



Leeds Minor Hockey Association

POLICY NAME:	On-Ice Helpers and Guest Coaches
POLICY NUMBER:	P16
DATE CREATED:	December 2024
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DATE APPROVED:	

POLICY

Leeds Minor Hockey Association (LMHA) is committed to ensuring that opportunities to enhance player development be undertaken in a safe and positive manner. As such, this policy serves to provide guidelines on the appropriate selection and use of guest coaches and volunteer on-ice helpers. All on-ice helpers/guest coaches are required to have completed the Respect in Sport training.

1.0 Adult On-Ice Helpers

Adult On-Ice Helpers must possess the same certification as Assistant Coaches. They are required to be listed on the appropriate team roster and insured by LMHA.

2.0 Youth On-Ice Helpers (Under 20)

Youth On-Ice Helpers, who wish to collect high school volunteer hours or assist within the association, must meet the following criteria:

- Team officials must use sound judgment, focusing on developmental and supportive decisions.
- Helpers must be registered members of a Minor Hockey Association, Junior Hockey League, or be an on-ice Official, ensuring they have the necessary insurance coverage.
- Helpers may assist during practices as demonstrators/helpers only and are not permitted to participate in scrimmages.
- Helpers must be at least one age division higher than the team they are assisting. Those under 15 must wear full gear, while those 15 and over must wear a CSA certified helmet, facial protection, BNQ certified neck guard, hockey gloves, and skates. Coaches or trainers may request full gear for any helpers.

3.0 Guest Coaches

Guest coaches, for both on- and off-ice activities, must either be on an approved District 1 roster or carry their own liability insurance, with proof provided to the LMHA Risk & Safety Officer. Additionally, LMHA may request a valid Vulnerable Sector Check.

All on-ice helpers/guest coaches must adhere to all safety protocols and instructions provided by team officials.

PROCEDURE

1. Requests for on-ice helpers and/or guest coaches must be submitted in writing, to the LMHA President, or delegate by the head coach 48 hours prior to EACH instance of hosting the on-ice helper/guest coach.
2. Teams requesting on ice helpers and/or guest coaches in pursuit of additional development are required to cover all costs associated with the on-ice assistance.

3. Fee-for-service on-ice helpers or guest coaches must be hired and paid by LMHA. The team or individual on a team submitting the request must reimburse LMHA. Failure to reimburse the cost of the on-ice helper/guest coach will result in a loss of "good standing" with LMHA and potential removal from the roster.