

PIHL-WPHOA PARTNERSHIP

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What are the game rates for officials?

A: There are several changes in this area for the upcoming season, but in total, the values represent a slight increase over what was paid to PIHL officials last season. Varsity officials will now make \$70 each per game, Junior Varsity games will pay \$50 per official, and Middle School games will pay \$40 per official. This creates a more-clear level of pay for each incremental tier, allowing officials to earn more as they advance to higher games. There will be no extra payment for single-game slots for the coming season, which was incorporated back into the fee paid out per each game. Any skim will be determined in the near future, and WPHOA will be investigating options for methods of payment, as seen fit.

Q: How are the games assigned?

A: All PIHL games will be scheduled by WPHOA through Horizon Web Ref. Each official is able to set their availability with respect to which dates and rinks they are willing to skate. Specific games are then assigned based on availability and merit. Merit is largely determined by the WPHOA rosters, but game day performance, reliability, and skill level become factors within each roster as assignments are considered.

Q: What are the WPHOA rosters?

A: The WPHOA rosters cite the levels for which each official is qualified to officiate, ranging from ACHA D1 games to PIHL Middle School games. For the PIHL season, there will be four rosters: Middle School, Junior Varsity, Varsity, and Plus. Appearing on any of the first three rosters will allow an official to be scheduled for those corresponding levels. Appearing on the Plus roster allows the scheduler to use an official for top-end games, such as first-place games, rivalry games, and playoffs. The primary purpose of the rosters is to get each official on the games appropriate for his/her level of experience and skill.

Q: How are the WPHOA rosters determined?

A: The WPHOA rosters are established by the Referee-in-Chief, with assistance from the Coordinator of Officiating Development. Many factors are considered in determining the rosters to which each official is assigned, including experience, skating ability, fitness, rule knowledge, and game-management skills. Pre-season and in-game evaluations are used extensively to assist in those decisions. WPHOA plans to release new rosters in October 2013, which will include the four new PIHL rosters.

Q: Can I still be evaluated by WPHOA?

A: WPHOA has conducted several evaluation sessions over the past two pre-seasons to help establish the WPHOA rosters, including four in August 2013. Because of the newly-announced partnership with the PIHL, WPHOA has decided to offer a supplemental evaluation session prior to the start of the PIHL season. The evaluation session date and location will be announced shortly. The cost is \$10 per official to attend. All officials that have not attended a 2013 evaluation session are strongly encouraged to participate.

Q: Who is the WPHOA scheduler?

A: WPHOA is presently in the process of reviewing candidates for the scheduling positions. For the upcoming season, WPHOA is going to hire two schedulers: one shall be responsible for all PIHL games; the other shall schedule all college and AAA games. The names of those individuals shall be announced once the hiring process is completed, which should be in mid-September.

Q: What do I do if I want to skate PIHL games but am not currently a WPHOA member?

A: Any official that wishes to skate PIHL games – even if that official skated PIHL games last year – will need to apply for membership to WPHOA for the upcoming season. The membership application can be found at www.wphoa.com, and the deadline for acceptance prior to the start of the PIHL season is October 1. Applications received after October 1st will be reviewed for membership in January.

Q: What if I was a WPHOA member last season but did not skate any WPHOA games?

A: If you did not skate any WPHOA games last season – and thereby did not pay dues – you are currently considered an inactive member and will need to request to be returned to active status, as well as agree to have your dues for the current season extracted from your first game of this season. A formal process for restoring your active status and paying dues will be established and communicated in the upcoming weeks.

Q: Do I need to do anything if I am already an active WPHOA member?

A: Anyone who wishes to maintain their active membership in WPHOA will need to pay dues for the upcoming season by Thanksgiving. This can happen simply by skating one game paid through WPHOA by that date, out of which your dues will be automatically extracted. A method to agreeing to this payment will be communicated in the near future.

Q: How do I get more information?

A: WPHOA will be holding an open conference call on Monday, September 9 at 9:00 PM to address further questions and discuss this partnership. Please submit your questions by 7:00 PM on Monday to pihlquestions@wphoa.com. The most-common and most-relevant questions will be read aloud and answered during this conference call. Please withhold all other emails and phone calls to WPHOA board members regarding this matter until that time in order for all questions to be answered properly and efficiently. The conference call number is 267-507-0240 with a conference code of 174286. This call will be recorded and the audio later published on the WPHOA website. Further emails on this matter will be provided as more information becomes available.