

# HOOPER HATHAWAY, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

126 SOUTH MAIN STREET

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48104-1945

(734) 662-4426

FAX (734) 662-9559

JAMES R. BEUCHE  
BRUCE T. WALLACE  
CHARLES W. BORGS DORF  
MARK R. DAANE  
GREGORY A. SPALY  
WILLIAM J. STAPLETON  
ANTHONY P. PATTI  
SUSAN T. CANNELL  
ANGELA L. JACKSON  
KENNETH E. W. THOMSON  
DANIEL E. COGAN  
OSCAR A. RODRIGUEZ  
MARTA A. MANILDI

JOSEPH C. HOOPER  
1899-1980

JOHN R. HATHAWAY  
1929-2001

ALAN E. PRICE  
JAMES E. EVASHEVSKI  
OF COUNSEL

2012 – 2013 Season

TO: All Parents and Host Families (Proposed Limited Guardians)

Re: USA Hockey/Limited Guardianships

Enclosed is an INFORMATION INTAKE FORM to be completed by you and returned by mail (not by fax or email) to this office in the coming weeks. The information from this form will be used to draft paperwork for the appointment of the host families as limited guardians.

Our goal is to gather information as soon as possible so that we can generate the necessary paperwork for your review, to be signed at or prior to the Orientation Program in August. After those documents are completed and signed, they will be filed with the Washtenaw County Probate Court.

The primary purpose of these limited guardianships is to allow enrollment of the players in the Ann Arbor Public School System, which is generally limited to residents of the school district, students living in the district with relatives, or students living with court-appointed guardians. Therefore, our situation requires that host families be appointed as limited guardians for each player/student unless he lives with a relative in the school district.

The limited guardianships are designed to terminate or be suspended at the end of the school year (generally in mid-June) and automatically terminate when the player turns 18. In the past, the Court has been willing to appoint two-year limited guardianships for player/student's junior and senior years with a suspension of the guardianships for the summer between these years; we anticipate this practice will continue. Parents (or other interested parties) may petition the Probate Court to terminate the limited guardianship at any time. The documents filed with the Probate Court indicate that the parents will maintain their relationship with the minor and provide for any excess financial support including medical and educational costs. Michigan law provides that a limited guardian of a minor is given powers and responsibilities similar to that of a parent except that the limited guardian:

- is not legally obligated to provide support and maintenance from his/her own resources;
- is generally not liable for certain injuries and damages resulting from consent for medical or professional care;
- is not liable to third parties for actions of the minor solely by reason of the "parental" relationship;

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- does not have control over the minor's resources other than in a fiduciary capacity on behalf of the minor; and
- cannot consent to marriage or adoption of the minor.

According to Michigan law, limited guardians have:

- the responsibility of facilitating the minor's education and social activities;
- a duty of authorizing medical or professional care, treatment or advices; and
- a duty to notify the court of material changes in the limited guardianship.

While limited guardians do have the legal power and responsibility to make decisions concerning medical emergencies or financial crises, we ask that the limited guardians seek consent and assistance from the parents whenever possible.

You can find additional information about guardianships (full and limited) available from the Probate Court at <http://washtenawtrialcourt.org/probate/guardianship>.

The staff of USA Hockey is available to answer many of your questions about this process and I am available to answer legal questions relating to limited guardianships.

Very truly yours,

HOOPER HATHAWAY, P.C.,

/s/Kenneth E. W. Thomson

Kenneth E. W. Thomson

Enclosure