

**VARSITY AND JUNIOR VARSITY  
MSHSL HOCKEY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
(2026-27 and 2027-2028)**

This agreement is entered into by and between Becker School District, Big Lake School District and Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club to describe the rights and obligations of all parties regarding the establishment of a MSHSL cooperative agreement for varsity and junior varsity boys hockey programs. Becker School District will be the "host" district of this agreement. The Becker School District, Big Lake School District and Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club agree as follows:

1. **Hockey Program:** The School Districts will continue a MSHSL cooperative agreement varsity and junior varsity hockey program during the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years, subject to the provisions of the agreement. The agreement shall continue for an initial term of two years and may be extended in increments of two years upon mutual agreement of both parties. Each extension shall be confirmed in writing at least 90 days after the end of the hockey season.
2. **Title IX Compliance Programs:** The parties agree that the expenses for Title IX compliance programs will be monitored during the duration of this agreement. It is understood that the decision regarding compliance programs is made solely by the individual School Boards.
3. **Control of the Program:** The parties recognize that it is the School District's legal obligation to administer its sports program. All decisions regarding the hockey program shall be made solely by the Becker and Big Lake School Districts and shall not be subject to any approval, consent, or other control of any other entity. The Becker Activities Director shall meet with the Big Lake Activities Director from time to time to seek advice on matters outside the budget; however, the School District's shall not be bound by the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club advice on program matters.
4. **Academic Standards:** The School District's shall impose academic standards on participants in the hockey program consistent with those set upon students participating in other MSHSL competitive sports in each School District.
5. **Establishment of Program Budget:** All parties agree to use their best efforts to arrive at a reasonable budget that will enable the Becker and Big Lake School District's to provide a quality hockey program. The School District's Athletic Directors shall be responsible for the administration of cooperative sports.
6. **Cooperative agreements with Becker School District and Big Lake School District:** The Becker School District and the Big Lake School District agree to participate in a cooperative agreement. The current cooperative agreement covers the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 seasons. At the end of the 2027-2028 season, the two School District's will meet to evaluate the cooperative agreement and determine whether it should continue.
7. **Payment of Net Expenses:** "Net expenses" shall be calculated by subtracting district registration fees, game admission receipts, and ice arena levies for both schools from the total expenses based upon percentage of total hockey participants in each school.

Ice arena levies will be split between Becker and Big Lake Schools based upon the percentage of total hockey participants in each school.

Transportation shall be paid for by the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club, which shall be provided by the schools to ensure students are covered by each district's liability insurance. The transportation will be billed back to the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club. Any coach buses ordered by the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club will pay bus companies directly for those buses.

8. **Accounting:** At the end of each season, the Becker School District Business Manager shall provide an accounting of the year's expenses and receipts to the Big Lake School District Business Manager and the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club.
9. **Revenue:** Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club will collect and retain all gate receipts. The Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club will provide all the activity workers (for example, ticket takers) for all the home games.
10. **Failure to Make Payments:** If the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club fails to make payments as described above, the Becker School District shall provide written notice to the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club. A twenty (20) day grace period for payment will be allowed. If payment is not made within this time, the hockey program will be terminated.
11. **Equipment:** Hockey students shall provide their own equipment, including but not limited to: skates, shin-guards, girdles, breezers, athletic supporters, chest pads, elbow pads, shoulder pads, mouthguards, gloves, helmets, and sticks. Game jerseys and socks are provided by Becker School District. All student-provided or Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club donated equipment must meet Minnesota State High School League safety standards. The Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club will cover the cost of certifying and maintaining the equipment. If there is a termination of this cooperative agreement, any equipment donated will be sold. The proceeds of any equipment sold will be split between Becker School District, Big Lake School District and Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club.
12. **Fees and Donations:** No student may participate in high school hockey unless the appropriate fee for each season, as determined by Becker and Big Lake School Districts, is paid in full.
13. **Termination of the Hockey Program:** Either party may terminate the hockey program if it believes it is in its best interest to do so. Written notice by certified letter must be provided, and the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club Representative shall meet with the Becker School District and Big Lake School District to discuss a transition period.
14. **Review Provision:** At the end of each hockey season, the School District Activities Directors shall meet with the Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club to evaluate the program and determine whether it should continue.
15. **Compliance Agreement:** This agreement constitutes the full understanding between the parties. No other oral or written representations shall be enforceable.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned parties have executed this agreement:

**Becker Big Lake Blue Line Club**

By: Amber Rusin

Date: 4/17/2024

Title: Vice president - acting president

**Big Lake Public Schools**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Becker Public Schools**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_