



Illinois Hockey Officials Association ("IHOA") Newsletter
November 2025 | 2025-26 Season | Volume 12

Presidents Keynotes

Fellow IHOA Officials,

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Chicago recently hosted the annual CCM World Invite, and as usual, IHOA officials stepped up to cover all the games played throughout Northern Illinois.

USAH registration for officiating has now closed. All Officiating Membership Education requirements must be completed by December 31, 2025. Please remember, the last seminars USAH will offer will be completed by December 15th.

It has come to our attention that there have been a number of on- and off-ice incidents that have not been reported by officials. Please remember that AHAI thoroughly investigates all incidents reported by officials. After each game, you must check the scoresheet to ensure everything is correct. If penalties were assessed that include a suspension, a Game Report **MUST** be completed and submitted through the USAH incident reporting portal.

Thank you,

Brian Fisher

Referee in Chief, IHOA

USA Hockey Registration Deadline

All officiating memberships must be complete by December 31, 2025. This includes level specific classroom seminars, level specific learning modules, level specific rules exercise, U.S. Center for SafeSport training, and NCSI background screening. After December 31, the 2025-26 membership database will be closed and no more cards and crests will be issued.

NEW MEMBERSHIP TIMELINES:

November 20, 2025: Membership applications close (no one may start registration)

December 1, 2025: All 2024-25 Memberships expire

January 1, 2026: 2025-26 Membership closed (cards and crests no longer issued)

May 1, 2026: Membership applications open

Best wishes for a safe and successful season and thank you for your dedication to USA Hockey.



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IHOA Registration Deadline Update

Hello IHOA Members,

IHOA registration for the 2025/26 season is now open. Please use the below link to access the registration page.

[IHOA Registration for 2025/26](#)

Dues must be paid by December 31, 2025. Failure to pay by the deadline may affect your game assignments.

IHOA is proud to welcome non-USA Hockey officials this year. If you are officiating only CUHL or Men's League games, you are now eligible to be a part of IHOA. We would like to thank our partners at MCHO for helping unite all of Illinois hockey under one banner.

2025-26 Dues Structure:

- USA Hockey Level 1: \$50
- USA Hockey Level 2: \$25
- USA Hockey Level 3: \$25
- USA Hockey Level 4: \$25
- Non-USA Hockey Officials (CUHL and Men's League): \$50

IHOA will only be accepting credit card payments this year. No other forms of payment will be accepted.

If you are USA Hockey registered, please have your USA Hockey Official Number and level available when completing registration.

Thank you,

**Matt McManus
IHOA Registrar**



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Important Reminder: USA Hockey Game Reports for Major and Match Penalties

It has come to the attention of IHOA and MCHO that some officials are calling major and match penalties without completing the required USA Hockey game reports afterward. If you assess a 5-minute major with a game misconduct or a match penalty, **YOU MUST SUBMIT THE USA HOCKEY GAME REPORT.**

Submitting the report is the responsibility of the entire officiating crew—it does not have to be the official who called the penalty. If one crew member is unable to complete the report, another must step up and ensure it is submitted promptly.

Failing to submit the appropriate game report creates significant issues for AHAI, IHOA, league administrators, and clubs that rely on these reports for disciplinary tracking. Major and match penalties often carry automatic suspensions, and delays in paperwork can result in players being withheld from play longer than necessary—or not long enough.

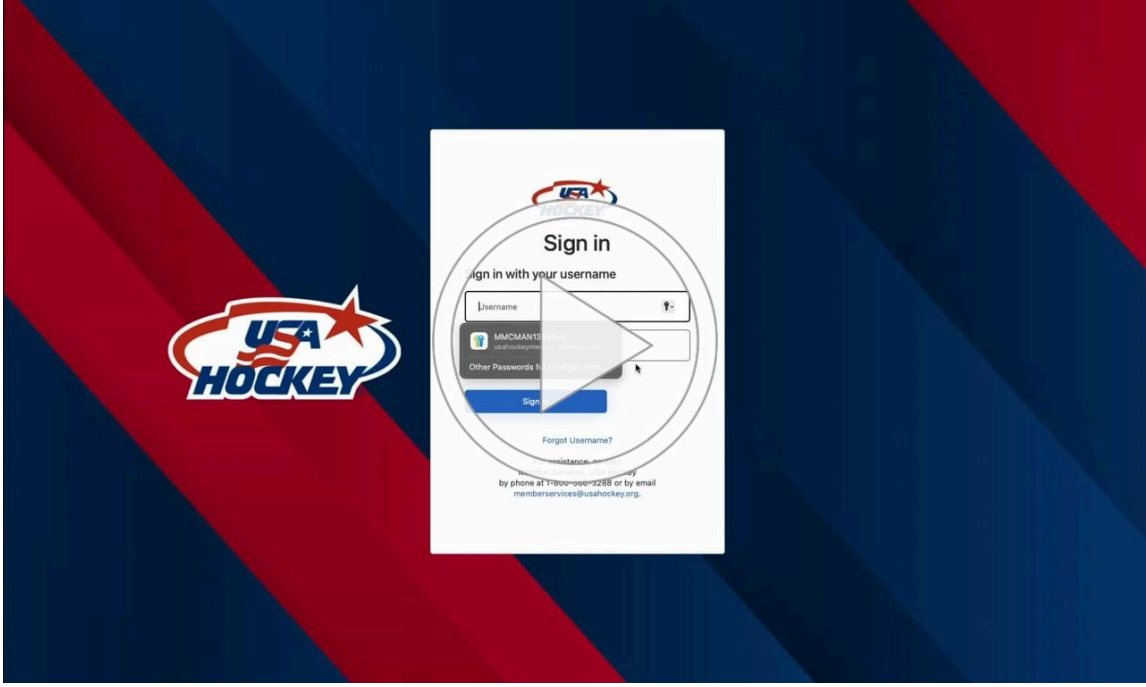
Failure to submit USA Hockey game reports may result in disciplinary action for the officiating crew.

Additionally, if you assess a match penalty, you must notify Brian Fisher (Referee-in-Chief of Illinois) as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please reach out to any IHOA board member or a member of the MCHO assigning staff. We are here to help.

Please see the below video on how to submit a USA Hockey Game Report

Link to Game Report Site: [USA Hockey Game Report Site](#)



The PWHL Takeover Tour Coming to Chicago 12/21/2025

On December 12th, the PWHL Takeover Tour is coming to Allstate Arena. The game will feature the Ottawa Charge vs. the Minnesota Frost and will showcase hometown talent. For tickets, please use the link below.

[PWHL Takeover Tour December 21, 2025 Chicago](#)



Performance, Education and Development

Spotlight: Penalty Shots



Please review the above video. This is from the latest video in the NCAA YMTC Series: Review NCAA 25.2. Do you believe the goal should be awarded or is this a no goal situation.

Answer to this question is in the video description. Please use the below link:

[Answer to video](#)

Get to Know Us! - IHOA Vice President



Erika Greenen

Erika Greenen is a tenured level 4 official with a decade of officiating experience. Greenen grew up playing AAA hockey and went on to play at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. After college she moved to Nashville where she started to officiate for some extra money. Since then she has worked multiple USAH National Championships at the youth level and officiated in 8 different countries. Greenen is also a lines person in various leagues including, the NAHL, USHL, NCAA Division I with the ECAC, PWHL and the IIHF.

Following the IHOA by-law change voted on at the annual meeting on May 13, 2024, IHOA has established a Communications Committee, led by Scott Gaffney and Matt McManus with valuable contributions from Steven Gapski and Kevin Haller. This month, we'd like to introduce you to IHOA Vice President, Erika Greenen. Next month, we will feature an IHOA board member!

Greenen also serves as the Vice President of IHOA, Central District Female Development Coordinator, USAH Seminar and Summer Camp Instructor. When she is not on the ice she works as the Officiating Coordinator for the North American Hockey League/ Prospect Hockey League.



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