



2009 TEXAS STAR WINTER CLASSIC HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

PROCEDURES, POLICIES, RULES AND REGULATIONS

USA HOCKEY SANCTION # 09TX06

The Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament is governed by the rules of USA Hockey, and it is each player, coach, and team manager's responsibility to be familiar with these rules. In addition, there are specific procedures, policies, rules and regulations that apply to The Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament. Please review and be familiar with these as well. **Team Manager and Coaches signatures are required on this document prior to your team's participation in tournament activities. (See Attached Sheet)**

I. PROCEDURES

1. All Team Representatives (manager or coach) **must** check in on Friday evening, January 16, 2009 (as specified). All matters pertaining to team credentials and USA Hockey registration verification (Official 1-T Hockey Rosters / Electronic Receipt / Player Card) must be resolved during this process. All team representatives are responsible for providing sufficient materials to verify USA Hockey / CAHA / International Federation registration and birth dates for all players. It is advisable that copies of birth certificates be available for review.
2. All team representatives are responsible for reviewing the **Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament Information Center**. This computer-based display is provided at the Dr Pepper StarCenter – Farmers Branch and remoted to most venues and hotels. It contains all pertinent tournament information regarding game results, team seeding, game and event schedule changes, tournament event information, suspension notices, and other items of importance. Please review it often and thoroughly.
3. **The Tournament Director** oversees all tournament coordination. Issues pertaining to tournament organization and procedures shall be directed to a Venue/Facility Coordinator who can contact the Tournament Director if needed. All on-ice / hockey issues will be forwarded to the Director of Competition.

Venue/Facility Coordinators will be available at each facility to answer questions regarding general scheduling, tournament events, directions, distribution of scoresheets, and other general matters pertinent to the tournament operation. They will attempt to contact team representatives at the rink or at your designated hotel with time critical information; however, you are responsible for ensuring that you have all pertinent information for your team on a daily basis.

The **Director of Competition** will be available through a Venue Coordinator. They will be able to answer your questions regarding specific hockey issues. They are responsible for resolving all inquiries or disputes regarding off-ice rule application or interpretation, player eligibility, disciplinary action and any other procedural disputes. The Director of Competition will not overturn any dispute concerning rules and/or the judgment applied by on-ice officials. **All decisions of The Texas Star Winter Classic Director of Competition are final.**

4. All teams must use the assigned locker rooms posted at the front desk. Locker room keys are available from and must be returned to the rink receptionist. Room keys may be picked up forty-five (45) minutes prior to your game time. The team representative should be prepared to leave collateral (drivers license) when picking up key. It is the team managers / representatives responsibility to ensure that the locker room is clean (no trash / tape / food or drink) prior to vacating the locker room. The team manager / representative is responsible for all damage done to the locker room or the facility. No overnight or game-to-game storage is allowed in any locker room. Each team / team manager is responsible for the safeguarding of all team items in the locker rooms. The Dr Pepper StarCenters/NYTEX Sports Centre or Texas Star Tournaments assumes no liability or responsibility for any theft or damage due to team negligence.
5. All teams must be ready to begin play fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of each game. The scorekeeper will begin a three-minute warm-up period when the Zamboni doors are closed. The clock will begin regardless of whether skaters are on the ice. The game will start at the conclusion of the warm-up period. If a team is not ready to begin at that time, it will be charged a time-out. If a team is not ready to start at the conclusion of the time-out, the game will be forfeited (1 – 0).
6. **ALL PLAYERS SHALL REMAIN OFF THE ICE SURFACE UNTIL THE ZAMBONI DOORS HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY CLOSED AND THE ON-ICE OFFICIALS ARE PRESENT.** All players shall exit the ice surface immediately after the center ice handshakes. All teams may have **no more than four** adult team representatives on the bench at any time. Team Managers are not allowed on the bench unless they are rostered as a coach and have the appropriate accreditation. Any team official/person on the bench area must be listed on the team's tournament roster. All "parents" are excluded from the bench area of any team at any time. All parents, visitors, and spectators are to remain out of all areas marked as *Tournament Players, Coaches and Officials Only Beyond This Point.* Failure to comply is grounds for removal from the building and disqualification of applicable team.
7. Any scratches for a game (player not dressing) shall be reported to the scorekeeper prior to the start of each game. **A copy of the scoresheet may be obtained from the venue coordinator at the front desk approximately 20 minutes after both teams have left the ice surface.** Do not wait on the ice surface or approach the official scorekeeper looking for the scoresheet. Each team representative is responsible for checking the accuracy of the scoresheet. Report all discrepancies to the venue coordinator prior to leaving the facility. Scoresheets may be printed directly off of the tournament web site on your own computer.
8. Home and Visiting teams are indicated on the tournament schedule. Home teams shall wear their white or light colored jersey and matching socks. Visitors will wear dark jerseys and matching socks. Home and Visitor benches are as indicated at the rink. All team jerseys must match. Teams may wear dark socks with light jerseys or vice-versa **but both socks on a player must be the same.** All jerseys must have a player number clearly displayed. It must be of a permanent nature – No taped or non-permanent numbers are allowed. That number must correspond to the player listed on the scorekeeper's tournament roster. Player names on jerseys are not required.
9. As indicated, age divisions have been divided into appropriate brackets. All teams play four games during the tournament. Each team will play three (3) round robin games. The fourth (4th) and "final" game for each team will be determined by the accumulation of tournament points and specific bracket structure which is posted on the **Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament Information Center.** **Exception** – At the discretion of the Tournament Director, non-championship fourth (4th) and "final" game opponents/game times may be altered to accommodate team travel times or like opponents. All tournament results, point totals, bracket layouts and "final" game schedules will be posted on the **Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament Information Center.** It is always your responsibility to know whom, when and where you are playing.

The Tournament Director shall place all teams in an appropriate bracket based upon the information provided within the application process and any subsequent team evaluations or research. All decisions regarding division, bracket, competitive level placements and opponents are made solely at the discretion of the Tournament Director and are final.

II. POLICIES

1. All alcoholic products are prohibited at all Dr Pepper StarCenter/NYTEX Sports Centre outside of designated areas. Anyone abusing or bringing alcoholic products into the building or parking lot will be asked to leave and the appropriate players / teams will be subject to disqualification and suspension from **The Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament**.
2. Any person causing damage to any Dr Pepper StarCenter/NYTEX Sports Centre property or additional event venues will be fined commensurate with the damage and will be removed from the premises and/or suspended from all Dr Pepper StarCenter/NYTEX Sports Centre activities until the fine is paid in full. All persons are subject to prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.
3. **ALL TEXAS STAR TOURNAMENT TEAMS TRAVELING TO THE METROPLEX MUST STAY AT AN OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT HOTEL DURING THE TOURNAMENT. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS – FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE TOURNAMENT and LOSS OF ALL FEES.** Approved hotel lists, contact information, and lodging procedures are posted on our web site. All reservations must be made through our official Texas Star Tournament lodging coordinator. **Texas Star Tournaments is not responsible** for claims against, penalties assessed, or damages caused by the tournament teams and their participants while staying at the tournament hotels. All team representatives are responsible for ensuring that all agreements, practices, policies, and restrictions of the Texas Star Tournament Hotels and their guests are fully understood. **This includes all billing and cancellation policies as noted on our web site.** Ensure that all claims are settled prior to your departure from the tournament hotels.
4. There is **zero tolerance for verbal abuse of any player, official, parent or spectator. The Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament Director or Dr Pepper StarCenter/NYTEX Sports Centre staff reserves the right to remove any violator from the premises for conduct deemed inappropriate. Team representatives and/or coaches are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their players, parents, and fans.** USA Hockey Code of Conducts will be enforced. Noisemakers are not allowed in the viewpoint (upstairs enclosed areas) between the rinks and the lobby area. Those using noisemakers in the on-ice seating area are asked to be courteous of nearby spectators.
5. No game or player photography / video taping of any kind is permitted by unauthorized persons. Non – vendors (parents / spectators) may use photographic equipment in spectator areas only. Under no circumstances will permission be given to photograph *over the glass* or in restricted or player/coach areas. Violators will be removed from the premises for the remainder of the tournament.
6. **SportsCare Trainers** are provided to all teams at their discretion. They will respond to all emergencies they deem necessary and it is your responsibility to deny service if it is not desired. **The Dr Pepper StarCenter/NYTEX Sports Centre and Texas Star Tournaments assume no responsibility for, nor endorse any action, recommendation, or treatment provided by SportsCare Trainer personnel.** If you are in need of these services, contact any scorekeeper, front desk staff member, or Texas Star Tournaments official and they will be summoned for you. Alternate medical services are available in the vicinity of all Dr Pepper StarCenter/NYTEX Sports Centre facilities. Contact Dr Pepper StarCenter/NYTEX Sports Centre front desk personnel for more information.

III. RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Only players listed on the official **Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament** team roster (participants/coaches actually in attendance) and an appropriate USA Hockey / CAHA / Federation official roster may play in a tournament game. All tournament rosters are submitted via the tournament web site and become official upon review of the Tournament Director. Any team using a player not properly listed on the team roster will result in a forfeit (1 – 0) of the affected game(s). Any team using a player suspended for any reason will forfeit (1 – 0) that game and the suspended player will be

suspended for the remainder of the tournament. Suspended players may attend tournament games but are not allowed on the player bench area.

2. Any fighting or match penalty will result in a tournament suspension. Any increase in the duration of a USA Hockey mandated suspension for a player or coach above minimum requirements is at the discretion of the Director of Competition. Game Misconduct penalties will result in a minimum one game suspension. Any player suspended from a game for the second time in The Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament, for any reason, will be ejected for the remainder of the tournament. **The Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament Director of Competition's decision is final.**
3. **Regardless of team affiliation; all players, including goaltenders, are required to wear equipment in accordance with USA Hockey standards.** There are no exceptions! **Player participation will be suspended until participant is in compliance.** It is highly recommended that all players and goaltenders wear appropriate mouthguards and neck protection.
4. **Helmets must be worn at all times** on the ice. This includes during warm-ups, games, handshake line, or in the player bench and penalty box areas.
5. **Except where specifically requested by the Tournament Director,** there are **NO** penalty box monitors or attendants allowed from any team. Penalty times for all divisions will be as follows:

Minor	2:00 minutes
Major	5:00 minutes
Misconduct	10:00 minutes

*Penalties during running or stop time are of the same duration.

*Players serving penalties at the conclusion of regulation time may not participate in a shootout.

6. All **Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament** games are allotted adequate time. There will be three (3) stop-time periods (11-11-11) in each Mite and Squirt game. There will be three (3) stop-time periods (13-13-15) in each Peewee, Bantam, and MidgetU16/U18 game. There will be a forty-five (45) second break between each period. ZAM's are prior to each game and all games will play until completed.

Exception: (Mercy Rule) If at any time during the game the goal differential reaches five (5), the game clock will go to running time and will not stop for any reason other than at the discretion of the on-ice officials until the game ends or the goal differential is reduced to less than five (5).

The game clock will not be stopped for goals scored, penalties, injuries, or any other reason while the "mercy rule" is in effect unless directed by the on-ice officials.

7. Each team shall be allowed no more than one (1) time-out during any tournament game. All time-outs will be forty-five (45) seconds in duration.
8. Points will be awarded to teams in the following manner for all round robin games:

Win	2 Points
Tie	1 Point
Loss	0 Points
Forfeit Win	5 Points

Note: Winner of each individual period will be awarded 1 bonus point. If both teams score the same number of goals in a period then one/half bonus point will be awarded to each team.

There are five (5) total points awarded in a single game.

9. The following tie-breaker formula will be used to determine the order of finish (seeding) after round robin play:
- a) Head to Head record between all teams with equal points.
 - b) Most wins overall.
 - c) Fewest goals allowed overall.
 - d) Fewest penalty minutes overall.
 - e) Most goals scored overall.
 - f) Coin Toss

11. All **Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament Championship games** (one per bracket) that end regulation time in a tie shall use a shootout to determine a winner as prescribed below:

- a) At the conclusion of the game, each team will select three (3) players to participate in the first round of the shootout. Players from each team will alternate shots, with the visiting team shooting first.
- b) Players will start at center ice and will begin play at the direction of the referee. Goalkeepers must remain in their crease until the shooting player has started play by touching the puck. Players are allowed one shot / shooting attempt only.
- c) After all six (6) players have finished their attempts; the team with the most goals is declared the winner.
- c) If, after all six (6) players have finished their attempts, the game remains tied; each team will start the second round by selecting one (1) player who has not yet participated to take a turn. The shootout will proceed one player at a time; each team having an equal number of turns with the home team participating last in each round. One turn for each team constitutes a round. Only after **all** players listed on their game roster with the scorekeeper have participated may a player take a second turn. During the second round and beyond, the team that scores first, with the other team failing to score is declared the winner.
 - **Note: All players serving penalties at the conclusion of regulation time are ineligible for the shootout and will remain in the penalty box.**
 - **IMPORTANT - Any team listing a player on their game roster (scoresheet) who is not dressed for the game will forfeit the game when that player becomes eligible for the shootout. Ensure you scratch all players who will not participate in the game.**

All other tournament "final"/ 4th games that end regulation tied shall conclude as a tie.

The **Texas Star Winter Classic Director of Competition** shall be responsible for resolving all inquiries or disputes regarding off-ice rule application or interpretation, player eligibility, disciplinary action and any other procedural disputes. The competition directors will not overturn any dispute concerning rules and/or the judgment applied by on-ice officials.

All decisions of The Texas Star Winter Classic Director of Competition are final.

THE TEXAS STAR WINTER CLASSIC TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADD TO, AMEND OR REMOVE ANY DR PEPPER TEXAS STAR TOURNAMENT PROCEDURE, POLICY, RULE OR REGULATION PRIOR TO THE START OF THE TOURNAMENT.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND WILL ENSURE COMPLIANCE ON BEHALF OF MY TEAM. I AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL DECISIONS AND PENALTIES ASSESSED BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMPETITION AND/OR TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR - TOM RIZZARDO - NOVEMBER 15, 2008



2009 TEXAS STAR WINTER CLASSIC HOCKEY TOURNAMENT ROSTER POLICY

The following is a synopsis of the Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament Roster Policy. Each year, we are approached with questions regarding rostering players and coaches. Hopefully, this will address all of your concerns or questions. This policy is a supplement to and further explanation of the Texas Star Winter Classic Rules, Regulations, Policies, and Procedures and does not alter any of its provisions.

- The tournament roster deadline of **January 9th** is firm and noted on your web site roster entry form. We will freeze all tournament rosters at that time and no additions will be allowed after this date. Deletions can be made at any time. Rosters are limited to 20 players and 4 coaches. Team Managers are not counted as coaches but may be listed as a coach, if appropriate certification has been obtained, as well as the team manager.
- What is the difference between the **USA Hockey / CAHA / International official roster** and the tournament roster? Your **tournament roster** is all official players & coaches who will actually be in attendance at our tournament. We use these rosters in our automated scoring system. It may not contain all of the players & coaches that are listed on your official rosters but all of those on the tournament roster must be on the official roster. Multiple official rosters (from different association teams) may be used if you are pulling kids together from within your own association... example... *An XYZ peewee player pulled from another association team to play with the attending ABC Bantam team*. Ensure I receive all pertinent official association team rosters.
- Players may not be tournament rostered on more than one team without the written consent of the Tournament Director. Very few exceptions will be granted and usually involve a goaltending issue. Any player rostered on more than one team will be asterisked on the team's tournament rosters and specific guidance as to the team(s) ability to use that player will be noted by the Tournament Director. Any player rostered without such permission will be suspended from the tournament and the team(s) will forfeit all affected games.
- All coaches must be listed on the tournament roster as well as on the official team rosters (USA/CAHA/International) and registered at the appropriate certification level. Coach's certification cards should be carried by all coaches and available for review if requested by the Tournament Director.
- All players must be registered with USA Hockey/CAHA/International Federation and of the appropriate age classification in which they are participating. Players younger than the age classification in which they are participating may not be any younger than 2 years from that age classification; however, NO player may participate if born in the 2003 – 2008 birth years. (One year allowance for Mites)
- All teams will be held accountable for the integrity of their rosters at all times.



THIS FORM IS TO BE RETURNED TO THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

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**PROCEDURES, POLICIES, RULES AND REGULATIONS
USA HOCKEY SANCTION # 09TX06**

TEAM SIGNATURE PAGE

TEAM NAME _____ **AGE/LEVEL** _____

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and will ensure compliance of the Texas Star Winter Classic Procedures, Policies, Rules, and Regulations on behalf of my team. I agree to abide by all decisions and penalties assessed by the Texas Star Winter Classic Tournament Staff.

PLEASE PRINT EACH NAME AND THEN PROVIDE SIGNATURE BELOW

TEAM REPRESENTATIVE / MANAGER

DATE

TEAM HEAD COACH

DATE

**All teams must comply with the Texas Star Tournament Lodging Policy as stated.
List your confirmed Lodging choice and number of reserved rooms per night:**

TEXAS STAR HOTEL: _____

This form must be completed and returned to the Tournament Director prior to your team beginning tournament competition. Failure to do so will result in suspension of all team activities including forfeiture of all games and earned points. Only this signature page must be returned. Please keep the copy of the rules, policies, procedures, and regulations for your reference during the tournament. They are also posted on the tournament web site.