



Club Affiliation Policy and Procedures

1) Establishing Affiliation

- a) An individual must be a USA Field Hockey member in good standing and identify their USA Field Hockey member club affiliation to be eligible to participate with that club in USA Field Hockey events. Note that at the bottom of this page you can see a list of the events.

2) Enrollment Period

- a) Individuals may declare their club affiliation at the time of joining as a new member or during the Open Enrollment Period.
- b) The Open Enrollment Period is August 1-October 1 of the current calendar year.
- c) From October 2- July 31, individuals may only switch clubs by submitting a completed Club Affiliation Transfer Request online through a USA Field Hockey membership account. The request must be approved digitally by both the current club and the proposed new club. An individual is only permitted to switch clubs one time between these dates.

3) Guest Players

- a) Guest players are members of the club they are affiliated with and are not considered members of the club they are participating with at a USA Field Hockey event.
- b) Clubs may have up to five (5) guest players per event per team.
- c) The guest player must be a USA Field Hockey member in good standing.
- d) Guest players must be included on the official roster submitted before the start of the event. Guest players may not switch teams after the start of the event. The start of the event is when the first game begins; not when a particular team plays its first game.
- e) Guest players are not permitted for the Regional Club Championships and/or National Club Championships.

4) Transfer of Affiliation - Youth Members

- a) Members may only transfer club affiliation without consent from the current club during the Open Enrollment Period.
- b) Members requesting to transfer club affiliation outside of the Open Enrollment Period must be released from their current USA Field Hockey member club. The current club must approve the electronic Club Affiliation Transfer Request through the USA Field Hockey membership portal to indicate acceptance of the release. The new club must also approve the transfer electronically.
- c) Once an athlete has submitted a club transfer request, the Club Administrator of both the previous and new club has two weeks to respond to the transfer request. If the Club Administrators do not respond to any attempted contacts within two weeks, the transfer will be approved by the National Office due to non-response. All transfers by the National Office are considered final.
- d) USA Field Hockey is not responsible for enforcing any contractual agreement between the athlete, the athlete's family, or the member club. These matters are to be addressed between the club(s) and the athlete or athlete's family.
- e) Once released, USA Field Hockey members in good standing may affiliate with another USA Field Hockey member club.
- f) If a USA Field Hockey member club will not release the individual or has not responded to attempted contacts, the individual should contact USA Field Hockey at membership@usafielddhockey.com.

5) Transfer of Affiliation - Adult Members

- a) Coach and Umpire members over the age of 18, as well as Lifetime and Adult members may change their affiliation at any time without completing a Club Affiliation Transfer Request. Please email membership@usafielddhockey.com to request that your club affiliation be changed.

6) Events

- a) USA Field Hockey Events where Club Affiliation policy is currently enforced:
 - i) Disney Field Hockey Showcase (5 Guest Players per Team Allowed)
 - ii) Regional Club Championship **(No Guest Players)**
 - iii) National Club Championship **(No Guest Players)**
 - iv) National Hockey Festival (5 Guest Players per Team Allowed)
 - v) The Summer Bash Series (5 Guest Players per Team Allowed)
- b) USA Field Hockey Events where Club Affiliation policy is not currently enforced:
 - i) National Indoor Tournament
 - ii) National Indoor Tournament Qualifiers