



Frequently Asked
Registration
Questions & Answers

USA Hockey InLine Registration Q & A

1. Who Is USA Hockey InLine?

USA Hockey InLine (USAHIL) is a program of USA Hockey, Inc. The Mission of USA Hockey InLine is to promote the growth of inline hockey in America and to provide the best possible experience for all participants by encouraging, developing, advancing, and administering the sport. Headquartered in Colorado Springs, CO, the organization's objective is to standardize the sport and to provide quality services and benefits to its membership, sponsors and supporters. This objective is achieved through the sanctioning of local leagues and the registration of all of the members of these leagues. USAHIL is a membership-based organization and, therefore, provides value to its member leagues and participants.

2. What does an individual member get for registering with USA Hockey InLine?

There are a number of participant benefits associated with a USAHIL membership. PLAYERS receive an individual membership card, excess medical, catastrophic and liability insurance coverage, a subscription to *American Hockey Magazine*, a copy of the USAHIL Official Playing Rules book, various sponsor discounts, opportunities to participate in USAHIL events, clinics, travel leagues, etc. and an e-mail newsletter. COACHES receive an individual coach membership card, 2 separate coaching manuals, a copy of the USAHIL Official Playing Rules book, a subscription to *American Hockey Magazine*, the coaching program newsletter, the ability to coach at USAHIL Regional & National Championships, and opportunities to attend USAHIL coaching seminars. REFEREES receive an individual referee membership card, a referee manual, a copy of the USAHIL Official Playing Rules book, an open book exam for certification, an official year designated referee crest, a subscription to *American Hockey Magazine*, the referee program newsletter, the ability to be chosen to officiate USAHIL events such as Regional and National Championships, and opportunities to attend USAHIL referee training clinics.

3. Does USA Hockey InLine provide or sanction tournaments?

USAHIL does provide sanctioning for local, Regional, and National Tournaments. Local-level tournaments are operated by local leagues or tournament organizers. The tournament director of these local tournaments must sanction these events with USAHIL prior to the event. However there is not a set schedule for these events due to the varying frequency of these tournaments. The USAHIL Regional and National Championships are sanctioned and conducted by USAHIL. The Regional Championships for the 10 & under, 12 & under, 14 & under, and 17 & under youth age divisions are held across the country and are the qualifying events for the USAHIL National Championships. USAHIL also provides National-level tournaments for adult men and women through the USAHIL Cup, as well as through the College Club & High School Club National Championships. In order to participate in any USAHIL sanctioned tournaments, all players, coaches, and referees must be registered members with USA Hockey InLine.

4. What is USA Hockey InLine's age cut-off date?

The age cut-off / determination date for USAHIL is December 31st of the current registration season. The registration season is defined as June 1st of one year through the following May 31st of the following year. The primary reason for USAHIL to set an age cut-off date is for the Regional and National Championships. However, all leagues are encouraged to use December 31st for any future seasons in order to promote standardization and consistency in the sport.

5. Why is their insurance coverage provided with this membership?

The USAHIL insurance program is an inherent membership benefit for all sanctioned leagues and their participants. Unfortunately, due to current society conditions, insurance is necessary for most actions especially those with risk involved. Inline hockey is a sport that requires insurance for leagues, rinks, league directors (or a board of directors), players, coaches, referees, spectators, etc. USAHIL provides all of this coverage surrounding the game of inline hockey.

6. What is the coverage provided?

There are two types of insurance coverage provided by USAHIL sanctioning and membership. There is a general liability policy for the league itself and a sports accident policy for all participants (players, coaches, & referees). The liability policy has a limit of \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, while the excess medical policy has a \$25,000.00 limit that once exhausted has a \$1,000,000.00 catastrophic policy, which comes into effect. The excess medical policy will also act as primary coverage for those participants without primary medical coverage (subject to a deductible). In order for these coverages to be in effect, the league must be sanctioned for the current registration season (and in good standing) and ALL participants must be current registered members of USAHIL.

7. What if a player has his/her own insurance coverage?

The coverage provided with a USAHIL membership is secondary or excess medical coverage and will be used to cover those expenses not "covered" with the player's primary coverage up to \$25,000.00. The coverage is also for the leagues general liability policy and, therefore all league participants must be currently registered members of USAHIL.

8. Are USAHIL members covered under the USAHIL insurance program when playing against players or teams who are not members?

No. The league or tournament that is hosting the league play or event must be currently sanctioned with USAHIL and all of those participants (players, coaches, & referees) must be current registered members in order for the coverage to be in effect.

9. Why does a youth participant (17 & under) have to sign the registration form in addition to the parent/guardian?

Past precedence has been set that a youth player is able to successfully file a lawsuit based on previous years of play even if the forms were signed by the players parent or legal guardian. To prevent this from happening again, all players, coaches, or referees 10 years of age and older must sign the Individual Membership Registration (IMR) form in addition to their parent or legal guardian's signature if under 18 years of age.

10. When does the membership expire?

The USAHIL membership registration season runs from June 1 - May 31. When a player, coach or referee registers during the course of a membership registration season they will be current throughout that season and expire on May 31 of that particular membership registration season. Although the length of a membership registration season is 12 months, the membership is not annual.

11. If a player is a member of USA Hockey (ice hockey), does that membership also make them a member of USA Hockey InLine?

Inline hockey and ice hockey are two separate sports and their memberships and benefits are separate as well. Each player participating in inline hockey under USAHIL must register with USAHIL and every player playing ice hockey under USA Hockey must register with USA

Hockey. Although the inline hockey program is a program of USA Hockey, Inc., the ice & in-line programs are completely autonomous from one another.

12. Are the player, coach and referee fees separate?

Yes, because the membership benefits for players, coaches and referees are different. However, an individual can register as a player and as a coach for a combined rate.

13. Does USA Hockey InLine provide referee certification?

Yes. The USA Hockey InLine Officiating Education Program offers two classifications, Accredited and Certified, and are based on the level of training. When referees register with USAHIL, they receive a rulebook and Open Book Rules Exam. Once they achieve a passing score on the exam (minimum score is 35/50, 70%) they reach the "Accredited" classification and are sent their Referee Card and the current year's crest for their jersey. If a referee receives additional training by attending a USA Hockey InLine Referee Clinic conducted by a USA Hockey InLine trained instructor, that referee will be classified as "Certified".

14. When is a referee eligible to officiate games?

Once a person registers with USAHIL as a referee, meeting the requirements of the "Approved" classification, he/she is eligible to referee for a 30-day probationary period. If after 30 days a referee has not met the requirements of the "Accredited" or "Certified" classification, he/she is not eligible to referee until doing so.

15. Does USA Hockey InLine provide education for coaches?

Yes. Two coaches educational manuals have been produced to provide USAHIL registered coaches with several crucial elements, including: philosophy of the game, role of the coach, leadership, communication, risk management, inline hockey skills, how to conduct practices and game instruction. USAHIL also offers a Skills Progression Guide, Age Specific Drill Books, and a Video Series as well as Level 1 and 2 Coaching Clinics to continue to educate coaches. USAHIL will be offering a Mentoring Program at the National Junior Regional Camps and a Coaches Education Brochure outlining our various programs.

16. Is there a minimum age to be a registered coach or referee?

No. All individuals are eligible to be registered as a coach or a referee as long as they are properly registered. USAHIL recommends that all coaches and referees be at least one age division higher than the age division, which they are coaching or officiating.

17. If two or more members of a family are actively playing, coaching, or Refereeing, does each family member have to register?

Yes. In order for USAHIL to provide the correct benefits to the family, each participating individual must register in order to receive the benefits associated with their membership and in order for all of them to be able to participate in a USAHIL sanctioned league.