

BYLAWS OF THE THUNDER YOUTH HOCKEY, INC.

ARTICLE I ORGANIZATION

SECTION I The name of the Organization will be **Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc.** and it is hereafter referred to in these Bylaws as the “**Organization**” or as the “**Corporation.**”

SECTION II The fiscal year of the Organization shall commence on June 1st of each year.

SECTION III The principal offices of the Corporation shall be at such place in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as the Executive Board may determine. The Board may at any time establish other offices of the Corporation or branches of its business at whatever place or places it chooses. The principal place of the Corporation is The Steel Ice Center, 320 East First Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015, with a mailing address of PO Box 1512 Bethlehem PA 18016-1512.

SECTION IV The on ice playing name of the organization will be the “Bethlehem Blast”, a fictitious name registered with the Secretary of State, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on April 10, 2002 (Entity # 3137239).

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVE

SECTION I Purposes for which this Corporation is organized is as follows: This Corporation is organized exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, educational or literary purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, including for such purposes the making of distribution to organizations that qualify as exempt of literary purpose of future federal tax code. More specifically this Corporation is formed for the purpose of promoting and encouraging youth ice hockey and to promote and encourage the sport, pleasure, exercise and recreation of the youth who participate in the activities sponsored by the Corporation.

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its legal parent(s)/guardian(s), or the player(s), trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in this clause. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not

participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 1780 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after making provisions for the payment of all liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation in the manner, or to an organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the County in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to an organization or organizations, as the court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes.

SECTION II

The objectives for which the Organization is formed:

- A. To promote and improve organized youth hockey in the Greater Lehigh Valley by providing competitive travel, in-house/instructional, and x-ice programs; and the opportunity for players to participate in a team concept at the appropriate competitive levels based on their skill and interest levels;
- B. To develop and encourage sportsmanship between all players for the betterment of their physical and emotional health;
- C. The Steel Ice Center, Bethlehem, PA will be the designated Home Arena for Thunder/Blast; and
- D. To strive to perform any and all acts to further the above goals.

In order to achieve the above the Organization will:

- A. Provide proper, qualified coaching in accordance with USA Hockey Guidelines;
- B. Provide competition at a level commensurate with an individual's and their team skill level;
- C. Register each player with USA Hockey;

- D. Provide practice ice time and game ice time as scheduled; and
- E. Adhere to and follow the Bylaws of USA Hockey, the Atlantic District (AAHA), the Delaware Valley Hockey League (DVHL) and any other league(s) in which the Club's teams may be members.

ARTICLE III
PHILOSOPHIES

SECTION I The Organization's philosophy includes working toward providing adequate supervision and guidance to children so as to aid in and maintain their physical health and mental condition, and to function as a process of bringing families together.

SECTION II The Organization desires to build a sense of community based upon shared civic values and places the emphasis in the programs on fun and learning the fundamentals of sport, and to bring into closer relation the parents and children.

SECTION III The Organization is not formed for pecuniary or financial gain, and no part of the assets, or income, inures to the benefit of its officers, directors or participants.

SECTION IV The philosophies of the Organization are promoted through a program directed toward parent involvement, developed through conferences, committees, projects and programs.

ARTICLE IV
BASIC POLICIES

SECTION I The Organization shall be nonprofit, nonsectarian and nonpartisan.

SECTION II The name of the Organization or the names of any Officer, Board of Director or Coach in their official capacities shall not be used in any connection with a commercial concern or with a partisan interest or for any purpose not appropriately related to the promotion of the objective of philosophies of the Organization.

SECTION III The Organization may cooperate with other organizations and agencies concerned with child welfare but persons representing the Organization in such matters shall make no commitments that bind the Organization.

ARTICLE V
PARTICIPATION & FEES

SECTION I Any parent, guardian or player who subscribes to the objective,

philosophies and basic policies of the Organization, having common beliefs with Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc. may become a participant in the Organization subject only to the provisions of the Bylaws. Participation in the Organization shall be available without regard to sex, race, color, creed, physical or mental capabilities. Participation in the Organization does not guarantee placement on a competitive travel team. The Organization reserves the right to place players in an in-house/instructional level program (rink or Organization sponsored), based on the player's skill level, following annual evaluations.

SECTION II

Only parents and/or guardians in good standing (fees paid in full) of the Organization shall be eligible to participate in its business meetings.

SECTION III

The Board of Directors shall set playing fees for each season by the May Board meeting subject to a reevaluation of club expenses. No player whose family has an outstanding balance from any previous season will be allowed to register until all back payments are received and have cleared the bank.

SECTION IV

Any player who is ten (10) days late in any payment due the Organization may be suspended from all on-ice activities until such time as he/she becomes current with respect to the fees owed to the Organization. The Treasurer will inform the President and Coach of the player's team, who will be responsible for enforcement of this rule. Any family who has difficulty meeting the payment schedule may make other payment arrangements with the Treasurer and approved by the Board.

SECTION V

Temporary absences caused by other activities, illness or injuries are not the cause for forgiveness of payments. Only a season ending injury ceases the obligation to make payments. Such release shall be given only after confirmation from a Medical Doctor, in writing.

SECTION VI

Families with multiple players in the organization during the same season will be assessed playing fees as follows: First player- highest level, 100%; Second player- Next highest level, 90%; Third Player- Next highest level, 50%; fourth player and beyond 25%. A player is allowed only one discount. If one or more of the players in a family is a full time dedicated goalie, this player will receive the discount approved for the current year. (if any, to be determined on an annual basis) And the remaining family members will follow the above formula.

SECTION VII

Player's families will be responsible for the timely payment of all fees and assessments. Any expense incurred by the Thunder/Blast organization collecting delinquent fees and assessments will be the responsibility of the player's families. Families will be charged for the certified mailing fees and an administrative fee of \$50.00.

SECTION VIII

No player will be granted a Player Release by Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc. to any another team unless all fees and obligations are current. Payment of

fees for players seeking a release must be paid in cash or with a money order.

All players paid for by one family shall be considered when determining delinquency. In effect, if one player from a family is delinquent, all members of that family are considered delinquent.

SECTION IX

A percentage discount will be given to players who pay their season fees in full by the Commitment Fee Date. This percentage discount will be set on a yearly basis by the Executive Board.

SECTION X

A player whose family relocates as a result of a company initiated transfer will be allowed a pro-rated playing fee charge upon furnishing documentation of the relocation and approval by the Executive Board.

SECTION XI

All high school seniors and / or players in their last year of eligibility must have their playing fees paid in full no later than October 1st of the current season.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

SECTION I

The officers of the Organization shall consist of a six person Executive Board made up of a President, Vice-President External Affairs, Vice President Administration, Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations, Treasurer & Secretary.

SECTION II

The officers of the Organization shall be elected by a ballot vote in the month of April. The President, Vice President External Affairs and Secretary are to be elected in odd years. The Vice President Administration and Treasurer are elected in even years.

SECTION III

The President with the approval of the Executive Board is responsible for appointing the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations on a bi-annual basis in April of even years.

SECTION IV

The Executive Board, upon the recommendation of the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations, shall appoint the Head of Coaches, ACE Coordinator, Scheduler, Associate Scheduler and New Player Coordinator on a bi-annual basis in even years.

SECTION V

The Executive Board, upon the recommendation of the Vice President of Administration, shall appoint a Registrar/League Representative on a bi-annual basis in the even calendar years.

SECTION VI

The Executive Board, upon the recommendation of the Vice President of External Affairs, shall appoint a Tournament Director, Associate

Tournament Director, Special Events Coordinator and Media/Community Relations Coordinator on a bi-annual basis in the odd calendar years.

SECTION VII

The Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations is responsible for informing the Executive Board of each team's head coaches on an annual basis as soon as possible after placements, no later than the June Board Meeting.

SECTION VIII

All Officers and Executive Board Members shall assume their official duties no later than the May board meeting following their election in April and shall serve for a term of two years or until election and qualification of their successors, with the exception of the Treasurer. The Treasurer and Treasurer-elect shall serve concurrently until the completion of the current year financial requirements (tax return). Executive Board members may only serve as a head coach if approved by a Board of Directors vote on an annual basis.

SECTION IX

ELECTION

- A. An individual desiring to hold an elected position within the Organization should notify a member of the Board of Directors prior to the General Meeting of the Organization in April.
- B. An individual holding a board or executive board position with another USA Hockey registered youth organization /program may not hold an elected office on the Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc. board. (Exception: USA Hockey, Inc., DVHL, and MAWHA).
- C. An individual desiring election may be required to submit a resume to the organization listing the qualifications possessed for the desired position.
- D. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted the day of elections.
- E. Only those nominated persons who have signified their consent to serve if elected and seconded shall be placed as a candidate for election.
- F. All officers and board members are required to undergo a criminal background check.

SECTION X

VACANCY

The Executive Board shall fill a vacancy occurring in any elected office on an interim basis until such time as the next election for that position.

SECTION XI

REMOVAL

Steps to remove an officer:

- A. The charges for removing an officer must be brought to the attention of the Grievance

Committee through the Organization's Secretary. If the Secretary is the individual being grieved the Vice President of Administration should be notified.

- B. The Grievance Committee must first investigate the actions and/or lack of actions by an officer.
- C. The Grievance Committee will then make their recommendations in writing to the Executive Board on whether to remove the officer within ten (10) days of their investigation.
- D. The Executive Board will have the final decision on whether to remove an officer or allow them to maintain their position.

SECTION XII

Officers shall be elected by the majority vote from within the legal parent(s)/guardian(s), of the player(s) currently registered, and in good standing, within the Thunder/Blast Youth Hockey Organization. The legal parent(s)/guardian(s), of the player(s) must be present at the time of the voting or the Organization must have received a signed vote prior to the election. Voting by email is also acceptable. Electronic votes must be directed to the Thunder/Blast Secretary. Votes by mail and email must contain the individual's name and phone number for verification. Each family in good standing is allowed one vote per player registered, with a maximum of two votes per family. The nominations may be presented by any eligible voting legal parent(s)/guardian(s), of the player(s).

SECTION XIII

The board positions coming up for election, along with the job description, must be posted on the Thunder/Blast Internet Website (www.bethlehemblast.org) or emailed to the membership, by the last day of February. The date for the April general meeting will also be announced at that time.

SECTION XIV

Blast will do a mailing, either by USPS or via the internet to the legal parent(s)/guardian(s), of the player(s) that will be "postmarked" ten days prior to the date of the general meeting. This mailing will include all nominations that the secretary has as of that date.

ARTICLE VII

DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS

SECTION I - PRESIDENT

The President shall:

- Have general and active supervision of the affairs of the Club and shall preside at its meetings including those of the Executive Board, Board of Directors and the general membership;
- Perform all duties as may be assigned by the Executive Board;
- Have the power to make decisions arising from emergencies not

provided for in the rules, regulations, and bylaws, until such time as the Board of Directors may act on them;

- Be responsible, along with the Treasurer, for ensuring that players who are delinquent in paying fees do not participate in on-ice activities;
- Must attend all meetings that the league requires the club president to be present;
- Recommend to the Board for approval a Referee Assignor concurrent with the President's term of office;
- Chair the Bylaws Committee; and
- Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required)

SECTION II - VICE-PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATION

The Vice-President Administration shall:

- Assist the President in the overseeing of the affairs of the club;
- Act in the President's place (1st authority) when the President is not available or as earlier authorized;
- Be a member of the Bylaws Committee;
- Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required);
- Oversee the registration process;
- Approve fundraisers;
- Oversee Club's Equipment/Uniform Manager
- Oversee the Team Managers and submits the name of the Team Managers to the Board of Directors for approval;
- Responsible for nominating the Registrar/League Representative. This appointment coincides with the Vice President Administration's term and is subject to the Approval of the Executive Board; and
- Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President

SECTION III - VICE-PRESIDENT EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Vice-President External Affairs shall:

- Assist the President in the overseeing of the affairs of the club;
- Act in the President's place (2nd authority) when the President is not available or as earlier authorized;
- Chair the Grievance & Disciplinary Committees;
- Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder Board (when required);
- Oversee media/community relations;
- Oversee home tournaments;
- Oversee special events;
- Responsible for nominating the Tournament Director, Media/Community Relations Coordinator and Special Events

Coordinator. These appointments coincide with the Vice President External Affairs' term and are subject to the Approval of the Executive Board; and

- Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President

SECTION IV – VICE PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR OF HOCKEY OPERATIONS

The Vice-President / Director of Hockey Operations shall:

- Recommend the Head of Coaches to the Executive Board on a bi-annual basis for approval;
- Recommend the ACE Coordinator to the Executive Board on a bi-annual basis for approval;
- Recommend the Scheduler to the Executive Board on a bi-annual basis for approval;
- Recommend the New Player Coordinator to the Executive Board on a bi-annual basis for approval;
- Inform the Executive Board of each team's head coach on an annual basis or as soon as possible after placements, no later than the June Board Meeting for approval;
- Inform the Executive Board of each team's assistant coaches on an annual basis or as soon as possible after placements, no later than the August Board Meeting for approval;
- Oversee the scheduling process
- Inform the Executive Board of a team's roster for approval to insure compliance of Blast, DVHL, MAWHA (if applicable), AAHA and USA Hockey rules and regulations prior to team announcement notifications (player selection rests with Hockey Operations staff);
- Coordinate the implementation of the policies of the Board of Directors as they pertain to the coaching staff;
- Run the monthly coaches meeting;
- Available for practice or game situations when requested by a Head Coach;
- Provide and maintain the Blast Game Plan for all levels and make sure all coaches implement the Blast Game Plan;
- Responsible for the Initiation and X-Ice Programs;
- Chair the Placement Committee;
- Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required);
- Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President; and
- Board may appoint an Associate Director of Hockey Operations to

assist the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations. This is a non-voting board position and coincides with the term of the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations.

SECTION V – SECRETARY

The Secretary shall:

- Record minutes of all Board meetings;
- Send a copy of the minutes to all Board Members at least one week prior to the next scheduled Board Meeting;
- Post approved minutes on Thunder/Blast Bulletin Board (www.bethlehemblast.org);
- Post the opening Board positions, and the date of the general meeting on the Blast Website by the last day of February;
- Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder Board (when required); and
- Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President

SECTION VI – TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

- Notify parents of players about delinquent payments;
- Advise President and Coach if player needs to be out (off of ice), due to non-payment;
- Be responsible for all funds, securities, and investments of the Organization;
- Receive and disburse money as directed by the Board of Directors;
- Maintain accurate and up-to-date records of the financial status of the Organization;
- Provide monthly Treasurer's report which includes an Income Statement and a Balance Sheet;
- Provide accountant with all necessary information to file taxes on a timely basis;
- Bill and maintain records of all player payments;
- File all required forms to maintain the Organization's tax-exempt status;
- Prepare a proposed budget prior to the start of the next year's registration;
- Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required);
- Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President
- Board may appoint an Associate Treasurer to assist the Treasurer. This is a non-voting board position and coincides with the term of the Treasurer.

SECTION VII- AUTHORITY AND FORM OF SIGNATURE

The Treasurer and/or President shall sign all checks, drafts or orders of payment of money. Treasury accounts shall be held in the name of Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc. with the President and Treasurer being the only authorized individuals to withdraw from said account(s).

SECTION VIII - OFFICERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- ALL OFFICERS SHALL:*
- A. Perform their duties prescribed in parliamentary authority in addition to those outlined in these Bylaws.
 - B. Deliver to their successor all official material no later than ten (10) days following the election of their successors.
 - C. Perform their duties without receiving any remuneration for the performance of their duties.

ARTICLE VIII
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION I The Board of Directors will consist of the Executive Board of the Organization as well as the Past President, Registrar/League Representative, Scheduler, Head of Coaches, ACE Coordinator and New Player Coordinator. The Special Events Coordinator, Media/Community Relations Coordinator, Equipment/Uniform Manager, Tournament Director and all Associate positions sit on the Board as non-voting members.

SECTION II The Board of Directors term of office and voting rights are as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Voting Rights</u>
President (E)	2 years elected by Membership	Voting member only in the event of a tie
Vice President Administration (E)	2 years elected by Membership	Voting member
Vice-President External Affairs (E)	2 years elected by Membership	Voting member
Secretary (E)	2 years elected by Membership	Voting member
Treasurer (E)	2 years elected by Membership	Voting member
Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations (E)	2 years appointed by Executive Board	Voting member
Registrar/League Representative	2 years appointed by Executive	Voting member

	Board	
Scheduler	2 years appointed by Executive Board	Voting member
Head of Coaches	2 years appointed by Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations and approved by Executive Board	Voting member
ACE Coordinator	2 years appointed by Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations and approved by Executive Board	Voting Member
New Player Coordinator	2 years appointed by Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations and approved by Executive Board	Voting Member
Past President	Appointed at the option of the Executive Board at the expiration of the individual's term as President. Term expires upon the election of a new President.	Voting Member
Special Events Coordinator	2 years appointed by Executive Board	Non-Voting member
Tournament Director	2 years appointed by Executive Board	Non-Voting member
Media/Community Relations Coordinator	2 years appointed by Executive Board	Non-Voting member
Equipment/Uniform Manager	2 years appointed by Executive Board	Non-Voting member

(E) = Executive Board Member

SECTION III – SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

- The Special Events Coordinator shall be responsible for:
- Thunder/Blast Annual Banquet & Award Ceremonies;
 - Trophies and related recognition paraphernalia;
 - Other unique events organized by the Thunder/Blast Board;
 - Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder Board (when required); and
 - Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President and the Vice President-External Affairs

SECTION IV – NEW PLAYER COORDINATOR

- The New Player
- Recruitment and retention of in-house, x-ice and travel players;

- Coordinator shall be responsible for:
- Recruitment of new players through informational sessions, in-school flyers and newspaper ads;
 - With the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations designs the programs for the in-house and x-ice programs;
 - Coordinate the registration of new members with the Registrar/League Representative;
 - Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required); and
 - Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President and Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations

SECTION V - REGISTRAR/LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE

- The Registrar / League Representative shall:
- Maintain proper and timely registration of all players with USA Hockey;
 - Maintain proper and timely registration of all Thunder Teams with USA Hockey, DVHL and MAWHA;
 - Be Thunder's/Blast's Liaison with local USA Hockey Registrar;
 - Maintain a file of birth certificate copies of all current registered players;
 - Maintain up-to-date rosters of each team;
 - Obtain and file all necessary forms or permits for activities other than regular League schedule (DVHL or MAWHA), i.e. home tournaments, or out of country tournaments/games;
 - Provide each teams parent manager with a copy of all their team's players registration materials prior to teams 1st game to include, but not be limited to: USA Hockey Roster, Players' Birth Certificate, USA Hockey Consent to Treat & Medical History, USA Hockey Waiver of Liability, Blast application;
 - Forward to the appropriate DVHL Representative a copy of the DVHL Code of Conduct;
 - Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required);
 - Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President and Vice President Administration; and
 - Board may appoint an Associate Registrar/League Representative to assist the Registrar/League Representative. This is a non-voting board position and coincides with the term of the Registrar/League Representative.

SECTION VI – HEAD OF COACHES

- The Head of Coaches shall:
- With the Head and Assistant Coaches develop a practice plan for the season;
 - Assist the Head & Assistant Coaches as requested;
 - With the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations establish and

- maintain an Organization resource center for coaches, instructors, parents, players, and officers;
- With the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations
- coordinate the activities and training of all coaches;
- With the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations outline the duties of all coaches;
- Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required);
- Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President and Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations; and
- Board may appoint an Associate Head of Coaches to assist the Head of Coaches. This is a non-voting board position and coincides with the term of the Head of Coaches.

SECTION VII – ACE COORDINATOR

- ACE Coordinator shall:
- With the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations establish and maintain an Organization resource center for coaches, instructors, parents, players, and officers;
 - With the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations coordinate the activities and training of all coaches;
 - With the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations outline the duties of all coaches;
 - Relay all USA Hockey coaching clinic information to the Coaches and the Board of Directors;
 - Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required);
 - Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President and/or Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations; and
 - Board may appoint an Associate ACE Coordinator to assist the ACE Coordinator. This is a non-voting board position and coincides with the term of the ACE Coordinator.

SECTION VIII – SCHEDULER

- The Scheduler shall be responsible for:
- Schedule all league games (DVHL and MAWHA) home and away;
 - Schedule all non-league games, with help from Team Managers as needed;
 - Schedule all practice sessions;
 - Advise the Board of Directors of the availability of home tournaments for each group;
 - Cancel of any games;
 - Coordinate referees;
 - Attend DVHL and MAWHA (if applicable) yearly Schedulers meetings;
 - Confirm all games on a week to week basis;
 - Advise Head Coaches or Team Managers of any practice or game changes with a phone call and with an email notice if time permits and also notify the Treasurer;
 - Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder

- Board (when required);
- Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President and Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations; and
- Board may appoint an Associate Scheduler to assist the Scheduler. This is a non-voting board position and coincides with the term of the Scheduler.

SECTION IX – INITIATION PROGRAM ON ICE DIRECTOR

- The Initiation Program On-Ice Director shall be responsible for:
- All activities associated with the Initiation Program including all phases of planning and coaching instruction;
 - Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required); and
 - Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President and Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations

SECTION X – X-ICE DIRECTOR

- The X-Ice Director shall be responsible for:
- All activities associated with the X-Ice Program including all phases of planning and coaching instruction;
 - Attend the DVHL Meetings and report the minutes to the Thunder/Blast Board (when required); and
 - Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the President and Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations

SECTION XI – PAST PRESIDENT

- The Past President shall:
- Provide guidance and direction to the incoming President;
 - Be a goodwill ambassador for the Blast Organization; and
 - Be involved as they see fit with the organization.

SECTION XII – EQUIPMENT/UNIFORM MANAGER

- The Equipment / Uniform Manager shall be responsible for:
- Coordinating the annual equipment needs for the Club’s teams, including water bottles, pucks, first aid kits;
 - Managing the practice jersey and socks purchases for annual evaluations and throughout the season as needed;
 - Managing the game uniform fitting and purchase process each year;
 - All Thunder/Blast apparel; and
 - Perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the Vice President, Administration.

SECTION XII If two (2) consecutive Board Meetings are missed and unexcused the member will receive a warning, the third missed meeting; the member may be impeached.

ARTICLE IX
QUORUM & VOTING

SECTION I A quorum of the Executive Board shall be four (4) members being present.

SECTION II A quorum of the Board of Directors will be six (6) members with voting rights being present.

SECTION III Adoption of a motion or resolution will be by a simple majority of those present with voting privileges. This policy will be for all meetings, whether of the whole or any body with voting responsibility.

ARTICLE X
MEETINGS

SECTION I The Annual (General) Meeting of the Organization shall be held in April to conduct business necessary to the Organization.

SECTION II The Organization will hold monthly meetings on the Thursday immediately following the Delaware Valley Hockey League Meeting (D.V.H.L.) at a location and time determined by the President.

SECTION III Special meetings of the Organization may be called by the President or upon written application of five (5) parents and/or guardians of the Organization. Notification of special meetings must be scheduled a minimum of 5 days in advance.

SECTION IV Their respective Chairperson will convene meetings of Standing Committees.

SECTION V Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings.

SECTION VI All Board, Standing & Special Committees meeting will have Minutes transcribed and presented to the Board of Directors for approval at a subsequent Board Meeting.

ARTICLE XI
TEAMS, PLAYERS & COACHES

SECTION I

In-house Program

All players' ages 4-17

Travel/Blast Player Program

Age Level

Midget (18U & 16U)

All other Age Levels (Bantam through Mite U6)

Girls (all Age Levels)

Maximum Team Size

Up to 18 skaters and two goalies

Up to 15 skaters and two goalies

Up to 15 skaters and two goalies

Thunder Youth Hockey follows the rules and policies of USA Hockey regarding team roster size, with a maximum of twenty (20) players allowed per roster, including goalies and taxi squad players. The Blast policy is to maintain roster sizes of no more than fifteen (15) skaters and two (2) goalies for all age levels except Midget in order to maximize practice and playing time and skill development opportunity for its players. The Evaluations Committee, in conjunction with the respective Head Coach, may elect to place more or less than the recommended number on the roster. This applies to both skaters and goalies.

Players of all ages may be placed, following annual evaluations; in an in-house/instructional program instead of on a competitive travel team if, in the evaluation process the Organization determines that it is in the best interest of the player and the Organization based on skill level. Players may also request to be placed in the in-house/instructional program if they do not wish to play competitive travel hockey.

SECTION II Taxi Squad

- A. On an annual basis each team, with the approval of the coaches, Evaluation Committee and Board of Directors, may have Taxi players at the appropriate playing age up to the maximum amount of players as provided by USA Hockey roster limits.
- B. A Taxi player is allowed to practice with the team during the course of the season.
- C. Taxi player season fees are determined annually by the Treasurer and Board of Directors based on age level season fees for practice time and administrative costs (game costs are excluded).
- D. At the discretion of the team's Head Coach a Taxi player may dress for selected games and pay a per game fee as established by the organization's Treasurer. Dressing for a game does not guarantee playing time.

SECTION III Team Staff

- A. Each Blast team is allowed to roster as many coaches as allowed by USA Hockey Playing Rules.
- B. One coach is to be designated as the Head Coach.
- C. The Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations is to furnish the Executive Board with the Head Coaches no later than the June Board Meeting for approval.
- D. The Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations is to furnish the Executive Board with the Assistant Coaches for approval.
- E. The Vice President Administration is to furnish the Executive Board with the Team Managers for approval no later than the August Board Meeting.

SECTION IV Awards & Trophies

- Team Awards ➤ All awards, trophies and banners presented to the Thunder/Blast teams are the property of the Thunder Youth Ice Hockey, Inc. and will be given to the President for display at the home rink. All individual awards are the property of that player.

- Annual Awards
- The Blast Organization has established Awards that are presented on an annual basis at the Annual Banquet & Awards Banquet. The specific criteria have been established in each of the award's description and criteria. An individual player can only earn one award on an annual basis and co-winners are not permitted.

SECTION V

Team Manager

Responsibilities include:

- Help with fundraisers at the team level;
- Organize the schedule for after game snacks for home games (Atoms, Mites & Squirts levels);
- Fill out game score sheets and submitting them via DVHL web site and depositing them in the Blast box at the Steel Ice Center;
- Assist Scheduler as needed to schedule non-league games;
- Confirm non-league games two (2) weeks in advance;
- Update and maintain team's Blast website pages;
- Email scores to Scheduler on a weekly basis (Sunday p.m.);
- Organize the Timekeeper, Scorekeeper and 50/50 raffle for each home game;
- Filing of grievances from the team with the grievance committee;
- Arrange for accommodations for away games;
- Working with the Head Coach;
- Carry current roster, birth certificates and medical releases for each rostered player (returned to organization at end of season) to all games both home and away;
- Attend the mandatory DVHL (or other applicable League) score keepers meeting (or have your team represented); and
- Is encouraged to attend the monthly Blast Board of Directors meetings and to relay information to the parents of their respective team.

SECTION VI

Playing above age level

- All players must participate in their own age classification (Mite, Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam & Midget) and will not be allowed to move up (or out of the age group) unless:
- Prior to evaluations, the player must petition the Executive Board and receive permission to evaluate at a higher level.
- If the player is granted permission to evaluate at the higher level, they must pay that registration fee. If the player wants the ability to play at their current age level, in the event that they don't make the level above, they must also pay the registration fee and attend the evaluations for their current age level.
- Petitions will not be considered once teams have been selected.

SECTION VII

Medical Release

If a player seeks medical attention for **any** injury or illness, they must provide Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc. with a doctor's note or release to

return to any on ice activities.

SECTION VIII Proper Equipment

It is the participants or their parent(s)/legal guardian(s) responsibility to ensure they are properly equipped both during practices and games. It shall be the organization's policy (Policy 2003-4) that any player participating in practices is required to have full equipment.

ARTICLE XII
PROCUREMENT OF ASSETS

SECTION I All purchases of uniforms, equipment and supplies shall receive prior approval of one or more of the Organization's officers.

ARTICLE XIII
CONDUCT

SECTION I If the conduct of any participant, parent or coach is deemed by the Executive Board to be detrimental to the best interests of the Organization, the Executive Board, by a majority vote, may suspend or expel such participant, parent or coach. Such participant, parent or coach shall have the right to appear before the Grievance Committee, and show cause why he/she should not be suspended or expelled. Notification of Appeal is required within forty-eight hours (48) of notice. If notification is ignored he/she is expelled.

SECTION II **It shall be each Player's duty to:**

- A.) Represent the Thunder/Blast Organization in a mature and responsible manner at all times;
- B.) Respect and accept the coaches and official's decisions;
- C.) Attend all scheduled practices and games. If unable to do so the player is required to notify their Head Coach or Team manager;
- D.) Wear proper attire to games. Shirt & tie, turtleneck & sweater or Blast warm-up suit. No ripped jeans. Your image off the ice is as important as your image on the ice; and
- E.) Set as a goal, to improve each time on the ice.

It shall be the Parent's duty to:

- A.) Abide by the DVHL rules for Parent /Spectator Conduct;

- B.) Provide for or arrange the transportation of the player to practices and games whether home or away. If unable to do so the parent is required to notify the Head Coach or Team manager;
- C.) Pay all fees levied by the Organization when due;
- D.) Participate in fundraisers when required; and
- E.) Be active in the Thunder/Blast Youth Hockey Organization.

It shall be each Coach's duty to:

- A.) Abide by the Thunder/Blast dress code for coaches and wear a shirt and tie or sweater and turtleneck, dress pants and/or Blast apparel to all games, home and away; and
- B.) Abide by all Thunder/Blast, League (e.g.DVHL or MAWHA), Atlantic District, and USA Hockey Bylaws, rules and regulations.
- C.) Represent the Blast organization and hockey in a professional manner at all times.

SECTION III

The President may use the emergency powers provided for in Article VII, Section I to temporarily suspend any player, parent or coach from participating in any Blast sponsored event if he reasonably believes it is in the best interest of the Organization, pending a meeting and/or investigation of the Board, Executive Board and/or Disciplinary Committee as appropriate. In the event the President invokes these emergency powers, they will convene a special meeting of the appropriate Board members to address the situation within ten (10) days of the action.

Player: Inappropriate behavior or actions on or off the ice either towards a teammate, opponent, coach (Blast or opponent), referee, spectator, or any other member of the Organization.

Parent: Inappropriate behavior towards a player (Blast or opponent), parent (Blast or opponent), coach (Blast or opponent), referee, or any other member of the Organization.

Coach: Inappropriate behavior towards a player (Blast or opponent), parent (Blast or opponent), coach (Blast or opponent), referee, or any other member of the Organization.

ARTICLE XIV

DISCIPLINARY CODE

SECTION I

It will be the duty and obligation of each coach to report any non-game situation (i.e. off-ice or practice) misconduct to the chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee within one (1) day of the occurrence of the incident.

SECTION II

Some infractions of USA Hockey rules mandate automatic suspensions. These will be treated as a minimum. The Disciplinary Committee may

choose to extend the suspension period if the individual displays a chronic disregard of the rules of the Club and/or USA Hockey.

SECTION III

When a player(s) commits an infraction of the rules, the player(s) may be suspended from further participation in Club activities until a hearing is held. The Disciplinary Committee will conduct the hearing within ten (10) days of the start of the suspension at which time a final decision will be rendered.

SECTION IV

If a parent is asked to leave a game (either home or away) by a game official the following penalties will be imposed:

First offense: Written warning from the Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc. Executive Board.

Second offense: The offending parent will not be permitted into the facility of their child's next 4 games (home and away).

Third offense: The offending parent will be fined \$250.00. The fine must be paid within 10 days of the offense. If not paid within the 10-day period, the child of the offending parent will not play until the fine is paid. Additionally, the offending parent will also be banned from any Thunder/Blast game or practice for a period of 30 days. Offending parent will not be permitted into any facility home or away.

Additional penalties and sanctions may be imposed at the discretion of the Executive Board, Grievance or Disciplinary Committee.

ARTICLE XV

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SECTION I

The Executive Board may create such standing committees, as it may deem necessary to promote the purposes and carry on the work of the Organization.

SECTION II

The chairman of each special committee shall present a plan of work to the officers for approval. No committee work shall be undertaken without the consent of the officers of Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc.

SECTION III

Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc will have the following Standing Committees:

Bylaws

Committee:

Chair:

President

Members:

Vice President Administration and two more appointees on an annual basis.

Responsibility:

To meet once yearly to review and recommend changes of the bylaws for submission to the Executive Board. The Bylaws committee will present any changes to the current Executive Board in February, allowing the Executive Board to make any corrections/additions in March.

**Disciplinary
Committee:**

Chair: Vice President External Affairs
Members: Registrar/League Representative and a USA Hockey Referee from outside the Blast Organization.
Responsibility: To enforce the rules and policies of the organization. The decisions of the committee shall be final and binding and are not subject to appeal.

**Evaluations
Committee:**

Chair: Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations
Members: Individual Head Coach of each team and appointed members by the Vice President/Director of Hockey Operations.
Responsibilities: Organize on-ice evaluations and select the proposed teams and present them to the Executive Board for final approval.

**Grievance
Committee:**

Chair: Vice President External Affairs
Members: 2 Board Members appointed yearly.
Procedure:

- Players must submit a grievance to Team Manager for presentation to the Grievance Committee.
- Grievance concerning a Coach is to be submitted to the Head of Coaches.
- Grievances concerning a Team Manager are to be submitted to the Vice President Administration.
- Said grievance must detail specific violation of the rule or Bylaws, or specific situation within the organization being grieved.
- The committee shall have the express authority to interpret the Bylaws and render a decision.
- The Grievance Committee must convene a hearing within five (5) days of being notified of the grievance action.
- The decision of the Grievance Committee must be placed in writing and forwarded to the Executive Board within five (5) days of the grievance hearing.
- No grievances will be accepted concerning referees or their decisions.
- All decisions are final and cannot be appealed.

**ARTICLE XVI
FUNDS**

SECTION I

As noted in Article VII Section IX all funds of the Organization are to be in the name of Thunder Youth Hockey, Inc., dba: Bethlehem Blast.

SECTION II

The banking institution where funds are held is to be adopted by a resolution authorizing it by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XVII

POLICIES & RESOLUTIONS

SECTION I

The Board of Directors from time to time may adopt Policies relative to the operations of the Organization. Adopted Policies are binding on the operations of the Organization and will have the same enforceability as if they were a part of the Bylaws. Policies shall be in effect and binding until rescinded by the Board of Directors.

SECTION II

The Board of Directors from time to time may adopt Resolutions relative to the operations of the Organization. Adopted Resolutions are binding on the operations of the Organization and will have the same enforceability as if they were a part of the Bylaws. Resolutions shall be in effect and binding until rescinded by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XVIII

AMENDMENTS

SECTION I

These Bylaws may be amended, repelled or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at the Annual (General) Meeting or at a Special Meeting of the Organization called for that purpose.

ARTICLE XIX

DISSOLUTION

SECTION I

Upon the dissolution of the corporation or the organization, the Board of Directors shall, after payment or making provisions for the payment of all liabilities of the corporation or organization, dispose of all the assets of the corporation or organization in the manner, or to an organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organization(s) under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal

Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors or governing staff shall determine. Any assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation or organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes.

