

# IRONDALE GIRLS' HOCKEY EXPECTATIONS



## I. GENERAL

- A. All players, managers, and coaches will always conduct themselves in a first class manner, be encouraging of each other, and have a healthy, positive attitude. We all represent Irondale High School and the Irondale community.
- B. All players, managers, and coaches are expected to use appropriate language in all practices, games and team activities.
- C. All equipment issued by the school must be returned by the end of the season in order to receive their letter. It is expected that all players keep practice uniform clean during the season.
- D. All players and managers must in school to practice or play in game. (Unless excused absence. For example: funeral, doctor's appointment)

*Breaking of any of these guidelines could result in:*

**The first offense:** the athlete or manager will miss part or all of the next varsity game. The player will be on the bench in street clothes and help with statistics.

**The second offense:** the athlete or manager will miss the next varsity game. The player will be on the game bench in street clothes and help with the statistics. In addition, the player or manager will not return to varsity competition until after a conference with the coaching staff and parent or guardian.

## II. PHILOSOPHY

**Varsity** – the coaching staff will attempt to put the best possible team on the ice regardless of a player's age or grade. We will look for athletic ability, attitude and the ability to be a team player when putting together a competitive team. If a younger player is ready to play at this level, she will play.

## III. PARTICIPATION

### Being on the IRONDALE GIRLS' HOCKEY TEAM

- It's a privilege, not a right.
- Players must accept all responsibilities in order to be on the team.
- Nobody will be accorded equal or guaranteed ice time.



#### IV. SQUAD SELECTION

Choosing the members of this team is the sole responsibility of the coaches. We shall provide the following information to all candidates for the team:

- Extent of tryout period
- Criteria used to select the squad
- Number to be selected
- Practice commitment if they make the squad
- Other commitments

#### V. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ATHLETE

- Put the teams' goals, welfare, and success before your own.
- Attend all practice sessions.
- Be receptive to coaching.
- Be responsible for all uniforms and equipment.
- Represent Irondale High School well and follow the team rules.
- Report all injuries to the trainer or coach.

#### VI. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COACH

- Select the team.
- Determine the style and philosophy of play.
- Teach at practice sessions.
- Determine amount of playing time for each player.
- Establish team rules.
- Establish the requirements to earn a letter.
- Always make safety and the athletes' welfare first.



## VII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARENTS

\* Be positive and supportive of your daughter. Try not to add undue pressure and unrealistic expectations.

\* If you do not have something nice to say, then you are probably not trying hard enough. Please always try to be supportive of our program and if you have a concern, let's talk about it.

\* We want only the best for your daughter. Please trust that this is our top priority. We will do everything that we can to help your daughter achieve her goals.



## VIII. DEALING WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

There is a chain of command that must be followed when addressing concerns:

1st step – The player must talk to the coach.

2nd step – Meeting between the coach, parent and player.

3rd step – Meeting with the coaches, the athlete, parents and Activities Director.

\*All questions and concerns will be dealt with only if these steps are followed and will never take place at the arena. Please schedule your appointment to meet at the high school.



## IX. LETTERING STANDARDS

A letter is something that each athlete must earn.

There are three different ways to earn a letter:

1 – If an athlete plays in at least as many periods as there are games. For example, if there are 25 games in a season, a player must play in at least 25 periods to letter.

In addition, the athlete or manager must successfully complete the entire season and be on the final section tournament roster.

2 – If an Athlete has been out for high school hockey for 4 years.

3 – The coaching staff reserves the right to letter any athletes that do not meet the above two standards.

## IX. UNAPPROVED ABSENCES AND TARDIES

Definition:

An unapproved absence is an absence of a tardy (more than 20 minutes late) that is not approved by the head coach or that does not result from an illness or an emergency.

A. The 1st unapproved absence: the athlete or manager will miss the next varsity game. They will be on the bench in street clothes and help with the statistics.

B. The 2nd unapproved absence: the athlete or manager will miss the next varsity game. The player will be on the bench in street clothes and help with the statistics. In addition, the player or manager will not return to varsity competition until after a conference with the coaching staff and a parent or guardian.



## X. ACADEMIC STANDARDS

All players and managers are expected to be passing all classes during the season. The coaching staff will periodically check the grades of all players and managers during the season.

A. The 1st Failure in a class: the athlete or manager will miss the next varsity game. They will be on the bench in street clothes and help with the statistics.

B. The 2nd Failure in a class: the athlete or manager will miss the next varsity game. The player will be on the bench in street clothes and help with the statistics. In addition, the player or manager will not return to varsity competition until after a conference with the coaching staff and a parent or guardian.

## XI. MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL RULES

Failure to comply show lack of commitment to the team. Please see Student Activities Handbook. Violations of these rules will be followed up with the penalties as they are written.

Note: Any infractions of any of these rules or regulations or those of the MSHSL by the captains of the varsity team will result in the loss of title and responsibilities.

## XIII. CAPTAINS SELECTION AND TEAM AWARDS

- Team Captains will be selected by a vote from the varsity letter winners from the previous year.
- All awards (MVP, MIP and Knight Award) will be voted on by the players.
- Except the coaches will select one award – the Coaches Award.

## XIV. COMMUNITY SERVICE

It is our goal each year to give back to the community in the way of community service. It will be an expectation to work with our youth teams. Team members will be notified as these opportunities present themselves





## **Minnesota State High School League Rules**

1. **\*ACADEMIC** — (Credit Requirement) To be eligible, a student must be making satisfactory progress toward the school's requirement for graduation.
2. **\*AGE** — A student representing a member school in League activities shall be under 20 years of age at the start of the season. If, however, a student has started a season, the student will be permitted to complete that season after reaching the student's 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. Adapted athletes are eligible to participate until their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday provided they meet all other eligibility requirements.
3. **FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS** — Foreign Exchange Students are limited to 1 calendar year of high school eligibility beginning with their 1st date of enrollment and attendance. **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS** – students not participating in a CSIET approved foreign exchange program are eligible only at the B-squad or JV level.
4. **AMATEUR** — A student must be an amateur in that sport. A student may not receive cash or merchandise for athletic participation. A student does not lose her/his amateur status because of reimbursement for officiating, instructing, teaching or coaching a sport.
5. **ATHLETIC CAMPS AND CLINICS** —
  - A. **School Year:** Students may attend athletic camps and clinics which have been approved by their high school principal.
  - B. **Summer Vacation Period:** Non-school specialized athletic camps and clinics do not require approval.
    1. The non-school sponsored camp or clinic fee must be provided by the student or the student's parent(s) or guardian, unless other arrangements are approved by the Board of Directors.
    2. A student may attend a camp or clinic where a member of the school's coaching staff (sophomore, B-Squad, junior varsity or varsity) in that sport owns, administers, directs, organizes, or serves as an instructor or is a staff member during the student's attendance.
  - C. **Penalty:**
    1. **First Violation:** After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility in that sport for the next two (2) consecutive interscholastic contests or two (2) weeks of that season, whichever is greater. If there are fewer than two (2) events remaining in that sport, the loss of eligibility will continue into the next season in that sport. Note: This means that a senior who violates the bylaws at the end of one sport season will lose eligibility for two (2) games in the next sport season in which the student participates.
    2. **Second Violation:** After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility in that sport for the next six (6) consecutive interscholastic contests or three (3) weeks, whichever is greater.
    3. **Third Violation:** After confirmation of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility in that sport for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic contests or four (4) weeks, whichever is greater.

**6. ACCUMULATIVE PENALTIES:** Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with the student's first participation in a League activity and continuing through the student's high school career.

**7. AMATEUR STATUS AND AWARDS BYLAW** — Acceptable awards to students in recognition of participation in high school activities include medals, ribbons, letters, trophies, plaques and other items of little or no intrinsic value (\$100.00 or less). Violation will render a student ineligible for participation in that activity.

**8. COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY TEAMS** — Individuals who have participated with a college or university team are ineligible for participation in any activity of the League.

**9. FAIR HEARING PROCEDURE** — The League Constitution provides a Fair Hearing Procedure for the student or parent contesting a school's failure to certify the eligibility of a student.

The student has 10 calendar days in which to appeal the school's decision. The appeals process includes an appeal before a hearing panel at the school and the right, if desired, to appeal that decision to the League's Board of Directors. An independent hearing examiner will hear the appeal and make written findings of fact, conclusions and a recommendation for the Board of Directors following the hearing. The Board's decision shall be final. A complete listing of the Fair Hearing Procedure may be obtained from the athletic director or principal of the high school or on Web at [www.mshsl.org](http://www.mshsl.org) in the Publications section.

**10. \*ENROLLMENT, ATTENDANCE, AND REQUIRED SUBJECT LOAD** — Students must be fully enrolled in (as defined by the Minnesota Department of Education) and attending the school before they are eligible to represent that school in MSHSL sponsored activities. Students must be properly registered, attending school and classes regularly, and enrolled in the required number of credits to graduate in four (4) years after first entering the 9th grade.

**II. \*GENERAL ELIGIBILITY** — In order to be eligible for regular season and MSHSL tournament competition, a student must be fully enrolled as defined by the Minnesota Department of Education and a bona fide member of his or her high school in good standing. A student who is under penalty of exclusion, expulsion or suspension, whose character or conduct violates the Student Code of Responsibilities is not in good standing shall be ineligible for a period of time as determined by the principal.

***Student Code of Responsibilities***

*As a student participating in my school's interscholastic activities, I understand and accept the following responsibilities:*

- 1. I will respect the rights and beliefs of others and will treat others with courtesy and consideration.*
- 2. I will be fully responsible for my own actions and the consequences of my actions*
- 3. I will respect the property of others.*
- 4. I will respect and obey the rules of my school and the laws of my community, state and country.*
- 5. I will show respect to those who are responsible for enforcing the rules of my school and the laws of my community, state and country.*

A student ejected from a contest shall be ineligible for the next regularly scheduled game/meet at that level of competition and all other games/meets in the interim at any level of competition, for the first ejection. All subsequent ejections shall result in ineligibility for four (4) regularly scheduled games/meets.

12. **\*GRADUATE** — A student shall not be a graduate of a high school or any secondary school. This includes foreign exchange students and international students.

13. **LAST DATE TO JOIN A TEAM** — To be eligible for section and state competition, a student must be a member of that school's team not later than the fourth Monday from the official start of that sport season. Gymnasts must be on the school's team not later than the third Monday from the official start of that season. When a sport season begins on a Monday, that day shall be counted as the first Monday.

14. **NON-SCHOOL COMPETITION AND TRAINING FOR TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL SPORTS** —

A. **During the High School Season:** During the high school season a student may not compete as a member of a team or as an individual competitor in non-school sponsored games, meets, tournaments or contests, in the same sport. *Season Defined: The high school season shall run from the first date that practice may begin until the team is eliminated in MSHSL tournament competition.* Baseball, Softball and Skiing are exceptions to this rule.

Exception: **Non-School Training During the High School Season for Athletes Who Qualify as Individual competitors to the State Tournament: (Swimming, Cross Country, Tennis, Skiing, Gymnastics, Wrestling, Synchronize Swimming, Golf, and Track and Field)**

**Lessons/Training:** During the MSHSL high school season athletes may take lessons from professionals and other nonschool coaches without limit as to where, when or who may provide the training. Athletes may not miss a high school practice, game, or meet to take a lesson or train for a nonschool event. Athletes may now take lessons and/or train with a non-school team/club during the high school season in the same sport.

**Competition:** Athletes will be able to compete in non-school events/competitions that do not match the events in which athletes currently compete in high school competition.

Exception: **Summer Vacation Period** — Students may participate in non-school competitions, meets, games, tournaments in the same sport they currently play at the high school level during the summer vacation period. *Summer Vacation Defined: Summer vacation shall start on the Saturday following the fourth Friday in May and ending on Labor Day.*

**Summer Coaching waiver:** If a student participates on a team coached by a member of the high school coaching staff, coaching contact shall end on July 31 unless an extension to the summer waiver is granted by the school's athletic director. Students may take private lessons during the MSHSL season.

B. **During the School Year, Prior To and Following the High School Sports Season:** A student may participate in contests, meets or tournaments as an individual competitor or as a member of a non-school team provided that these activities are voluntary and not influenced or directed by a salaried or nonsalaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff.

1. A student may not use any type of high school uniform.

2. A student may not receive coaching or training from a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport. Power skating and indoor soccer are included in this limitation.

3. A student may receive training through private lessons from a person who is not a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport.

4. A student's fee for non-school coaching or training must be provided by the student or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) unless approved by the Board of Directors.

**C. Summer Vacation Period:**

A student may compete as an individual or as a member of a nonschool team even though competing on a high school team in the same sport. *Summer Vacation Defined: Summer vacation shall start on the Saturday following the fourth Friday in May and ending on Labor Day.* (Exception: Summer Coaching Waiver)

**D. Penalty:**

1. First Violation: After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility in that sport for the next two (2) consecutive interscholastic contests or two (2) weeks of that season, whichever is greater. If there are fewer than two (2) events remaining in that sport, the loss of eligibility will continue into the next season in that sport. Note: This means that a senior who violates the bylaws at the end of one sport season will lose eligibility for two (2) games in the next sport season in which the student participates.

2. Second Violation: After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility in that sport for the next six (6) consecutive interscholastic contests or three (3) weeks, whichever is greater.

3. Third Violation: After confirmation of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility in that sport for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic contests or four (4) weeks, whichever is greater.

4. Accumulative Penalties: Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with the student's first participation in a League activity and continuing through the student's high school career.

**E. Special Considerations:**

1. National Teams and Olympic Development Programs — The MSHSL may permit participation by high school students on bona fide national teams or in Olympic development programs if:

a. The program is approved and supported by the national governing body of the sport or if there is an Olympic development program of training and competition.

b. Directly funded by a national governing body on a national level.

c. Authorized by a national governing body for athletes having potential for future national team participation. Students who are invited to participate on National Teams or in Olympic Development Programs must contact their high school principal to obtain an application form. This must be completed at least thirty (30) days prior to participation.

2. During the school year, students who participate for their school in a sport may participate through training, try-out or competition on a National Team or in a United States Olympic Development Program provided the student receives an individual invitation from the United States Olympic Committee or the United States National Governing Body on the national level for that sport.

3. Students who have completed their eligibility in a sport are exempt from the non-school competition and training rules in that sport. All-Star rules shall apply

**15. \*PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND PARENTS PERMIT** — Any student who intends to participate in high school interscholastic athletics and cheerleading activities must have on file in the school, a record of a physical examination performed within the previous three (3) years. A health questionnaire shall be completed annually and could

indicate the need for a physical examination prior to participation. The signature of the parent or guardian approving participation is required.

**16. \*SEASONS OF PARTICIPATION** — No student may participate in more than four (4) seasons in any sport while enrolled in grades 9-12, semesters 1-8 inclusive.

**17. \*SEMESTERS IN HIGH SCHOOL** — A student shall not participate in an interscholastic contest after the student's eighth semester in grades 9-12 inclusive. All eight semesters shall be consecutive, beginning in the 9th grade. The attendance of 15 days or more in one semester will count as a semester in administering this standard.

**18. JUNIOR HIGH PARTICIPATION** — Participation in high school interscholastic programs is limited to students in grades 7-12 inclusive. Students in grade 7, 8 and 9 may participate if enrolled in the regular continuation school for the educational unit and if all other eligibility requirements of the League have been met. Elementary students in grades 1-6 are not eligible for participation in any MSHSL-sponsored activity; B-squad, junior varsity or varsity level.

**19. TRANSFER RULE** — A student of any grade level 7-12, who disenrolls from one high school and enrolls in another high school shall be ineligible to compete in any varsity sport for a period equal to 50% of the regular season contests scheduled in all activities for one (1) calendar year from the student's first date of attendance in the new school, unless one of the conditions of the transfer rule AD have been met.

A transfer student is eligible for varsity competition if:

A. The student is enrolling in 9th grade for the first time.

B. The student transfers from one school district attendance area to another during the same academic school year or during the summer months preceding the start of an academic school year in which there is a change of residence and occupancy in Minnesota by the student's parents or legal guardians.

C. The student's residence is changed pursuant to a child protection order, placement in a foster home, or a juvenile court disposition order.

D. The student was fully eligible and attending a Minnesota school on the last day of the previous school year and enrolls in and attends the new school on the first day of the school year under the provisions of Minnesota state law. A student is limited to one transfer under the provisions of this section during the student's high school career, grades 9 – 12.

CONTACT YOUR ATHLETIC DIRECTOR for specific information in this area. Transfer students are immediately eligible for sophomore, B-squad or junior varsity athletic competition.

**20. \*MOOD-ALTERING CHEMICALS**

*A. Bylaw: During the calendar year, regardless of the quantity, a student shall not: (1) use or possess a beverage containing alcohol; (2) use or possess tobacco; or, (3) use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or giveaway any other controlled substance.*

1. The bylaw applies continuously from the first signing of the student Eligibility Brochure.

2. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a controlled substance specifically prescribed for the student's own use by her/his doctor.

**B. Penalty:**

1. First Violation: After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next two (2) consecutive interscholastic contests or two (2) weeks of a season in

which the student is a participant, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.

2. Second Violation: After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next six (6) consecutive interscholastic contests in which the student is a participant or three (3) weeks, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.

3. Third and Subsequent Violations: After confirmation of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic contests in which the student is a participant or four (4) weeks, whichever is greater. If after the third or subsequent violations, the student has been assessed to be chemically dependent and the student on her/his own volition becomes a participant in a chemical dependency program or treatment program, then the student may be certified for reinstatement in MSHSL activities after a minimum period of six (6) weeks. Such certification must be issued by the director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center.

4. Accumulative Penalties: Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with the student's first participation in a League activity and continuing through the student's high school career.

5. Denial Disqualification: A student shall be disqualified from all inter-scholastic athletics for nine (9) additional weeks beyond the student's original period of ineligibility when the student denies violation of the rule, is allowed to participate and then is subsequently found guilty of the violation.

## **21. \*RACIAL/RELIGIOUS/SEXUAL HARASSMENT/VIOLENCE and HAZING**

A. **Bylaw:** During the school year, a student shall not violate the racial/religious/sexual harassment and racial/religious/sexual violence and hazing bylaws of the Minnesota State High School League. *Interpretation: The bylaw applies to the entire school year and any portion of an activity season that occurs prior to the start of the school year or after the close of the school year.*

### **B. Reporting Procedures:**

a. Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of hazing or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct, which may constitute hazing, shall report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official designated by this policy.

b. The building principal is the person responsible for receiving reports of hazing at the building level. Any person may report hazing directly to a school district human rights officer or to the superintendent.

c. Teachers, administrators, officials, volunteers, and employees of the school district shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances or events which might include hazing. Any such person who receives a report of, observes, or had other knowledge or belief of conduct, which may constitute hazing, shall inform the building principal immediately.

d. Submission of a good faith complaint or report of hazing will not affect the complainant or reporter's future employment, grades or work assignments.

### **Reprisal**

The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, coach, official contractor or employee of the school district who retaliates against any person who makes a good faith report of alleged hazing or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation, or

against any person who testifies, assists or participates in a proceeding or hearing relating to such hazing. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

**C. Penalties for Category I Activities:**

**1. Racial/Religious/Sexual Harassment and Hazing Violations**

a. First Violation: After determination of the violation, a student shall lose eligibility for the next two (2) consecutive interscholastic contests or two (2) weeks of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater.

*Recommendations: 1) It is recommended that the school develop a local education program through which the student would receive information about racial/religious/sexual harassment and racial/religious/sexual violence. 2) It is recommended that, when appropriate, the school refer a student to a community agency or a professional individual outside the school for counseling.*

b. Second Violation: After determination of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next six (6) consecutive interscholastic contests in which the student is a participant or three (3) weeks, whichever is greater. *Recommendation: It is recommended that before being re-admitted to activities following suspension for the second violation, the student shall show evidence in writing that the student has received counseling from a community agency or professional individual such as a school counselor, medical doctor, psychiatrist, or psychologist.*

c. Third Violation: After determination of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic contests in which the student is a participant or four (4) weeks, whichever is greater.

d. Accumulative Penalties: Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with the student's first participation in a League activity and continuing through the student's high school career.

2. Racial/Religious/Sexual Violence Violations: After determination of the violation of the racial/religious/sexual violence rules, the student shall lose eligibility for the next year, i.e., twelve (12) calendar months.

**E. Penalties for Category II Activities:** Each member school shall develop penalties that it will apply to the participants in these activities. A current copy of the member school's policy shall be kept on file in the member school.

**22. SERVING AN MSHSL PENALTY** — a student must be a student in good standing, and able to be placed in the game, meet or contest except for the penalty being served. (Students who are not in good standing due to suspension, expulsion, injury, illness, family vacations, etc are not able to be placed in a game, meet or contest and are therefore not able to count those contests toward the penalty).