

New 2007-08 MAHA Coaching Certification Requirements – Rule Text and Policies

by Jack Witt, Michigan Coach in Chief

The text in bold type below is the actual language of the new 2007-08 MAHA Coaching Certification requirements, which are based on USA Hockey requirements. The specific education requirements for each level of play are in a chart at the end of this document.

Because there are large-scale changes in the rule, effective 9-1-2007, I have added comments to each rule which help to clarify the policy of the Coaching Education Program regarding that particular paragraph. Comments are in orange text.

1. A coach/team personnel may take only one CEP clinic per season unless it must be taken to meet the required USA Hockey/MAHA CEP certification level for the youth/girls' age classification of the team on which they are rostered.

Prior to 9-1-2007, coaches were restricted to a maximum of 2 clinics per season unless they were granted an exception. The exception is no longer required. A coach is able to take all clinics required to meet the Coaching Education Requirements. The rule also requires that coaches take only clinics needed to coach for the current season. We feel that coaches develop best with formal training combined with practical experience. MAHA officials will be checking for compliance with both aspects of this rule, using the stickers and dates on the Coaching Card. See Requirements Chart at the end of this document.

2. A coach/team personnel must take the CEP clinics in the correct sequential order, meeting each pre-requisite as required by USA Hockey.

This is a USA Hockey requirement. The education curriculum is progressive.

3. If the coach/team personnel fails to obtain the appropriate USA Hockey/MAHA CEP certification level by December 31 of the current playing season, they shall be removed from that team roster and thus be unable to participate in any coaching activities with that team for the remainder of the season, unless the coach/team personnel applies for and is granted a Temporary Coaching Card at USA Hockey pursuant to the time lines and procedures established by USA Hockey.

This means that if a coach fails to attend clinics as needed or fails to renew, they may not coach that team after 12/31/2007. NO EXCEPTIONS. They may coach a younger or lower level team if they have proper credentials for that level. For violations of this rule, a minimum one year suspension could be imposed, not only on the coach whose card is invalid, but on others who allow him/her to participate with their team.

The USA Hockey Temporary Card has replaced the MAHA Exception, or Waiver. Since coaches are free to take all clinics required to be at the CEP level they need (paragraph 1), the only coaches who should need Temporary Cards are those for whom Level 4 is required, because the three-day Level 4 clinic is only offered once or twice per year. It is also recognized that some coaches are late-season adds to team rosters, and these applicants will be considered if application is made by 12-31-2007 (postmark).

Important: Temporary cards may take 4-6 weeks to process and issue. They come from the National Office in Colorado. **Plan Ahead.** Late Applicants who do not receive their Temporary Card by January 1 can not coach until it is received. No applications will be approved if postmarked after December 31. Email applications are not accepted; the \$50 fee must accompany the application. Approval of a Temporary Card is NOT guaranteed. Your efforts to attend clinics and comply with the spirit of the rule will be considered. Only 1 Temporary Card is ever issued to a coach (USA Hockey Policy). Temporary Cards expire at the end of the winter season in which they are issued. An application form is on both the MAHA and USA Hockey web sites.

4. All CEP Level 1-3 coaches/team personnel must keep their CEP certification valid and up to date by attending a clinic once every three seasons. A Level 1 or Level 2 coach/team personnel must attend the next level CEP clinic. A Level 3 coach/ team personnel may take the Level 4 clinic. If the Level 3 coach/team personnel does not choose to progress to

Level 4, they must repeat the Level 3 Clinic OR renew on-line at USAHockey.com OR attend a Level 3 Re-certification/Renewal Workshop/Clinic to keep their CEP certification valid. For specific year-to-year renewal information, see the Coaches section of the MAHA web site, www.maha.org.

Renewals have been required since 2003. Neither the policy nor the rule have changed. Note that Level 1 and 2 coaches must simply take the next level. Level 3 coaches have 4 options: (1) move to Level 4, (2) take another Level 3 clinic, (3) take a Level 3 renewal workshop, or (4) renew online.

The dated stickers on the coaching card contain an expiration date. For stickers with no expiration date, here are the dates for the next several years:

Season Certification Received	Date Certification Expires
2002/03	Dec. 31, 2005
2003/04	Dec. 31, 2006
2004/05	Dec. 31, 2007
2005/06	Dec. 31, 2008
2006/07	Dec. 31, 2009
2007-08	Dec. 31, 2010

5. Level 4 and Level 5 coaches/team personnel require no additional recertification / renewal.

This policy remains unchanged from prior years. Once a coach achieves Level 4, they can coach at any level in USA Hockey or its affiliates.

Below is the chart of Michigan Coaching Requirements (unchanged for 2007-08)

MUST BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 31, 2007

DIVISION	CLASSIFICATION	(INITIATION)*	(ASSOC.)	(INTERM ED.)	(ADVANCE)**
		LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
8 & under	ALL	X			
10 & under	C, B, A, AA	X	X		
10 & under	AAA	X	X	X	
12 & under	C, B, A, AA	X	X	X	
12 & under	AAA	X	X	X	X
14 & under	C, B, A, AA	X	X	X	
14 & under	AAA	X	X	X	X
16 & under	C, B	X	X	X	
16 & under	Tier 2 (A), Tier 1 (AAA)	X	X	X	X
18 & under	C, BB	X	X	X	
18 & under	Tier 2 (AA), Tier 1 (AAA)	X	X	X	X
High School	USA registered	X	X	X	
Junior C	USA registered	X	X	X	
Girls 8&u.	ALL	X			
Girl's 10&u.	ALL	X	X		
Girl's 12&u.	ALL	X	X	X	
Girl's 14&u.	ALL	X	X	X	
Girl's 16&u.	ALL	X	X	X	
Girl's 19&u.	ALL	X	X	X	