

## **South Pittsburgh Hockey Club Student Coach Policy**

The South Pittsburgh Hockey Club (SPHC) abides by the USA Hockey rules for student coaches. The USA Hockey policy regarding student coaches may be viewed at <https://www.usahockey.com/studentcoaches>

A player between the ages of 13 and 17 who is currently properly registered with USA Hockey may serve as a student coach under the following conditions:

- Must attend a training session conducted by the local hockey association or complete an online training.
- Must always be under the supervision of a carded, screened adult coach during all practices, clinics, try-outs, and in the locker room.
- May assist at practices, clinics, try-outs only. (May not play during scrimmages or games.)
- May not act as the head coach or assistant coach during practices or games.
- Must wear a helmet with full face shield, gloves, and skates while on the ice. Must wear helmet with full face shield during games while on the bench.
- May only work with players at least one full playing age level down.
- The organization that is using the student coach must provide a form indicating on what team he/she is participating as a student coach, and, if applicable, what team he/she is properly registered/rostered as a player.
- Upon reaching the age of 18, the student coach must comply with all USA Hockey coaching and screening rules and regulations.

**IN ADDITION TO QUALIFYING TO BE A STUDENT COACH UNDER USA HOCKEY'S GUIDELINES, SPHC ALSO REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS TO BE MET:**

1. The head coach must submit a written request with justification to the SPHC Board of Directors (herein referred to as "The Board"). Only requests directly from the head coach will be considered.
2. At the 8U (Mite) level, a written student coach request along with justification must come from the team's head coach AND one of the Mite Coordinators.
3. Tier 2 players considered for the role of student coach must be registered at SPHC. Tier 1 players considered for the role of student coach may be registered at any organization.
4. All requests to be a student coach must be voted on by The Board. A player may not serve as a student coach unless approved by The Board.
5. The Board will consider student coaches requests on a case-by-case basis. Precedent cases will not be considered as criteria for approval.