

All Coaches, Hockey Directors, Program Administrators and local associations, (please distribute)

Many changes have taken place for the 2014-15 USA Hockey season, for ease of reference I have enclosed all requirements in a single email to ensure you can complete in a timely fashion. The first 3 (**Safesport** Course completion (every other year), Background screening (every other year) and a concussion management course (annually) must be completed PRIOR TO you taking the ice with your team for this season. For this there are NO EXCEPTIONS and failure to comply will be a direct violation of USA Hockey / **SAHA** Rules of Play, and could result in suspension and / or referral to the **SAHA** Discipline Committee.

As well, be aware for **2014-14 season all USA Hockey registrars will NOT issue a roster to any team, prior to the entire listed coaching staff having completed the USA Hockey Safesport training course. Failure to complete the training will prevent you from being able to be on the ice or participate in team events.**

(1) Use this link to the required course: (please complete the USA Hockey course not the Olympic course)

<http://www.usahockey.com/page/show/909009-safesport-programtraining->

(2) Also new for 2014 both USA Hockey and your state of residence, now require that all coaches and "team officials" complete a approved Concussion Management course. For ease of use the CDC offers a FREE online course that once completed you will receive a certificate that is good for any other sport that you help in. If you coach or volunteer in any other sport and have already completed a Concussion Management Course (with a certificate) then you will not be required to retake this course this season.

<http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/Training/index.html>

(3) If you have NOT completed the required USA Hockey / SAHA background screening in the past 24 months then you will need to complete ASAP. The screening is good for a period of 2 years and will cost \$32. SAHA requires that you use only this approved screening vendor, local screening companies do not comply to the standards as established by USA Hockey (the only exception would be a current USA Hockey Referee screening) Please use your local program that you will roster with for this screening.

<https://opportunities.averity.com/Index.aspx?uid=34679>

(4) All coaches are required to complete your age appropriate module for all ages that you coach (as required)

<http://www.usahockey.com/page/show/892966-age-specific-modules>

(5) Ensure that your coaching certification is upto date annually, if your CEP expires 12/31/14 you need to take the next available class to continue to coach into the 2015 season.

<http://www.usahockey.com/page/show/892957-coaching-certification>

Lastly, all local programs are required to establish a Safety Coordinator for 2014-15 season. Please ensure that you have identified this person and they have contacted the affiliate Safesport Coordinator(s) Richard Bennett (rbennett39@gmail.com) or Ed Ragland (eragland@hiwaay.net)

Thank You for your prompt attention to these matters, please contact your local or state representatives for additional information.

<http://www.sahaonline.org/directors/>

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