

AT&T Metroplex High School Hockey League (MHSHL) Update

Over the past several months, we have convened the Advisory Board on multiple occasions to take first steps in finding solutions to current league challenges. The first order of business for the group was to conduct a survey of our current clubs to solicit feedback on the current state of the league and what changes clubs would like to see. After reviewing this feedback, we learned the following:

- A significant majority of the clubs surveyed would like to return to a team fee registration. By
 paying a team fee and then collecting player fees independently, the clubs felt they would gain
 more flexibility and autonomy.
- Most clubs also wanted the ability to schedule more practice ice. While 18 practices were fine for some clubs, it was not enough for others, especially those that have very few travel players.
- The majority of clubs also wanted more input on the selection of coaches. Some clubs felt they were unable to partner with coaches because they reported to the league and not to the club.
- And lastly, the issue of double-rostering also came up from some of the survey respondents.

As a result of this feedback, the Advisory Board has recommended that the MHSHL enact the following policy changes beginning with the Summer 2026 Season which begins next May:

1. Team Fee Registrations

 The league will collect team fees from each club, and the players will pay their fees directly to the clubs. These team fees will cover the League Regular Season & playoff games, officials, scorekeepers and Athletic Trainers. Fees will be announced later.

2. Practice Ice

- Clubs will be responsible for scheduling and paying for practice ice additional tournaments & the TAHA State Tournament.
- There will be no limitation on the number of practice sessions clubs choose to utilize.

3. Coach Selection and Retention

- All coaches will be paid directly by each club.
- A maximum & minimum salary pool for coaching staff will be established annually by the league advisory board.
- o All current coaches will be retained with the following two exceptions:
 - The coach chooses not to return to their current club; or,
 - The club can demonstrate to the advisory board just cause for replacement.

4. Double-Rostering

 Limited double rostering will be allowed on a TBD basis. This should alleviate the need for emergency skaters during the season. Emergency goalies will be permitted.

The goal of these changes is to make the league stronger by giving autonomy back to the clubs, so each feels empowered to make positive changes and build passion within their membership.



To assist in the above changes to league management, the Advisory Board has organized three committees which will be populated by members of the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board may invite additional non-board members to assist or provide additional information in the process of their responsibilities. These committees will be:

Coaching Committee – Jason Wynn and Cosmo Clarke

The coaching committee will work with the clubs to assist in dispute resolution between the club and coach as well as the coach and players. The committee will work with the clubs if a coach does not fulfil their obligations to the club. The committee will work with the club and coach on changes so the coach can take corrective action before termination is necessary. The committee will be responsible for approving any proposed coaching terminations.

Leveling, Zoning and Disciplinary Committee - Cosmo Clarke and Matt Perez

This committee will review current club zoning and make changes to keep clubs successful. This group will also assist in determining team placement after leveling. Finally, the committee will work with the referee supervisors and TAHA to identify teams and players that play recklessly and/or are repeat offenders. The committee will have the ability to suggest Supplemental Discipline.

Club Support & Game Presentation Committee – Mark Snyder, John Renwick and Jason Wynn

This committee will work with the clubs to develop a list of best practices. This committee will encourage and facilitate communication between clubs to share these best practices and identify potential growth areas for clubs while also developing a blueprint to help new clubs form. This committee will also identify opportunities for enhancing the league through social media and game presentation. This group will identify "WOW factor" opportunities designed to differentiate high school hockey from travel or house hockey. This committee sees a need for a renewed passion within each district for high school hockey and we believe this clearinghouse for idea sharing will help all to reach that goal.

We want to thank you again for your honest and candid feedback through the survey and hope that the above-referenced changes will be the first step toward a healthier league that will promote additional growth and competitiveness within our league.

ATT Metroplex High School Hockey League Advisory Board

Cosmo Clarke John Renwick Matt Perez Mark Snyder Jason Wynn