum is represented by a minimum of 4 voting members in any meeting.
 - b. Votes will be accepted via email or via a meeting (in person or via telephone conference).
 - c. Any ties in the voting process will be resolved by the BMHC Commissioner casting the deciding vote.