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Thank you for interest in the USA Hockey Officiating Program and the Illinois Officials Hockey Association. **Everyone must** attend a sanctioned USA Hockey seminar each year (both veterans and new officials) in order to be a registered official. After reading this information if you have additional questions about seminars or the registration process, please contact the Registrar of IHOA, Erin Blair at registrar@iho.com.

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Steps required for complete registration

Step 1: IHOA Registration

Registration opens on the first Monday in August of the current year.

To be eligible to officiate in the State of Illinois, the official will need to be at least **14 years old by August 1st of the current year-- there will be no exceptions.**

All officials must pre-register on-line in order to be admitted to their seminar.

Registration is on a "first come, first served basis" and registration for each seminar will be closed when the seminar reaches capacity. Please note that these seminars often fill up quickly.

Anyone who has never officiated must register at Level 1 for the first season. The District Referee-in-Chief only, prior to registration, may make exceptions to this rule in extreme cases in which the applicant has extensive hockey officiating experience that would foster registration at Level 2. No first-time registered official may register above Level 2 for the first season.

Ensure that your registration level with **USA Hockey matches your seminar attendance.** If they do not **MATCH** your registration will automatically set at Level 1.

Step 2: USA Hockey Registration

Registration opens in the beginning of August.

You will register with USA Hockey on-line at <http://www.usahockeyregistration.com>

Registration with USA Hockey must be done as an official. Playing and coaching registration through USA Hockey will not certify an individual to be an official. Separate registration is required for playing, coaching and officiating.

After you register with USA Hockey, you will receive a USA Hockey Rule Book and access to the on-line Open Book Test. You need to complete the Open Book Test in order for USA Hockey to process all of your information. The online exam does not need to be completed for seminar attendance.

Your USA Hockey Level and IHOA seminar registration level must be the same. If you are a level 1 you must attend a level 1 seminar. Your USA hockey registration level dictates what level seminar you should register for.

After you successfully complete all aspects of the program, USA Hockey will process and send you a Referee's Card along with a Crest for your Referee's sweater.

Classification Requirements

To be "Complete" means that an official has met all the criteria (testing and seminars) at the level for which he/she has applied. "Incomplete" means that an official has filed an application and has not completed all the necessary criteria for attainment of that level. The following is a list of the USA Requirements

Level 1 Complete	Must attain an open book exam score of 35/50 Must attend and complete an officiating seminar administrated by USA Hockey
Level 2 Complete	Must have been Level 1 or higher (Complete) within the last two seasons Must attain an open book exam score of 85/100 Must attain a closed book exam score of 24/30 Must attend and complete an officiating seminar administrated by USA Hockey
Level 3 Complete	Must have been Level 2 or higher (Complete) last season Must attain an open book exam score of 90/100 Must attain a closed book exam score of 40/50 Must attend and complete an officiating seminar administrated by USA Hockey
Level 4 Complete	Must have been Level 3 or 4 (Complete) last season Must attain an open book exam score of 90/100 Must attain closed book exam score of 40/50 Must pass skating exam and attend / complete a level 4 specific USA Hockey seminar each season. Must arrange to have an evaluation completed, while officiating a high level game, by a trained USA Hockey Evaluator at least once during the calendar year.

A new official (not registered the previous year) may not officiate until he/she is "completely registered." A returning official ("complete" the previous season) may not officiate after November

30 (expiration date on previous year's card) unless he/she is "completely registered" for the new season. They will also be suspended and removed from any game until Complete.

Open Book Rules Exam

Each season all officials must complete the on-line open book rule's exam. Officials, who do not receive the minimum score for the appropriate level, will be sent a retake notice and a new answer sheet. Only one Retake Exam per official is allowed and this retake must be completed within 30 days. In the event that an official fails the exam twice, he/she will become completely registered at the highest level for which the retake exam score would qualify (e.g., Level 1 =35/50 or 70/100, Level 2 =85, Level 3 =90, Level 4 =90).

Step 3: AHAI Screening *18 years and older*

As part of the registration process all individuals, over the age of 18, interested in becoming a member of IHOA must pass a background screening completed by AHAI. Screening packet must be sent to AHAI/IHOA Screening P.O. Box 217, Batavia, Illinois, 60510. Complete instructions are included in the packet.

If an official will be turning 18 during the season, they will be sent an email six months prior to their 18th birthday as a reminder to complete the screening process. If the screening process has not been completed by their 18th birthday, that official will be suspended until the screening process is complete.

Go to <http://www.ihoa.com/members/screening.asp> for screening information

Step 4: Additional Information

Registration Season

The registration season for the Officiating Program begins in August and ends on May 9 of the following year. USA Hockey officials' registration is valid for the entire season in any district or state in the United States. Membership in a State or Local Officials Association is not required for USA Hockey officials' registration.

Renewing Officials

Renewing officials may apply for one level higher than their completed registration level the previous season. Officials are allowed to take one season as unregistered or incomplete and return at the same level they were last completely registered at. Level 1 completely registered officials are allowed to take one season off and still be eligible for level 2 the following season. An official may

apply for a level lower than their eligible level. However, once the application has been received at the National Office, an official cannot change the level they had applied for.

Returning Officials (After 1 Or More Season(s) Unregistered Or Incompletely Registered)

We are always happy to have officials return to the USA Hockey Officiating Program after some time away from the program. Because of your past experience with our program you may be able to register at a level higher than Level 1, depending upon the level at which you were last registered. As a general rule, officials may take one season off (unregistered or incomplete) without forfeiting the current level status. If, however, an official is off (not registered or incomplete) for the previous two seasons, he/she must apply for registration one level lower (except Level 1) than that of the last season "completely registered." A level 4 official who takes 3 or more seasons off will be required to return at level 2.

Local Officiating Program Seminar Attendance

Attendance at a sanctioned USA Hockey Officials Seminar is required for all applicants, regardless of level. This seminar must consist of both classroom and ice time, conducted by USA Hockey Trained Instructors. At the seminar, every official and instructor in attendance must be sure to "sign in" and "sign out" on the official USA Hockey Seminar Attendance Form. This form will be returned to the National Office and attendance recorded in each official's record. Level 4 applicants must attend a level 4 specific seminar. There will be no opportunity to complete the level 2, level 3 or level 4 closed book testing except at the USA Hockey seminar you registered for.

Minimum Referee Levels For Games

		3 Official System				2 Official System	
Age Class	Girls' Women's	Referee	Tier I/II	Linesman	Tier I/II	Referees	Tier I/II
Adult Open		Level 4		Level 3		Level 3	
Adult US		Level 4		Level 3		Level 3	
Adult No-Check	Women's Adult	Level 3		Level 2		Level 3	
Junior A		Level 4		Level 3			
Junior B		Level 4		Level 3			
Junior C		Level 3		Level 3		Level 3	
HS Varsity		Level 3		Level 3		Level 3	
HS Jr. Varsity		Level 3		Level 3		Level 3	

18 & Under	19 & Under	Level 3	Level 3	Level 2	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3
16 & Under	16 & Under	Level 3	Level 3	Level 2	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3
14 & Under	14 & Under	Level 2	Level 3	Level 2	Level 2	Level 2	Level 3
12 & Under	12 & Under	Level 1	Level 2	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1
10 & Under	10 & Under	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1
8 & Under		Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1

Scheduling Of Games

Registration with the USA Hockey Officiating Program does not guarantee any official any game assignments. Officials are responsible to obtain their own game assignments from local game schedulers as designated in each District.

Eligibility for National Championships

To be eligible to officiate in any State, Regional or National Championships, an official must be completely registered on or before December 31 of the current season. Only level 4 officials will be eligible to referee National Championships.