USA Hockey Concussion Information and Acknowledgment

All sports and free play are associated with risk for a concussion, including playing, officiating or participating in ice hockey. It is important that all participants and parents learn about concussion prevention, recognition, treatment and return to play.

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury—or TBI—caused by a bump or blow to the head or by a hit to the body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. Bouncing or twisting of the brain in the skull can cause chemical changes and sometimes stretching of the brain cells. A concussion disrupts the way the brain normally works. Most concussions are mild, but all concussions should be taken seriously because permanent brain damage and death can occur from another injury. A concussion may be difficult to recognize. A player does not have to be “knocked-out” to have a concussion—less than 10% of players actually lose consciousness. Signs and symptoms may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear.

If a person reports one or more symptoms or demonstrates any signs of concussion after a blow to the head or body, s/he should be kept out of practice, play or training immediately and referred to a health care professional with experience in concussion management. A concussed brain needs time to heal and the person is much more likely to have another concussion if they return to soon. Repeat concussions are usually more severe and take longer to heal. Return to play is allowed only after the individual is without symptoms, has progressed through the concussion protocol and is cleared by the health care professional.

USA Hockey provides all participants with information and educational materials about concussions, including the risk of sustaining a concussion, how to minimize these risks, concussion signs and symptoms, and USA Hockey’s program for returning to play following a concussion. USA Hockey’s Concussion Management Program can be found on the USA Hockey website at: usahockey.com/safety-concussions.

By checking the box and placing my initials in the box below, participant, and participant’s parent(s) or legal guardian(s) if participant is a minor, hereby acknowledges (1) that I have had the opportunity to review information on concussions provided by USA Hockey, including the signs and symptoms of a concussion, (2) that participating in the sport of ice hockey involves the risk of sustaining a concussion and that I knowingly, freely and fully assume all such risks, (3) that any participant suspected of possibly sustaining a concussion will be removed from practice or competition (and that I will remove myself from practice or competition) and not returned to practice or competition until cleared in writing by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions, and (4) that I shall follow USA Hockey’s Post-Concussion Return to Play Protocol prior to returning to play.

PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE

PARTICIPANT NAME (please print)

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (if participant is 17 years of age or younger)

This form must be signed on both pages for registration to be complete.
Waiver of Liability, Release
Assumption of Risk & Indemnity Agreement

IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS AGREEMENT FOR THE MANAGER/ VOLUNTEER TO EXEMPT, WAIVE AND RELIEVE RELEASEES FROM LIABILITY FOR PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE, AND WRONGFUL DEATH, INCLUDING IF CAUSED BY NEGLIGENCE, INCLUDING THE NEGLIGENCE, IF ANY, OF ANY RELEASEES.

“Releasees” include USA Hockey, Inc., its affiliate associations, local associations, member teams, event hosts, other participants, coaches, officials, sponsors, advertisers, and each of them, their officers, directors, agents and employees.

For and in consideration of the undersigned Manager/Volunteer’s registration with USA Hockey, Inc., its affiliates, local associations and member teams (all referred to together as USAH) and being allowed to participate in USAH events and member team activities, Manager/Volunteer waives, releases and relinquishes any and all claims for liability and cause(s) of action, including for personal injury, property damage or wrongful death occurring to Manager/Volunteer, arising out of participation in USAH events, member team activities, the sport of ice hockey, and/or activities incidental thereto, whenever or however they occur and for such period said activities may continue, and by this agreement any such claims, rights, and causes of action that Manager/Volunteer may have are hereby waived, released and relinquished, and Manager/Volunteer does(do) so on behalf of my/our and Manager/Volunteer’s heirs, executors, administrators and assigns.

Manager/Volunteer acknowledges, understands and assumes all risks relating to ice hockey and any member team activities, and understands that ice hockey and member team activities involve risks to Manager/Volunteer’s person including bodily injury, partial or total disability, paralysis and death, and damages which may arise therefrom and that I/we have full knowledge of said risks. These risks and dangers may be caused by the negligence of the Manager/Volunteer or the negligence of others, including the “Releasees” identified above. Manager/Volunteer further acknowledges that there may be risks and dangers not known to us or not reasonably foreseeable at this time. Manager/Volunteer acknowledges, understands and agrees that all of the risks and dangers described throughout this agreement, including those caused by the negligence of Manager/Volunteer and/or others, are included within the waiver, release and relinquishment described herein.

Manager/Volunteer acknowledges, understands and assumes the risks, if any, arising from the conditions and use of ice hockey rinks and related premises and acknowledges and understands that included within the scope of this waiver and release is any cause of action (including any cause of action based on negligence) arising from the performance, or failure to perform maintenance, inspection, supervision or control of said areas and for the failure to warn of dangerous conditions existing at said rinks, for negligent selection of certain Releasees, or negligent supervision or instruction by any Releasee.

As a condition of registration and membership in USA Hockey and participation in USAH events and member team activities, Manager/Volunteer agrees to abide by and be bound under the playing rules and rules and regulations of USA Hockey, including the By-Laws of USA Hockey and the mandatory dispute resolution, discipline and arbitration provisions, as currently published in the USA Hockey Annual Guide. Copies of the USA Hockey Bylaws, including the mandatory dispute resolution, discipline and arbitration clauses, are available from the USA Hockey offices or may be found at www.usahockey.com/annualguide. Any dispute, claim or cause of action regarding the terms of this agreement or subject matter hereof shall be brought (i) individually, without resort to any form of class or collective action, and without joinder or consolidation of claims of third parties, and (ii) exclusively in the manner provided in the rules of USA Hockey (including, without limitation USA Hockey Bylaw 10) to the extent applicable.

As further consideration for registration and participation in USAH events and member team activities, Manager/Volunteer, hereby (1) consents and agrees that USAH, its licensees and designees may make video and/or audio recordings of and/or otherwise film, photograph or memorialize some or all of Manager/Volunteer’s participation in such events and activities, and (2) grants to USAH, its licensees, designees, successors and assigns, a worldwide, perpetual, irrevocable, fully-paid, royalty-free, transferable and sublicensable right and license to use, copy and disseminate Manager/Volunteer’s image and personal attributes, and to modify and present same in any form, manner and media, now known or hereafter devised, for any purpose whatsoever.

If the law in any controlling jurisdiction renders any part of this agreement unenforceable, the remainder of this agreement shall nevertheless remain enforceable to the full extent, if any, allowed by controlling law. This agreement affects your legal rights, and you may wish to consult an attorney concerning this agreement.

Manager/Volunteer agree if any claim for Manager/Volunteer’s personal injury or wrongful death is commenced against any Releasee, he/she shall defend, indemnify and save harmless Releasees from any and all claims or causes of action by whomever or wherever made or presented for Manager/Volunteer’s personal injuries, property damage or wrongful death.

Manager/Volunteer acknowledge that they have been provided and have read the above paragraphs and have not relied upon any representations of Releasees, that they are fully advised of the potential dangers of ice hockey, that they agree to and sign this document voluntarily, understanding that these waivers and releases are necessary to allow amateur ice hockey to exist in its present form. Significant exclusions may apply to USA Hockey’s insurance policies, which could affect any coverage. For example, there is no liability coverage for claims of one player against another player. Read your brochure carefully and, if you have any questions, contact USA Hockey or a District Risk Manager.

PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE

PARTICIPANT NAME (please print)

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (If participant is 17 years of age or younger)

Age __________ Date Signed __________

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