



FSHL ELIGIBILITY

(2009-10)

I. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Students must be regularly enrolled and in regular attendance at the school for which they are participating. Exceptions include HOME EDUCATION PROGRAM students, students enrolled in SPECIAL SCHOOLS, SPECIAL PROGRAMS, and CHARTER SCHOOLS that do NOT offer a HIGH SCHOOL ICE HOCKEY program, and DRAFTED GOALIES (see below).
2. A photocopy of the STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARD must be submitted to the FSHL REGISTRAR prior to participation in any League sanctioned practice or game. A photocopy of a current transcript is acceptable, only if the school does not issue student identification cards.
3. Students must maintain a CUMULATIVE G.P.A. = 2.0 on an unweighted 4.0 scale).
 - a. The individual school may further strengthen these criteria.
 - b. VERIFICATION: ALL students must submit proof of the above to the SCHOLASTIC COMMITTEE prior to the SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER of the current season.
3. Those students first entering the 9th. grade are considered academically ELIGIBLE until the first report card is issued and reviewed by the SCHOLASTIC COMMITTEE during the current season.

Those students REPEATING THE 9TH. GRADE will be considered as UPPER CLASSMEN, and subject to the same ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS as UPPER CLASSMEN

- a. VERIFICATION will continue with each subsequent report card during the current season.
5. ACADEMICALLY INELIGIBLE players are permitted to PRACTICE with their team, but CANNOT participate in FSHL sanctioned GAMES or SCRIMMAGES.
6. Students must be eligible to participate as a member of a team sanctioned by USA HOCKEY and the high school represented by the team, and must not be in a suspension status imposed by either the high school they attend (HOME EDUCATION, the high school with which they are registered) or USA HOCKEY. If a student has been suspended from school or from participating in

extramural activities, or if the player has been suspended from playing on any other USA HOCKEY sanctioned team by virtue of a disciplinary committee hearing, the student is not eligible to play on a high school League team.

7. Students must not have ever participated at professional status, and must have amateur status.

II. HOME EDUCATION PROGRAM, SPECIAL SCHOOLS, SPECIAL PROGRAMS, and CHARTER SCHOOLS:

1. Any student enrolled in the above SCHOOLS or PROGRAMS shall be eligible to participate in the FSHL ONLY through the PUBLIC school to which the student would be assigned according to district school attendance area policies.
2. The above enrolled student must comply with all other FSHL eligibility requirements.

III. MID-SEASON ELIGIBILITY:

To be considered eligible to compete in a FSHL game, ALL player registration documents MUST be in the possession of the FSHL REGISTRAR NO LATER than MONDAY 5:00PM prior to that regularly scheduled FSHL game. For any rescheduled FSHL game, those documents must be in the possession of the FSHL REGISTRAR NO LATER than FIVE (5) DAYS prior to that rescheduled FSHL game. The FSHL Registrar will e-mail an updated list of INELIGIBLE players to team managers and coaches.

IV. AGE RESTRICTIONS:

1. Players must be in grades 9 – 12 (8TH. grade participation, see below)
2. Players must be less than 19 years 9 months old.

V. ADDITIONAL:

1. **GOALIES:** Each FSHL team is entitled to TWO (2) goalies.
 - a. If a team cannot roster TWO (2) goalies according to FSHL ELIGIBILITY criteria, that team may DRAFT ANY AVAILABLE goalie.
 - b. A team may DRAFT goalies from another FSHL team.
 - c. LETTERS OF RELEASE are required from the coach of the team from which goalies are drafted. That letter is binding for the current season.
 - d. A team with ONE (1) “in-house” goalie may draft ONE (1) available goalie.
 - i. The drafted goalie may play NO MORE than FIFTY PERCENT (50%) of the regularly scheduled League games (Any request for exemptions must be submitted in writing to the FSHL COACHES COMMITTEE).
2. For any given season, every FSHL team is entitled to “PROTECT” a MAXIMUM of THREE (3) goalies. Any FSHL team with MORE than THREE

- (3) goalies MUST release an “UNPROTECTED” goalie for the purpose of drafting by another FSHL team, IF that goalie so requests.
2. DRAFTED goalies may be replaced if unable to play (i.e. injury) NO LATER than December 31. Rosters are CLOSED after December 31.
4. DRAFTED goalies may NOT “skate out” as forwards or defensemen.

VI. Students who have graduated, regardless of the time of graduation, immediately become ineligible to participate.

VII. If the student is a junior or a senior, he/she must not have entered the 10th. grade more than three(3) years ago.

VIII. TRANSFERS:

1. Any student transferring from one school to another PRIOR to December 31 is ELIGIBLE to compete for the school to which he/she is transferring provided that school has a team actively registered in the FSHL, and has a roster position available.
2. Any student transferring AFTER December 31 is INELIGIBLE to play for any team.

IX. Students who participate in Travel or Junior level play (as long as it is amateur status) are eligible to participate at the high school level as long as the student fulfills the eligibility requirements of the League.

X. PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY

1. To establish eligibility for the PLAYOFFS, a student must be on the official player roster and be present in uniform to play at that given game, for FIFTY PERCENT (50%) of the regularly scheduled FSHL league games in a single season.
2. Any request for a MEDICAL waiver of the 50% rule must be accompanied by a note from the player’s treating physician, the contents of which must include the diagnosis, date of onset, duration of treatment, and recommended date of return to hockey participation.

XI. Any team discovered to have competed with an ineligible player or coach will FORFEIT all games in which the player or coach was rostered and / or participated (Score: 1-0). For the first infraction, the coach of the involved team will be SUSPENDED for ONE (1) game for having played an INELIGIBLE player. For a second infraction, the coach shall appear before the FSHL Disciplinary Committee.

XII. COACHES:

1. BACKGROUND CHECKS will be conducted.
 - a. Teams are entitled to THREE (3) background checks.
 - b. Any additional background checks will result in an additional monetary charge to the team.

2. ALL FSHL coaches are required to be USA Hockey LEVEL III certified. Such certification is subject to waivers granted by SAHOF.

Coaches are encouraged to advance their USA Hockey certification level, provided certifying clinics are available locally (i.e. within the state of Florida).

3. Coaches must present their USA HOCKEY COACHING EDUCATIONAL CARD upon request by a game or League official.

4. ALL coaches are subject to REVIEW and APPROVAL by the FSHL, and are subject to the rules and guidelines promulgated by USA Hockey, and subject to appeal to SAHOF.

5. Teams MUST communicate to the FSHL COACHES COMMITTEE reasons for DISMISSAL of any coach.

XIII. ANY person on the bench during any FSHL sanctioned activity must have, at least, LEVEL III USA Hockey certification.

XIV. USA Hockey certification is NOT required for penalty box attendants. However, those attendants in the penalty box are considered OFF-ICE OFFICIALS, and as such, shall conduct themselves accordingly.

XV. TEAM MANAGERS:

1. All FSHL team managers must be FSHL certified.
2. Certifying courses will be offered by the League prior to the onset of each season.
3. Returning FSHL team managers must be RE-CERTIFIED each year.
4. FSHL team managers are subject to periodic review by the Florida Scholastic Hockey League.