



2025-2026  
**MANUAL OF**  
**OPERATIONS**  
BY-LAW, REGULATIONS & POLICIES



NORE  
Vogam



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## CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct identifies the standard of behaviour which is expected of all Ontario Minor Hockey Association ("OMHA") members and participants, including but not limited to all players, guardians, parents, coaches, officials, volunteers, directors, officers, committee members, convenors, team managers, trainers and administrators involved in OMHA activities and events.

The OMHA is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Members and participants of the OMHA shall conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of the OMHA which include fairness, integrity and mutual respect.

During the course of all OMHA activities and events, members shall avoid behaviour which brings the OMHA or the sport of hockey into disrepute, including but not limited to abusive use of alcohol, use of non-medical drugs and use of alcohol by minors.

OMHA members and participants shall at all times adhere to the OMHA operational policies and procedures, to rules and regulations governing OMHA events and activities, and to rules and regulations governing any competitions in which the member participates on behalf of the OMHA.

Members and participants of the OMHA shall not engage in any activity or behaviour which interferes with a competition or with any player or team's preparation for a competition, or which endangers the safety of others.

Members of the OMHA shall refrain from comments or behaviours, which are disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist or sexist. In particular, behaviour, which constitutes harassment, abuse or bullying, will not be tolerated.

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, in accordance with the OMHA Code of Conduct Policies & Procedures, including but not limited to, the loss or suspension of certain or all privileges connected with the respective Member Association in the OMHA including the opportunity to participate in the OMHA and its Member Association activities and events, both present and future.

For the complete OMHA Code of Conduct and Procedures, please visit [omha.net](http://omha.net).

## **VISION**

To Be The Sport Of Choice For All Ontario Families

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Lead Our Communities In Creating A Fun, Safe & Inclusive Hockey  
Experience

## **VALUES**

Player Focused, Inclusive, Respect, Fun, Safety, Accountable,  
Community, Passion

## ABOUT THE ONTARIO MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1935, the Ontario Minor Hockey Association is the largest minor hockey association in the world. From entry-level to high performance, the OMHA oversees programming and events at the U6-U21 age groups in communities across the province that service a participant base of nearly 100,000. The OMHA works with players, coaches, trainers, officials, hockey volunteers and parents across 200+ Associations and 25+ leagues to ensure a meaningful experience for all.

Hockey develops skills on the ice that build a foundation for a lifetime off of it. In addition to athletic development, hockey promotes teamwork, confidence, pride, focus and responsibility. With an emphasis on fun, hockey is a game to be played and enjoyed for life.

We use sport to help build better people and to create a better community around us. By focusing on developing good citizens first and hockey players second, players can be inspired to work hard and be dedicated and disciplined. The benefits of hockey aren't just limited to players – parents, coaches, administrators, team staff and volunteers can all benefit from the life lessons that hockey teaches.

Our game would not be possible without the thousands of volunteers who dedicate countless hours every year to ensure a positive experience for all participants.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As summer comes to close we change our focus back to the many rinks across the Ontario Minor Hockey Association where Associations are preparing for the 2025-2026 minor hockey season.

Our focus remains steadfast; ensuring the hockey programs provided by the Ontario Minor Hockey Association generate excitement, team building and lasting friendships.

Teamwork, respect and sportsmanship are just some of the pillars of hockey that we aim to teach our players. As administrators, it is important that we display these same values in our work while delivering the game. Let's use this great sport to grow a love of hockey in our participants that will last a lifetime and develop the life skills that they can carry with them into the classroom and eventually the workplace.

There were significant changes to our playing regulations; "freedom of choice" will challenge us to provide the best hockey experience possible for our players, coaches and families.

Often forgotten are the dedicated volunteers who put in countless hours each year across all of our Minor Hockey Associations. The time spent in boardrooms, meetings and on the road during those cold winters can't be underestimated. For our coaches, trainers and bench staff, please know the smiles and high fives from the players are just some of the ways of knowing the positive impact you're making.

To all the volunteers; on behalf of the OMHA Board of Directors, I'd like to thank you for helping to create new hockey memories and a positive experience on the ice, around the rink and in the community.

To the parents; thank you for making hockey the sport of choice for your kids.

As we work together to provide a positive minor hockey experience, let's continue to create a safe, welcoming environment for players young and old, new and returning. We know the impact this game makes on our communities in and around the rink. Good luck this season!

HOCKEY MUST BE FUN!



**Peter Harmsen**

President

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## OFFICERS

	<b>President</b> Peter Harmsen Stouffville, ON (647) 526-4351 <a href="mailto:peter.harmsen@omha.net">peter.harmsen@omha.net</a>
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	<b>Vice-President, Central District</b> Paul Allan Brampton, ON (905) 401-5784 <a href="mailto:paul.allan@omha.net">paul.allan@omha.net</a>
	<b>Vice-President, Eastern District</b> Steven Parker Hillsdale, ON (705) 229-7685 <a href="mailto:steven.parker@omha.net">steven.parker@omha.net</a>
	<b>Immediate Past President</b> Craig Lane Chatham, ON (519) 351-7520 <a href="mailto:craig.lane@omha.net">craig.lane@omha.net</a>

**Treasurer**

Linda Ralf  
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**REGIONAL DIRECTORS****Region One - Area A**

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**Region One - Area B**

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**Region Two - Area E**

Linda Falovo-Atkinson  
Welland, ON  
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linda.falovo-atkinson@omha.net

	<p><b>Region Three - Area C</b></p> <p>Michelle Bridges Orangeville, ON (519) 939-3337 <a href="mailto:michelle.bridges@omha.net">michelle.bridges@omha.net</a></p>
	<p><b>Region Three - Area F</b></p> <p>Tammy Knibbs Brampton, ON (365) 341-6486 <a href="mailto:tammy.knibbs@omha.net">tammy.knibbs@omha.net</a></p>
	<p><b>Region Four - Area G</b></p> <p>Sean Whittaker Keswick, ON (905) 715-2500 <a href="mailto:sean.whittaker@omha.net">sean.whittaker@omha.net</a></p>
	<p><b>Region Four - Area P</b></p> <p>Greig Baxter Keswick, ON (289) 383-0765 <a href="mailto:greig.baxter@omha.net">greig.baxter@omha.net</a></p>
	<p><b>Region Five - Area H</b></p> <p>Adam Parent Collingwood, ON (705) 351-1708 <a href="mailto:adam.parent@omha.net">adam.parent@omha.net</a></p>
	<p><b>Region Five - Area N</b></p> <p>Andy Cooke Huntsville, ON (705) 788-4775 <a href="mailto:andy.cooke@omha.net">andy.cooke@omha.net</a></p>

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Paul Sebastian  
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## HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

	<b>Chair, Coaches Program</b> Tom Bly Barrie, ON (705) 229-8538 <a href="mailto:tom.bly@omha.net">tom.bly@omha.net</a>
	<b>Chair, Referees Program</b> Dave Wedlake Ajax, ON (416) 346-2340 <a href="mailto:dave.wedlake@omha.net">dave.wedlake@omha.net</a>
	<b>Chair, Trainers Program</b> Tony Caravaggio Paris, ON (289) 260-0795 <a href="mailto:tony.caravaggio@omha.net">tony.caravaggio@omha.net</a>

# PRESIDENTS

1934-36	WM. J. Weller *	Brantford
1936-38	Jack Roxburgh # *	Simcoe
1938-40	John H. Lauman *	Kitchener
1940-43	Dr. Leon Hipwell # *	Toronto
1943-45	Ashton A. Morrison # *	St. Catharines
1945-47	O. Harold Luke # *	Oshawa
1947-48	Ken G. Waters *	Toronto
1948-49	Harold Dunk *	Campbellford
1949-50	Otto J. Hardwick *	Bolton
1950-52	Herb G. Parker # *	Stratford
1952-54	O. Mike Weichel *	Elmira
1954-55	Fred Norman *	Simcoe
1955-56	Bert Hick *	Lindsay
1956-57	Jack L. Christie # *	Toronto
1957-59	Jack W. Oakes *	Strathroy
1959-61	Frank O. Doherty # *	Thorold
1961-63	Ted Elmes *	Galt
1963-65	Albert Watkins # *	Peterborough
1965-66	Doug Patterson *	Stirling
1966-68	Stan Stokes *	London
1968-70	Gord Hawes *	Whitby
1970-72	Wes Oswald *	Forest
1972-74	Lloyd Davidson *	Chatham
1974-76	Jim Kinkley # *	Etobicoke
1976-77	Bill Burrell *	Brampton
1977-78	Al Moore *	Guelph
1978-80	Tony Bloomfield *	Grimsby
1980-82	Roy Beechey # *	Tillsonburg
1982-84	Bill Mulholland *	Campbellford
1984-86	Fred Mantle *	Paris
1986-88	Elmer McFadden # *	Elmvale
1988-89	John Slobodnik *	Sarnia
1989-90	Jim Pollard # *	London
1990-92	Ed Grimshaw *	Stouffville
1992-94	Jack White *	Thorold
1994-96	Ken Russell *	Brampton
1996-98	Mike Hammond # *	Thornbury
1998-00	John Archibald	Beeton

2000-02	Pat Parlette #	Amherstburg
2002-04	Kevin Almond	Meaford
2004-06	R.B. (Dick) Bennett *	London
2006-08	Thomas J. (Tom) Leathong *	Burlington
2008-10	Marg Ensoll	Ajax
2010-11	Wayne Pries *	Georgetown
2011-13	Joyce Junker	New Hamburg
2013-18	Rob Ring #	Collingwood
2018-22	Bob Hill	Ancaster
2022-24	Craig Lane	Chatham
2024-	Peter Harmsen	Stouffville

\* Deceased # Life Member

## SECRETARIES/EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

1934-36	Jack Roxburgh # *	Simcoe
1936-38	Dr. Roger Matchett # *	Hamilton
1938-43	Jack H. Stafford # *	Toronto
1943-56	Jack L. Christie # *	Toronto
1956-68	Gary B. McLeod *	Toronto
1968-92	Vern McCallum *	Toronto
1992-98	Michael McCauley +	Alliston
1998-02	Graham Brown +	Blenheim
2002-16	Richard Ropchan +	Leamington
2017-	Ian Taylor +	Oakville

\* Deceased # Life Member + Executive Director

## LIFE MEMBERS

J.M. "Jack" Roxburgh \*  
Dr. Roger W. Matchett \*  
Dr. Leon Hipwell \*  
A. "Ash" Morrison \*  
O. H. "Harold" Luke \*  
Jack L. Christie \*  
Herb G. Parker \*  
Frank Doherty \*  
Albert Watkins \*  
Jim Kinkley \*  
Roy Beechey \*  
Elmer McFadden \*  
Jim Pollard \*  
Mike Hammond \*  
Pat Parlette  
W.C.'Bill' Rowney \*  
Dave Garinger \*  
Rob Ring

Simcoe  
Hamilton  
Toronto  
St. Catharines  
Oshawa  
East York  
Stratford  
Thorold  
Peterborough  
Napanee  
Tillsonburg  
Woodbridge  
London  
Thornbury  
Amherstburg  
Milton  
Shallow Lake  
Collingwood

\* Deceased

**ONTARIO MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**  
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**RISK MANAGEMENT OFFICER**

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**STANDING COMMITTEES****CHAIRPERSON**

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<b>AAA</b>	Michelle Bridges
<b>Annual Meeting</b>	Craig Lane
<b>Appeals</b>	Paul Allan Steven Parker Mark Hooper
<b>By-Law, Regulations &amp; Policies</b>	Steven Parker
<b>Category/Championships</b>	Adam Parent
<b>Finance</b>	Linda Ralf
<b>League Structure</b>	Dean Johnson
<b>Hockey Development</b>	Derek Fitzmorris
<b>Hockey Programming</b>	Paul Sebastian
<b>Overseas</b>	Tammy Knibbs
<b>Personnel</b>	Peter Harmsen
<b>Subcommittee</b>	Peter Harmsen
<b>Tournaments &amp; Awards</b>	Luanne Fakelman

# AWARDS

## BURSARY PROGRAM

Players know first-hand the commitment needed to succeed at a high level on the ice and in the classroom. The Bursary Program is comprised of two awards – the Dairy Farmers of Ontario Bursary and the Wally Scott Bursary. Each recipient receives financial support towards their post-secondary education. It provides minor hockey players recognition of their outstanding commitment to:

- Community service: assisting in building stronger and healthier communities
- Athletics: on-ice success/achievement, as well a passion for the game of hockey
- Academics: dedication to studies and attainment of high grades in the classroom

### DAIRY FARMERS OF ONTARIO BURSARY

<b>2025</b>	<b>Brooke Davenport</b>	<b>Bradford</b>
	<b>Nolan Jagos</b>	<b>Midland</b>
	<b>Hayden Leeder</b>	<b>Kingston</b>
	<b>Andrew McMillan</b>	<b>Guelph</b>
	<b>Adia Molson</b>	<b>Grand Valley</b>
	<b>Evan Odrcich</b>	<b>Lasalle</b>
	<b>Daniel Puglisi</b>	<b>Ancaster</b>
	<b>Mason Truemner</b>	<b>Mid-Huron</b>

### WALLY SCOTT BURSARY

<b>2025</b>	<b>Max Avery</b>	<b>Dresden</b>
	<b>Aidan Harrison</b>	<b>Oshawa</b>

## **PATRICIA HARTLEY MEMORIAL ADMINISTRATOR'S AWARD**

Given in recognition of exemplary service in the field of administration, this award reflects the achievements of a member of a local executive board or volunteer staff person providing efficient operation of an association and the betterment of hockey.

<b>2025</b>	<b>Dave Dunn</b>	<b>North Central</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>Eva Ivetac</b>	<b>Stoney Creek</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>Jamie Hunsburger</b>	<b>Kincardine</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>Jeff Hassim</b>	<b>Garden City - Kiwanis</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Jane Zelko</b>	<b>Essex</b>

## **EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

The Ontario Minor Hockey Association Excellence in Development Award recognizes and honours an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to hockey development programming in minor hockey in the OMHA. Nominees can be from any area of hockey development, including: Player Development, Coaching, Officiating, Safety, Program Administration, other related categories.

<b>2025</b>	<b>Rahim Karmali</b>	<b>Whitby</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>Melissa Hendrikx</b>	<b>North Middlesex</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>Derek Fitzmorris</b>	<b>Kent</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>Ken Cadeau</b>	<b>Coldwater</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Kelly Hastings</b>	<b>Collingwood</b>

## HONOUR AWARD

This award was established to honour a person who has made an outstanding voluntary contribution to minor hockey for a considerable period of time doing so of their own free will and not as part of a job or position for which they receive or received monetary consideration.

### 2025 HONOUR AWARD

**Gene Patterson | Welland**



**Gene Patterson** has been a fixture in the **Welland Minor Hockey** community for nearly six decades. He has served three generations of Welland Tigers in various administrative and development roles and still runs the skate shop at the rink to this day. Patterson was inducted into the Welland Sports Hall of Fame as a builder and has also been recognized for his dedication and volunteerism by Hockey Canada. He is the living embodiment of commitment, leadership, and selflessness to minor hockey and his accomplishments have left an indelible impact.

## HONOUR AWARD RECIPIENTS

1948	John Ovens *	Kitchener
1949	J.S. "Stan" Elliott *	St. Catharines
1950	Bert Sullivan *	Delhi
1951	M.E. "Merv" Duke *	Elmira
1952	William Garner *	Port Dover
1953	Errol Russell *	Sarnia
1954	L.O. "Nip" Whetstone *	Goderich
1955	Duncan Pollock *	Preston
1956	Donald "Doc" Kirk *	Havelock
1957	Tom Hyde *	Brantford
1958	Jack Bell *	Stamford
1959	Angus Bradley *	Peterborough
1960	Orv Hodgins *	Woodstock
1961	F.G. "Glad" Irving *	Norwood
1962	Wilson "Dutch" Ainsworth *	Wellington
1963	Glen Irwin *	Stratford
1964	Harold L. Rivers *	Forest
1965	Bob Ewer *	St. Catharines
1966	Glad Mowatt *	Guelph
1967	Bill Fitsell *	Gananoque
1968	Robert R. Graham	Watford
1969	Lesley Skipper *	St. Marys
1970	Len Bedell *	Dresden
1971	Byron Martin *	Bobcaygeon
1972	Gerry Karges *	Port Dover
1973	Alex Brown	Whitby
1974	Hugh Manson Hall *	Plattsburg
1975	James R. Hamilton *	Burlington
1976	Glen Ure *	Ridgetown
1977	Samuel Brereton *	Newcastle
1978	Frank A. Simpson *	Brighton
1979	Lorne Spicer	Sheddon
1980	Al Shaw *	Riverside
1981	Albert Schram *	Dunnville
1982	Cliff Hocking *	Sarnia
1983	George Bibby	Campbellford
1984	Ronald McKnight *	Acton
1985	Charles Drake *	Trenton
1986	Doug Campbell *	Stoney Creek

1987	Jim Inglis *	Elora
1988	Jack Tolhurst *	St. George
1989	Ed Sackfield *	Richmond Hill
1990	Lou Jeffries *	Gananoque
1991	Don Lawrence *	Hespeler
1992	Iris Robinson *	Beamsville
	Douglas Robinson *	Beamsville
1993	Bill Cracknell	Paris
1994	Len Quigley *	Pickering
1995	Robert Ring	Collingwood
1996	Joe Belcot	Smithville
1997	Ray Hunt *	Orangeville
1998	Bev Mackey *	Strathroy
1999	Roger Demeester	Langton
2000	Robert Young *	Ennismore
2001	Ray Neely *	Stroud
2002	Wayne Pries *	Georgetown
2003	Tom Graham	Oshawa
2004	Robert (Bob) Earles	Creemore
2005	Sandy Eagles	Beaver Valley
2006	Randy Preszcator	St. Marys
2007	Don Culbert	New Hamburg
2008	Mike Zardo *	Oakville
2009	Ivan Locke	Oshawa
2010	Barry Wilson *	Stirling
2011	Colin McCallum	Delhi
2012	Darrin Robertson	Elmvale
2013	Murray Shanks	Barrie
2014	Joe Bentolila	Aurora
2015	Larry Gould	Schomberg
2016	John Welsh	Peterborough
2017	Cheryll Barr	Coldwater
2018	Helen Ford	Oakville
2019	Wendy White *	Newmarket
2020	Rick Thomas	Parry Sound
2021	Neil Skirving	Hamilton
2022	Don Easter	Whitchurch-Stouffville
2023	Kirk Kelly *	Newmarket
2024	Don Collison	South Muskoka
2025	Gene Patterson	Welland

\* Deceased

# HOCKEY PARTNERS



## HOCKEY CANADA

### Calgary

151 Canada Olympic Road SW Suite 201  
Calgary, AB, T3B 6B7  
(403) 777-3636  
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## ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

400 Sheldon Drive, Unit 9, Cambridge, ON N1T 2H9  
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## ALLIANCE HOCKEY

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[www.alliancehockey.com](http://www.alliancehockey.com)



## GREATER TORONTO HOCKEY LEAGUE

57 Carl Hall Road, Toronto, ON M3K 2B6  
(416) 636-6845 | [generalinfo@gthlcanada.com](mailto:generalinfo@gthlcanada.com)  
[www.gthlcanada.com](http://www.gthlcanada.com)



## NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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## ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

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[www.ontariohockeyleague.com](http://www.ontariohockeyleague.com)



## ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

22 Watline Avenue, Mississauga, ON L4Z 1P3  
(905) 282-9980 | [info@owha.on.ca](mailto:info@owha.on.ca)  
[www.owha.on.ca](http://www.owha.on.ca)



# DEFINITIONS



Wherever the context herein permits, reference to the male shall be inclusive of all gender identities and gender expressions.

Highlighted sections and/or paragraphs are new or changed sections.

DEFINITIONS

# DEFINITIONS

In all By-Laws, Regulations and resolutions of the OMHA, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

**Act:** means the Ontario *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010*, S.O. 2010, c.15, and any statute amending or enacted in substitution therefore, from time to time.

**Additional Entry:** means an additional Representative Team from a Minor Hockey Association that already has a Representative Team entered in the same Division and Category.

**Affiliation:** means the process by which an Association joins the OMHA for the purposes of eligibility to compete within the jurisdiction of the OMHA.

**Affiliated Player (AP):** means a player who is eligible to participate for their registered team and other team(s) of a higher division or category.

**Age Group:** means a grouping of ages within a division (e.g. U15 13 & 14 years).

**Alliance Hockey:** means Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario.

**Amalgamation:** means the joining together of two or more active Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations to become one new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporation.

**Annual Meeting:** means the Annual Meeting of the OMHA.

**Area:** means a section of a Region.

**Area Convenor:** means an individual appointed by the Board who has been delegated the same power and authority and assumes the same responsibilities as a Regional Director in disciplinary and administrative matters within a designated area.

**Articles:** means the Letters Patent of the OMHA, as may be amended from time to time by articles of amendment filed pursuant to the Act.

**Assessment:** means an amount each Association remits to the OMHA for each participant and/or team.

**Associate Member:** means all individuals affiliated with the OMHA who assist in the administration, instruction and/or operation of development programs, league operations, convenor duties, and game officiating and who come under the supervision of a Regional Director, Development Program Chair and/or OMHA Officer.

**Association:** means a Centre or Zone, which is registered with the OMHA.

**Ballot:** means a secret paper or electronic mechanism used to register a vote.

**Base Categories:** means the category levels to which a Centre's teams have been assigned by the OMHA and which dictates the level of competition in which its teams will compete.

**BNQ:** means Bureau de Normalization du Quebec.

**Board:** means the board of directors (elected or appointed) of the OMHA.

**Branch:** means a recognized member of Hockey Canada. The OHF is a Member Branch of Hockey Canada with jurisdiction over the territory as defined by Hockey Canada Constitution.

**Business Day:** means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or any day on which the principal commercial banks located at the City of Toronto are not open for business during normal banking hours.

**By-Laws:** means this By-Law and all other By-Laws of the OMHA that may be enacted from time to time hereafter.

**Categories:** means a Centre's level of competition, or in instances, teams within a Centre. Example: House League, Local League, Minor Development, B, BB, A, AA, AAA.

**Centre:** means a recognized minor hockey organization within the OMHA from a city, town, village, municipality or geographic sub-division which has corporate limits or boundaries accepted by the OMHA for the purpose of determining hockey eligibility of players for competition within the jurisdiction of the OMHA.

**Coach:** means the individual on a team who is responsible for conducting the team's activities during sanctioned activities.

**Coach-In-Charge:** means the individual who is responsible for the team in a particular game.

**Code of Conduct:** means the code of conduct policies and procedures established by the OMHA, as amended from time to time.

**Concurrent Tournaments:** means tournaments held in different locations in the same time period.

**Contact Person:** means the person in a Member Association who is documented to be a liaison between the Association and the OMHA and receive all OMHA information. A Member Association may have two (2) persons registered with the OMHA for this purpose.

**Convenor:** means an individual appointed by a Regional Director to support the Regional Director with duties, including auditing tournaments, approving electronic rosters and monitoring Leagues. Not to be confused with Area Convenor.

**CSA:** means Canadian Standards Association.

**Delegates:** means individuals authorized to represent an Association and vote at any Meeting of Members, as determined in accordance with the By-law.

**Director:** means an individual who has been elected or appointed to the Board.

**District:** means a grouping of Regions that have been established solely for the purpose of electing candidates for Vice-President with responsibility for that specific District comprised of two Regions. The OMHA shall have three electoral Districts, referred to as the Western, Central and Eastern Districts, as set out in Appendix A to the By-law.

**Division:** means an age group within an Association (i.e. U21, U18, U15, U13, U11, U9, U8 and U7).

**Electronic Registration:** means the method, approved by Hockey Canada which allows the OMHA to register and approve players and Team Officials.

**Electronic Roster:** means the electronic document on which a Registered Player or Team Official is assigned and is approved by the OMHA to participate in sanctioned activities.

**Exhibition Game:** means a game that is neither a league, playoff, OMHA Championship nor tournament game.

**Game Report:** means the official record of a game which must be signed by the responsible game officials.

**Governing Body:** means an organization which has the authority to govern a group of members.

**League:** means a group of three (3) or more OMHA member teams of the same division playing a regular schedule.

**GTHL:** means Greater Toronto Hockey League.

**HC:** means Hockey Canada (or such other name as HC may in the future legally adopt).

**HCR:** means Hockey Canada Registry

**HCOP:** means the Hockey Canada Officiating Program.

**Head Coach:** means the Coach of a team who is responsible for the conduct of a team prior, during and after any game.

**Host Branch:** means a branch of Hockey Canada which is authorized to host a sanctioned Hockey Canada event.

**House League:** means a group of teams that compete regularly in a recreational league within a Centre.

**House League Team:** means a team, which competes regularly in a recreational House League within a Centre through which it must be affiliated with the OMHA.

**HTCP:** means the Hockey Trainers Certification Program.

**IIHF:** means International Ice Hockey Federation.

**In Good Standing:** means unless the context otherwise requires, this refers to a Member who has paid their membership dues or other fees owing to the OMHA and who is not the subject of any disciplinary investigation or sanction by the OMHA.

**Independent House League:** means an Association affiliated with the OMHA, which does not have Representative teams. May affiliate through the local OMHA Association or directly to the OMHA with approval of the OMHA Board of Directors.

**Local Association:** means an organization which provides minor hockey for its specific community or area.

**Local League:** means a group of teams from a number of Associations which compete regularly in a recreational league.

**Local League Team:** means a team which competes regularly in a Local League.

**League:** means a House League, Local League and/or Representative League, as the context requires.

**Letters Patent:** means the letters patent incorporating the OMHA under the Predecessor Act, including any supplementary letters patent.

**Manager:** means the individual on a team who is responsible for all of the business concerning a team except for that assigned to the Coaches or Trainers.

**Match Penalties:** means severe penalties which result in immediate suspension until dealt with by the OMHA.

**Meeting of Members:** means any meeting of the Members of the OMHA, either separately as a class or together with all other classes, including the Annual Meeting and any Special Meeting.

**Members:** All classes of membership in the OMHA as provided for in the By-Law and Regulations and “member” means any member in the OMHA and includes Delegates.

**Minor Development (MD) Team:** means a Category that is residency compliant with no body-checking that is not competitive (i.e. AAA, B, etc) but is not recreational.

**NCCP:** means the National Coaching Certification Program, and includes Levels of Qualification as identified in Regulations Appendix A – Team Official Qualifications Requirements.

**NOHA:** means Northern Ontario Hockey Association.

**Nominations Committee:** means a committee that has been appointed by the Board to oversee the election of Directors in accordance with the By-law.

**Non Sanctioned:** means programming that is not sanctioned by Hockey Canada and its Members.

**Offer of Commitment:** means OMHA document signed by the coach and player and parent or guardian confirming acceptance of the offer to register with the team for the season.

**Officers:** means the individuals who hold the offices enumerated in the By-law.

**OHF:** means the Ontario Hockey Federation (or such other name as the OHF may in the future legally adopt).

**OMHA:** means the Ontario Minor Hockey Association Inc. (or such other name as the OMHA may in the future legally adopt).

**OMHA Championships:** means a group of games, based on a format as determined by the OMHA Board, between all OMHA League qualifying teams that leads to declaring an OMHA Champion in a division/category.

**OMHA Executive Director:** means an individual employed by the OMHA to administer the day-to-day operations of the OMHA.

**OMHA Portal:** means an integrated web solution deployed for use by the OMHA Board, Convenors and Member Associations.

**On-ice Officials:** means referees or linespersons engaged in officiating a hockey game.

**OWHA:** means Ontario Women's Hockey Association

**Person:** means, without limitation, an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, unincorporated association, unincorporated syndicate, unincorporated organization, trust, body corporate and a natural person in their capacity as trustee, executor, administrator, or other legal representative.

**Playoffs:** means a group of games that leads to declaring a champion in each division and category as determined by OMHA Leagues.

**Policies:** means written statements governing issues affecting the affairs of the OMHA which have been considered and approved by the Board from time to time, including any Code of Conduct.

**Population Base:** means the area from which an Association draws its players.

**Predecessor Act:** means the *Corporations Act* R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 38, as amended from time to time, that was replaced by the Act on October 19, 2021.

**Recorded Address:** means, in the case of a Member, the Member's address (email and/or mailing) as recorded in the Members' register; and in the case of joint Members, the address (email and/or mailing) appearing in the Members' register in respect of such joint holding or the first address (email and/or mailing) so appearing if there are more than one; and in the case of a Director, Officer, auditor or member of a committee of the Board, the Member's last known address (email and/or mailing) as recorded in the records of the OMHA.

**Region:** means a geographic grouping of Associations established solely for the purpose of electing representatives to the Board of the OMHA. The OMHA has six electoral regions, each comprised of a number of Associations as determined by the Board from time to time, as set out in Appendix A to this By-law.

**Regional Director:** means an individual who is elected to the Board to represent a Region.

**Registered Player:** means a minor hockey player registered with an Association, who is In Good Standing and eligible to be rostered to that Association.

**Regulations:** means the OMHA's Regulations and rules of competition and any other rules and guidelines governing participation within the OMHA.

**Release:** means the unconditional discharge of a player from a team.

**Reorganization:** means two or more active Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations that wish to incorporate a new Not-for-Profit Corporation that will jointly administer Representative Hockey for two or more active Not-for-Profit Corporations who will continue to offer and administer their own Recreational programming (House League & Local League).

**Representative League:** means a group of Representative Teams from a number of Associations within a geographic area that compete regularly.

**Representative Team:** means a team which is eligible to play for an OMHA, OHF and/or HC championship and whose players must be eligible by age and residence.

**Residency:** Means where the player usually resides. The usual residence shall be defined by Hockey Canada/OHF/OMHA Regulations.

**Respect in Sport:** means an online program designed to educate the OMHA membership in the prevention of harassment and abuse in minor hockey.

**Right of Appeal:** means the ability of a participant to request a hearing on a decision made by the OMHA, which may have an effect on their ability to participate.

**Sanction:** means approval of activities by Hockey Canada and/or its Members.

**Sanction Permit:** means a permit that authorizes various activities as approved by the OMHA.

**Season:** The annual hockey season which commences on **June 1st** and ends on **May 31st** of the following year.

**Select Hockey:** means a Category in which in order to be eligible, a Player must be Registered with a recognized (sanctioned) House/Local League organization and accordingly be an active participant in the corresponding Division in a recognized (sanctioned) schedule of House/Local League programming. Select Players are not required to abide by residential regulations.

**Special Meeting:** means any Meeting of Members other than an Annual Meeting.

**Special Resolution:** means a resolution approved by not less than two-thirds (2/3rds) of the votes cast at a Meeting of Members or a Board meeting, as the context requires.

**Standing Committees:** means those standing committees enumerated in the By-law.

**Subcommittee:** means a committee comprised of a specific number of Officers and Regional Directors.

**Sub-division:** means the lower age groups within divisions..

**Team:** means a group of certified Team Officials, at least one of whom must be a Head Coach and one a Trainer; and a group of rostered players who are qualified in a division and category up to the maximum number provided by regulations.

**Team Entry Fees:** means an amount paid by an Association for each of their teams to participate in the OMHA.

**Team Officials:** means all or any of the following persons involved in the management of a team and includes Coach, Trainer, Manager, and any Assistant Coach or Assistant Trainer.

**Team Official at Large:** means Team Officials registered and approved on an Association's approved "At-Large" Roster when an Association wishes to identify members not otherwise registered and approved on a team's roster within the Association. These members are eligible to register on a Game Report as Coach/Assistant Coach or Trainer/Assistant Trainer for a team within that Association.

**Tournament:** means a competition of three (3) or more teams organized and hosted by a member Association. All such events must be approved and sanctioned by the OMHA, OHF and Hockey Canada and the competition must follow the rules and regulations as stated by the governing body.

**Tournament Chairperson:** means the person from the host Association in charge of the tournament.

**Trainer:** means the individual on a team who is responsible for the safety and risk management of their team.

**Travel Permit:** means a document, issued electronically via the OMHA Portal for OMHA teams to participate in exhibition games or tournaments.

**WOAA:** means Western Ontario Athletic Association.

**Zone:** means an Association created by or with the approval of the OMHA for the purpose of administering and operating AAA hockey programming for a number of Centres within a geographic area.

**Zone Governing Committee:** means a group of individuals that administer the operations of an AAA Zone.

Subject to the above, words and expressions defined in the Act shall have the same meanings when used in OMHA By-Law One, OMHA Regulations and OMHA Policies and Procedures; words importing the singular number include the plural and vice-versa; words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter genders; and words importing persons include individuals and bodies corporate.



# BY-LAW ONE

AS REVISED AND AMENDED AT THE  
ANNUAL MEETING ON JUNE 14, 2025



Wherever the context herein permits, reference to the male shall be inclusive of all gender identities and gender expressions.

Highlighted sections and/or paragraphs are new or changed sections.

BY-LAW ONE



# BY-LAW ONE

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**A By-Law relating generally to the conduct of the affairs of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association Inc.**

**BE IT ENACTED as a By-Law of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association Inc. as follows:**

**1.0 REGISTERED OFFICE AND SEAL**

**1.1** The corporate seal of the OMHA shall be in the form as the Board may by resolution from time to time adopt and shall be entrusted to the Executive Director of the OMHA for its use and safekeeping.

**1.2** The registered head office of the OMHA shall be located in York Region, in the Province of Ontario, as may be determined by the Board from time to time, and outside of York Region as may from time to time be determined by Special Resolution of the voting Members pursuant to the Act. The OMHA may establish such other offices within Canada, as the Board may deem expedient by resolution.

**2.0 AFFILIATIONS**

**2.1** The OMHA shall have the following affiliations:

- the OMHA shall be a member partner of the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF); and,
- the OMHA shall be affiliated to Hockey Canada through the OHF.

## 3.0 CLASSES OF MEMBERS

**3.1** There shall be three (3) classes of Members in the OMHA, as follows:

- a) Active Members (voting)
- b) General Members (voting via Delegates)
- c) Associate Members (non-voting)

## 4.0 TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

### 4.1 Terms

a) **Active Members**

- i) Active Members shall include the following:
  - Elected and appointed Directors
  - Immediate Past President
  - Past Presidents
  - Life Members
  - WOAA Representative
  - Area Convenors
  - Appointed Development Program Chairs
- ii) Life Membership may be granted to any individual who has served a minimum of fifteen (15) years on the Board and who has rendered extraordinary and distinguished service to the OMHA. Individuals may only be nominated for Life Membership by a Director, and the granting of Life Membership must be confirmed by a seventy-five (75) percent of the eligible votes cast and not spoiled from Board members present, all in accordance with and subject to the OMHA's current Life Membership Policy.

**b) General Members**

- i) In respect of each membership year, Associations who remain In Good Standing with the OMHA and comply with all membership requirements that may be set out in this By-law, the Regulations and Policies, shall continue to be General Members in the OMHA. The Board may also grant new membership, as a General Member, to any minor hockey association that meets the membership entry requirements set forth in the Regulations and Policies from time to time. Each General Member shall be entitled to send voting Delegates to a Meeting of Members, as determined in accordance with **Subsection 5.3b)** of this By-law.
- ii) Notwithstanding **Subsection 4.1b)i)** of this By-law, every General Member that is operating as an unincorporated association shall transition into a not-for-profit corporation by no later than the commencement of the OMHA's 2025 Annual Meeting, as more particularly set out and described in the Regulations.

**c) Associate Members**

Associate Members shall include convenors, coordinators, instructors, HCOP officials, minor officials, and league administrators.

**d) One Class of Membership**

Although it is possible for a Member to be qualified for more than one (1) class of membership in the OMHA, no person may hold more than one (1) class of membership. It is therefore mandatory that each Member shall declare their

self prior to the start of any Meeting of Members and advise the Chairperson of the membership class he wishes to represent. Once the meeting is called to order, the Member must remain in that class of membership and may not change to another category or class of membership.

#### **4.2 Membership and Board Lists**

The Executive Director shall prepare and maintain a list of all Directors and Members (by class) in accordance with the information required by the Act. This list shall be kept at the head office, be updated as necessary and be made available to all Directors. Such list of Directors and Members shall be used to determine eligibility to attend and vote at any Board meeting or Meeting of Members, as the case may be. The Members' list may only be made available to a Member pursuant to a written request in accordance with the Act.

#### **4.3 Membership Year**

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, every membership, other than the Past Presidents and Life Members, shall commence immediately following the Annual Meeting and shall terminate on the 1st day following the next Annual Meeting.

#### **4.4 Termination or Disciplinary Action**

- a) A membership in the OMHA shall not be transferable and shall terminate upon resignation, end of term, or death in the case of an individual membership.
- b) A Member whose conduct is considered by the Board to be contrary to the OMHA's Policies, its stated Code of Conduct or the purposes of the OMHA shall be asked by the Board to explain or justify their actions. If the Member is unwilling

or unable to do so, they shall be asked by the Board to resign from the OMHA. If they do not resign, the Board shall give not less than 15 days' written notice to the Member that a proper notice of motion will be considered at the next Board meeting, requesting that the Member be sanctioned, suspended or expelled from the OMHA. The notice shall set out the reasons for the disciplinary action or termination of membership and a copy of this motion shall be communicated to the Member concerned within a reasonable period of time to allow for a written response. If a response is made, it shall be circulated with the notice of motion. Approval of such a motion shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote in favour of the motion conducted by way of a Ballot at the meeting. The Member concerned shall be invited to attend the Board meeting and to explain their position(s) and/or give the Board a written submission opposing the disciplinary action or termination not less than two (2) Business Days before such Board meeting. The Board shall consider the Member's written submission and oral arguments before a vote is taken on a final decision regarding any disciplinary action or termination of membership. Any disciplinary action or termination shall become effective five (5) days after the Board meeting at which the vote was taken.

- c) A Member may resign from the OMHA by submitting a resignation in writing addressed to the Executive Director, who in turn notifies the appropriate Board members.
- d) A Member In Good Standing, whose membership fees are in arrears shall be suspended from membership and not permitted to vote, make nominations, or hold office in the

OMHA. The Executive Director shall inform those concerned of this suspension in writing.

- e) Any General Member found by the Board to be in default of Section 5.1(b) of this By-law, may have its membership suspended or terminated. If found in default, the General Member shall be requested by the Board to explain the default and how it proposes to remedy the default. If the General Member is unable or unwilling to remedy the default, it will be asked to resign its membership within the OMHA. If the General Member does not resign or relinquish its status when requested to do so, the Board shall give not less than 15 days' written notice to the General Member that a proper notice of motion will be considered at the next Board meeting, requesting the suspension or expulsion of such General Member. A copy of the motion shall be communicated to the General Member along with reasons for the disciplinary action or termination of membership, allowing a 15-day period for a written response. If a written response is received prior to the Board meeting, it shall be circulated among the Board members. Approval of such a motion shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote in favour of the motion conducted by way of Ballot at the meeting. The General Member concerned shall also be invited to send up to two representatives to attend the Board meeting and to explain their position(s). The Board shall consider the Member's written submission and oral arguments before a vote is taken on a final decision regarding any disciplinary action or termination of membership. Any disciplinary action or termination shall become effective five (5) days after the Board meeting at which the vote was taken.

#### **4.5 Membership Fees**

Membership fees shall be established annually by the Finance Committee and be approved by the Board. Fees for any unexpired term of membership are not refundable. However, the Board may, in its sole discretion, grant a request for such a refund in extenuating circumstances.

#### **4.6 Right to Attend and Vote**

All Members shall be entitled to notice of and attend all Meetings of Members. Only Active Members (Subsection **4.1a**)) and General Members (**Subsection 4.1b**)), who are at the time of the Meeting of Members In Good Standing, shall be entitled to participate in and vote at such Meetings of Members of the OMHA. Associate Members may not participate in or vote at any Meeting of Members.

### **5.0 MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS**

#### **5.1 Annual Meeting of Members**

The Annual Meeting shall be held each year in the month of June with preference to be given to the second Saturday of June. The date, time and place shall be determined by the Board. Such decision is to be communicated to the Members at least four (4) months prior to the Annual Meeting. The transaction of at least the following business is to be set out in the agenda of such Annual Meeting:

- a) approval of the agenda.
- b) approval of the minutes of the previous Meeting of Members.
- c) receiving reports of the activities of the OMHA during the preceding year.

- d) receiving information regarding the planned activities of the OMHA for the current year.
- e) receiving the annual financial statements and consideration of the audit report or review engagement report of the auditor of the OMHA from the previous financial year and a projected financial position for the current year.
- f) approval or ratification of the appointment (or reappointment) of the auditor or person appointed to conduct a review engagement for the ensuing year, subject to the financial review requirements stipulated under the Act.
- g) election of Directors to the Board.
- h) consideration of any proposed amendments to the Articles, By-Laws, or Regulations of the OMHA in accordance with **Article 17** of this By-law.
- i) consideration of any other proposal submitted by a Member to the Executive Director of the OMHA at least 60 days before the date of the Annual Meeting, subject to the requirements of the Act.

## 5.2 Special Meetings of Members

- (a) In addition to the Annual Meeting, a Special Meeting of the Members may be called at any time by:
  - (i) The Board; or
  - (ii) On requisition to the Board, signed by at least 10% of all voting Members, specifying the nature of the business to be discussed at such Special Meeting. Within ten (10) days of receiving such requisition, the Board shall provide notice to the Members of the time, date and place of such Special Meeting.

(b) Only the business specified in the notice of Special Meeting shall be transacted at that meeting, and no other.

### **5.3 Voter Eligibility**

- a) All Active Members shall each be entitled to one (1) vote at all meetings of members of the OMHA.
- b) In respect of the General Members, each Association In Good Standing shall be entitled to send Delegates to each Meeting of Members, on the basis of one (1) Delegate for each team eligible for an OMHA Championship. In addition, each Association which has House/Local League teams, and each affiliated Independent House/Local League (as defined in the Regulations) organization, shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate for every twenty (20) teams or part thereof. An Association's Delegate(s) must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and must be a member of that Association. Each Delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote at all Meetings of Members of the OMHA.

### **5.4 Notice of Meeting (Annual or Special)**

- a) A notice stating the date, time and place of a Meeting of Members shall be sent to (i) each Member entitled to receive the notice, (ii) each Director, and (iii) the OMHA's auditor or person appointed to conduct a review engagement, by electronic mail at the Recorded Address for such Persons, at least ten (10) days and not more than fifty (50) days prior to the Meeting of Members. The notice of any Meeting of Members shall also be posted concurrently on the face page of the OMHA's website.

- b) The notice of Annual Meeting shall set out the agenda in accordance with **Section 5.1** of this By-law. If any special business is to be transacted, whether at an Annual or Special Meeting, the notice shall also state the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting in sufficient detail to permit a Member to form a reasoned judgment on the business, and the text of any Special Resolution to be submitted at the meeting shall also be provided.
- c) In the case of a Meeting of Members held entirely by one or more telephonic or electronic means, or by a combination of in-person attendance and one or more telephonic or electronic means, the notice of meeting must include instructions for attending and participating in the meeting and, if applicable, instructions for voting electronically at the meeting. If the meeting is to be held entirely by telephonic or electronic means, the notice of meeting need not specify a place of the meeting.
- d) An inadvertent error or omission in giving notice of any Meeting of Members or any adjourned meeting, shall not invalidate such a meeting or make void any proceedings taken at such meeting. Any Member may at any time waive notice of any such meeting and will remain eligible to attend and participate in all actions or proceedings at any such meeting.

## 5.5 Quorum

A quorum for any Meeting of Members shall be that the number of non-Board Members in attendance and eligible to vote shall be at least equal to the number of Directors in attendance, plus one. No business shall be transacted in the absence of a quorum except to take measures to obtain a

quorum, to establish the time to which to adjourn, or to take a recess.

## **5.6 Voting Procedures**

- a) A majority of votes cast by Members present and voting, unless otherwise required by the Act or this By-Law, shall decide every question proposed for consideration at a Meeting of Members.
- b) Subject to **Subsection 5.6c**) of this By-law, at Meetings of Members, every question shall be decided by a show of hands unless a specific count or secret Ballot is required by the Chair or demanded by any Member entitled to vote. Whenever a vote by show of hands has been taken upon a question, a declaration by the Chair that a resolution has been 'carried' or 'defeated' and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting is conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of votes recorded in favour of or against the motion.
- c) A vote at a Meeting of Members may be conducted entirely by one or more telephonic or electronic means or by a combination of one or more telephonic or electronic means and in-person voting.

## **5.7 No Proxies**

Proxies will not be permitted. Members must be present at Annual Meetings and Special Meetings in order to exercise their voting rights.

## **5.8 Adjournments**

Any Meeting of Members may be adjourned at any time, and from time to time, and any such business may be transacted

at the adjourned meeting(s) as might have been transacted at the original meeting(s) from which such adjournment took place. No notice shall be required for any such adjourned meeting other than to those Members who were present in-person at the original meeting. Such adjournment may be made regardless of whether a quorum is present.

## **5.9 Chair**

In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents, the Members present and entitled to vote at any Meeting of Members shall choose another Director to act as Chair. If no Director is present or if all the Directors present decline to act as Chair, the Members present shall choose any Member present to be Chair.

## **5.10 Board Election Results**

The numerical results of the election for office of Directors of the OMHA will be posted in a prominent place on the OMHA's website within a reasonable period of time following the elections. The results will also be available upon written request to the Executive Director of the OMHA.

## **5.11 Recount of Board Election Results by Ballot**

A request for a recount of the results of any election of a Director carried out by Ballot must be filed by the candidate so requesting in writing and signed by the candidate. The request must be presented to the Chair of the meeting, at which the Ballot was conducted, within ten (10) minutes of the Chair's disclosure of that election result as described in **Section 5.10** of this By-law.

## **5.12 Destruction of Ballots of Board Election Results**

The results of the election of Directors conducted in accordance with **Sections 5.10** and **5.11** of this By-law, including the results of voting by any telephonic or electronic means, shall be considered final and a motion to destroy any paper Ballots used in respect of any such election may be considered prior to the adjournment of such meeting.

## **5.13 Meetings of Members held by Telephonic or Electronic Means**

The Board may choose to hold a Meeting of Members entirely by one or more telephonic or electronic means, or by a combination of in-person attendance and one or more telephonic or electronic means, that enables all persons entitled to attend the meeting to reasonably participate. A Member participating in such a meeting is deemed to be present at the meeting and shall be counted for the purposes of determining a quorum under **Section 5.5** of this By-law. Any person participating in a Meeting of Members pursuant to this section who is entitled to vote at that meeting may vote, subject to the Act, by means of any telephonic or electronic means made available for that purpose.

# **6.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## **6.1 Composition and Eligibility**

- a) **Director.** To be eligible to be a Director of the OMHA, such candidate must:
  - i) Be an individual who is at least eighteen (18) years of age or older;
  - ii) Not have the status of an undischarged bankrupt;

- iii) Not be a person found to be incapable of managing property under of managing property under the *Substitutes Decisions Act, 1992* or the *Mental Health Act*;
- iv) Not be found to be incapable by any court in Canada or elsewhere; and
- v) Be a Member In Good Standing at the time of his or her election or appointment and remain so throughout his or her term of office, except where the election or appointment of a non-Member is specifically provided for under this By-law.

b) **Nominees**

- i) Each nominee for President shall have served on the Board three (3) of the last four (4) years, one of which must have been as a Vice-President.
- ii) Each nominee for District Vice-President shall be a resident of the District to which he is to be elected or have a substantial involvement with the OMHA within the District. They shall have served at least one (1) year on the Board, with the year having been one of the previous two (2) years.
- iii) Each nominee for Regional Director shall be a resident of the Region to which they are to be elected or have a substantial involvement with an Association or the OMHA in that Region.
- iv) A Board member shall not hold more than one (1) position on the Board.

c) **Number of Directors**

- i) Unless otherwise changed in accordance with the Act, the affairs of the OMHA shall be managed by a Board consisting of nineteen (19) Directors as identified in **Subsection 7.2 a)** of this By-law.

ii) If the Articles provide for a range of Directors, the Members may, by Special Resolution, increase or decrease the number of Directors within such range, provided that if the Members have, by Special Resolution, empowered the Board to fix the number in within the range provided for in the Articles, the Board may change the number of Directors within the range specified in the Articles. In either case, any change in the number of Directors shall be in accordance with the Act.

d) **Term of Office**

- i) The President shall be elected for a two (2) year term and is not eligible to serve more than two (2) such two (2) year terms, which must be consecutive.
- ii) The District Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the voting Members for a two (2) year term. The Central District Vice-President shall be elected in the even numbered years and the Western and Eastern District Vice-Presidents shall be elected in the odd numbered years.
- iii) Each Region will be represented by two (2) Regional Directors elected from that Region. One of the two positions in each Region shall be elected annually for a two (2) year term.
- iv) Subject to **Subsection 6.1 f)** of this By-law, all OMHA Directors and Officers shall remain in office until the end of the Annual Meeting during which their successors are to be elected or appointed.

e) **Delegate Voting Restrictions**

Delegates may vote annually for only one candidate for President, one candidate in each District for District Vice-

President (as required) and one candidate for Regional Director. For the position of Regional Director, Delegate votes are restricted to only candidates in their Region.

## **7.0 PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **7.1 Nominations Committee and Eligibility**

#### **a) Nominations Committee**

- i) The Nominations Committee will be comprised of the Chairpersons of the three (3) District Nomination Committees and be chaired by the Immediate Past President or designate.
- ii) Each of the three (3) District Nomination Committees will be chaired by a Past President, Life Member or current Director who is not in the final year of their term and, in addition to the Chair, will have four (4) Members, one from each Area of that District.
- iii) Role and Responsibility of Nominations Committee:  
The Nominations Committee:
  - i) shall ensure that a slate of candidates, as required under Subsection 7.1d) of this By-law, is presented at the Annual Meeting.
  - ii) may present candidates for the Office of Treasurer to the Board.

#### **b) Nomination Procedure**

The election of the Board shall take place at the Annual Meeting. No election or appointment of a Director shall be effective unless such Director consents (in writing) to act as a director within 10 days after their election or appointment. Nomination forms for the Board shall be

available each year from the Nominations Committee by **March 1st**. A nomination form must be completed by all nominees and two (2) nominators who are voting Members of the OMHA. Nomination forms must be delivered to the Nominations Committee no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Meeting. If, at the Annual Meeting, there are an insufficient number of nominees to fill the positions up for election, nominees may be solicited from the floor of the Annual Meeting. In the case of a District Vice-President, the nominee for District Vice-President must reside in the District related to the position and the nomination form must be signed by voting Members from that District. In the case of a Regional Director, the nominee for Regional Director must reside in the Region related to the position and the nomination form must be signed by voting Members from that Region.

c) **Eligibility**

A person shall not be considered eligible for nomination to the Board until such time as that person states in writing that they have no connection whatsoever with any professional hockey organization and that they qualify for office under all OMHA, OHF, and HC regulations. The Executive Director shall advise all nominees, in writing, of the qualification requirements before the nomination is accepted. During their term of office, a Director shall not serve on the board or executive, or be engaged as a volunteer or employee, of any local minor hockey association nor shall they be eligible to act as a team official of an OMHA team or an active on-ice official. This restriction

does not apply to life membership in a local minor hockey organization.

## **7.2 Board Positions**

- a) The Board shall be comprised of the following nineteen (19) positions:
  - i) President (elected for a two (2) year term)
  - ii) Immediate Past President
  - iii) Three (3) District Vice-Presidents (elected for a two (2) year term)
  - iv) Treasurer (appointed for a one (1) year term)
  - v) Twelve (12) Regional Directors (elected for a two (2) year term)
  - vi) WOAA Representative (automatic appointment for a one (1) year term) in accordance with the WOAA minor hockey affiliation agreement, a copy of which may be obtained from the OMHA upon request by a Member.
- b) Prior to the Annual Meeting, the Board shall appoint a Treasurer for the ensuing membership year. This appointment shall be presented to the Members at the Annual Meeting and will be subject to ratification by the new Board immediately following the Annual Meeting.
- c) A Director shall not be permitted to hold any salary position with the OMHA during their term of office.
- d) The Board shall be entitled to appoint Area Convenors who will, until otherwise determined by the Board, be entitled to attend Board meetings and participate in discussions relevant to their duties within the Region to which they are assigned. Area Convenors shall not be considered Directors and will therefore not be entitled to make any motions or vote at Board meetings.

- e) The Board shall appoint for a one (1) year term Development Program Chairs, as listed below, who will be responsible to the Board for the implementation and the delivery of the OMHA's Development Programs. The Development Program Chairs will, when requested by the Board, attend Board meetings to report and advise on such Development Programs, and will be referred to as follows:
  - i) Chair, Coaches Program, responsible for the NCCP
  - ii) Chair, Referees Program, responsible for the HCOP
  - iii) Chair, Trainers Program, responsible for the HTCP

### **7.3 Election Procedures**

The Nominations Committee will prepare an initial report of nominations for circulation to the membership by **March 31st**. Further nominations for election may be made by electronic mail or registered mail or equivalent to the Nominations Committee not later than forty-five (45) days in advance of the Annual Meeting. The Executive Director shall in turn notify by electronic mail, all Members of the final list of nominations thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. An individual may be nominated for President, District Vice-President and Regional Director; provided that an individual may only be nominated, if the position's term is set to expire at the Annual Meeting, or the position was vacant or filled by a replacement appointed by the Board prior to the Annual Meeting. Candidates may stand for a maximum of two (2) positions, in descending order, and must be eligible and nominated for both positions. Any Director seeking election to a higher position is considered to have resigned their current position by election time at the Annual Meeting. Elections for the Board, as required, shall be held in descending order beginning with the position of President,

followed by the election of the District Vice-President(s), and then the Regional Director(s). Nominees for election to the Board shall be In Good Standing with the OMHA.

#### **7.4 Vacancies**

Subject to **Subsection 7.5a)** of this By-law, any vacancy occurring on the Board (except for the Immediate Past President) may, by a resolution of the Board, be filled by appointment, provided there is a quorum of the Board then in office. If the Board elects to fill a vacant position, the Board shall provide a period of not less than thirty (30) days to consider applications from Members for appointment to the vacant position. The Director appointed to fill a vacancy only holds office for the unexpired term of the vacant position.

#### **7.5 Termination or Suspension**

##### **a) Removal of Director by Membership**

Subject to the Act, provided a notice specifying the intention to pass such a resolution has been given with the notice of Meeting of Members, eligible voting Members of the OMHA may, by an ordinary resolution passed at a Meeting of Members, remove any elected Director before the expiration of their term of office. Members of the OMHA, by a majority of the votes cast at that meeting, may elect any person in their stead for the remainder of the removed Director's term, providing that the person is In Good Standing with the OMHA.

##### **b) Absenteeism**

The absence of a Board member from three (3) consecutive Board meetings or the absence of a Board member from any four (4) out of eight (8) consecutive Board meetings shall

be deemed to be a resignation from the Board, unless such period of absence has been specifically excused and approved by the other members of the Board.

c) **Resignation**

A member of the Board may resign their membership in the OMHA by submitting a letter of resignation to the President of the OMHA.

d) **Suspension**

Notwithstanding that only the Members may remove an elected Director prior to the end of their term, the Board may, by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote passed at a special Board meeting, suspend a Director from attending and voting at Board meetings as a result of a major infraction alleged to have been committed by such Director, in violation of the OMHA's Code of Conduct pursuant to a formal complaint, where the nature and severity of such alleged infraction is sufficiently serious to warrant the Director's suspension from the Board until the earlier of such time as the Board has had a sufficient opportunity to investigate and decide the complaint in favour of suspending the Director or the next Meeting of Members at which the Members may, in their sole discretion, vote to remove or retain such Director.

## 8.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

### 8.1 Governance

The Board of Directors shall govern the OMHA in compliance with the purposes, powers, By-Laws, Regulations, and Policies of the OMHA.

## **8.2 Board Meetings**

### **a) Regular Board Meetings**

Except as otherwise required by law, the Board may hold meetings at such place or places as the President or, in their absence, a Vice-President, may from time to time determine. The Board shall meet not less than seven (7) times per year.

### **b) Special Board Meetings**

Special Board meetings may be called:

(i) by the President or a Vice-President in the absence of the President, on providing not less than two (2) Business Days written notice to all Directors; or

(ii) on written requisition to the Executive Director signed by any three (3) voting Board members, which requisition shall specify the nature of the business to be transacted at such meeting. Upon such receipt of such requisition, the Executive Director shall convene on no less than two (2) Business Days written notice to all Directors.

Business transacted at a special Board meeting shall be limited to that specified in the notice calling the meeting.

### **d) Directors' Meetings held by Telephonic or Electronic Means**

With the consent of the Board, a meeting of the Board (or a committee of the Board) may be held entirely by one or more telephonic or electronic means, or by a combination of in-person attendance and by one or more telephonic or electronic means, that permit all persons participating in the meeting to communicate with each other simultaneously and instantaneously during the meeting,

and a Director participating in the meeting by these means is deemed to be present at the meeting, including for the purposes of determining a quorum under **Section 8.6** of this By-law. Any such consent shall be effective whether given before or after the meeting to which it relates and may be given with respect to all meetings of the Board or of committees of the Board.

### **8.3 Notice of Board Meetings**

- a) Notice shall be communicated to all Board members at least seven (7) days in advance of a Board meeting, unless all Board members agree to the calling of a meeting on shorter notice or the Board meeting is held on a regular day or date each month or immediately following a Meeting of Members.
- b) Notice shall state the date, time, and place of meeting, but need not specify the purposes of or the business to be transacted, unless the meeting is intended to address any of the following matters:
  - (i) Any question or matter requiring the approval of the Members;
  - (ii) To fill a vacancy among the Directors, position of auditor or person conducting a review engagement;
  - (iii) To appoint additional Directors;
  - (iv) To issue debt obligations;
  - (v) To approve any financial statements;
  - (vi) To adopt, amend or repeal by-laws; or
  - (vii) To establish contributions or dues to be made or paid by the Members.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the notice of meeting will include a tentative agenda in the case of a regular Board meeting and shall specify the nature of any business to be conducted in the case of a special Board meeting.

- c) No formal notice of any Board meeting shall be necessary if all the Board members are present or if those absent signify their consent to the meeting being held in their absence.
- d) In the case of a Board meeting held entirely or partially by telephonic or electronic means pursuant to **Subsection 7.2c)**, the notice of meeting shall include instructions for attending and participating in the meeting and, if applicable, instructions for voting electronically at the meeting. If the meeting is held entirely by telephonic or electronic means, the notice of meeting need not specify a place for the meeting.

#### **8.4 Error or Omission in Notice**

No error or omission in giving notice for a Board meeting shall invalidate such meeting or invalidate or make void any proceedings taken at such meeting, and any Board member may at any time waive notice of any such meeting and may ratify and approve of any or all proceedings taken or had thereat.

#### **8.5 Adjournment of Board of Directors' Meetings**

Any Board meeting may be adjourned at any time and from time to time and such business may be transacted at the adjourned meeting as might have been transacted at the original meeting from which such adjournment took place. No notice shall be required for the adjourned meeting other than to those

Directors who were present in person at the original meeting. Such adjournment may be made regardless of whether a quorum is present.

### **8.6 Quorum**

A quorum for Board meetings shall consist of a majority of the Directors eligible for the said meeting, which shall include a minimum of three (3) Officers. No business of the Board shall be transacted in the absence of a quorum.

### **8.7 Voting Rights**

Each voting Board member present at a Board meeting, including the Chair, shall be entitled to one vote. The Chair shall have a second or casting vote in the event of a tie vote.

### **8.8 Voting Procedures**

A majority of votes of the Board members present and voting at a Board meeting shall decide every question. Every question shall be decided in the first instance by a show of hands and, unless a secret Ballot is demanded by a Board member present, a declaration by the Chair that the motion has been carried or not carried and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be sufficient evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour or against such motion.

### **8.9 Remuneration**

Board members shall serve without remuneration and no Board member shall indirectly or directly receive any remuneration, salary or profit from their position as a Board member or for any service rendered to the OMHA. The Board

may establish Policies relating to the reimbursement of the Board members for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the Board and may issue honoraria as approved by the Board.

## **8.10 Conflict of Interest**

- a) Subject to the Act, every Director or Officer who is a party to a material contract or transaction or proposed material contract or transaction with the OMHA, or is a Director or Officer of, or has a material interest in, any Person who is a party to a material contract or transaction or proposed material contract or transaction with the OMHA, shall disclose to the OMHA or request to have entered in the minutes of the Board meeting a full and fair declaration of the nature and extent of their interest..
- b) The declaration of a conflict of interest shall be made at the Board meeting at which the question of entering into the contract or transaction is first taken into consideration or, if the Board member is not present at that Board meeting, at the next Board meeting attended by the Board member.
- c) After making such a declaration, the Board member shall not enter into discussion nor vote on such a contract or transaction, nor shall they be counted in the quorum in respect of such a contract or transaction.
- d) If a Board member has made a declaration of an interest in a contract or transaction in compliance with this Section, the Board member is not accountable to the OMHA for any profit realized from the contract or transaction.
- e) If a Board member fails to make a declaration of interest in a contract or transaction in compliance with this Section, the Board member shall account to and reimburse the

OMHA for all profits realized, directly or indirectly, from such contract or transaction.

### **8.11 Indemnification of Directors and Officers**

- a) The OMHA shall indemnify a Director or Officer of the OMHA, a former Director or Officer of the OMHA or an individual who acts or acted at the OMHA's request as a Director or Officer, or in a similar capacity, of another entity, against all costs, charges and expenses, including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment, reasonably incurred by the individual in respect of any civil, criminal, administrative, investigative or other action or proceeding in which the individual is involved because of that association with the OMHA or other entity.
- b) The OMHA may advance money to a Director, Officer or other individual referred to in **Subsection 8.11a)** for the costs, charges and expenses of an action or proceeding referred to in that subsection, provided that the individual shall repay the money if the individual does not fulfil the conditions set out in **Subsection 8.11c)** of this By-law.
- c) The OMHA shall not indemnify an individual referred to in **Subsection 8.11a)** of this Bylaw unless the individual acted honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the OMHA or other entity, as the case may be, and if the matter is a criminal or administrative proceeding that is enforced by a monetary penalty, the individual had reasonable grounds for believing that their conduct was lawful.
- d) The OMHA may purchase and maintain such insurance for the benefit of an individual referred to in **Subsection 8.11a)**

of this Bylaw, as the Board may from time to time determine.

### **8.12 Confidentiality**

Every Board member, and every Area Convenor, shall respect the confidentiality of matters brought before the Board, particularly those matters brought for consideration in-camera.

### **8.13 In-Camera Meetings**

(a) The Board shall be required to hold an in-camera session to:

- (i) entertain, discuss and decide business matters and transactions which affect the character and/or reputation of a Member or other Person; or
- (ii) if the decision required is based on the character or reputation of a Member or other Person; or
- (iii) when the business is such that the OMHA could be prejudiced by reporting of the business discussed in the private session.

(b) At any in-camera session, the Board shall appoint a Director as recording secretary, and all notes and recordings shall be maintained by said appointed Director, until the business matter is concluded and a resolution of the Board is made respecting same. All notes and records arising from such in camera session shall be assembled in one file and sealed and

thereafter, be provided to the Executive Director of OMHA, for safekeeping.

### **8.14 Rules of Operation**

The Board shall have the power to pass or amend, without any immediate confirmation or ratification by the voting Members of the OMHA, all necessary rules and Regulations as it deems expedient or related in any way to the operations of the OMHA, including, without limitation, the conduct of its Members, Board, Officers, Association teams, and guests, provided such rules and Regulations are not otherwise inconsistent with the Articles or this By-law. Such prescribed rules and Regulations shall have force and effect only until the next Annual Meeting when they shall be confirmed and in default of confirmation at such Annual Meeting shall, at and from that time, cease to have force and effect.

## **9.0 BOARD MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **9.1 Officers**

The Officers shall consist of the President, the Immediate Past President, the three District Vice-Presidents and the Treasurer.

### **9.2 Roles and Responsibilities of Officers**

#### **a) President**

The President shall:

- i) be the official representative of the OMHA to other amateur ruling bodies as permitted by that body and as directed by the OMHA.

- ii) preside at all Meetings of Members and the Board, unless otherwise indicated by the By-Laws or Board policy, with the usual privileges of office.
- iii) exercise general supervision of the OMHA in accordance with Policies determined by the Board.
- iv) be a non-voting member of all committees and sub committees of the OMHA.
- v) report regularly to the Board on matters of interest
- vi) delegate tasks as necessary.
- vii) not convene any league while holding office.

**b) Immediate Past President**

The Immediate Past President shall:

- i) Chair the Nominations and Annual Meeting Committees.
- ii) be available to assist any Board member requiring assistance in the completion of their functions.
- iii) carry out other duties as assigned by the President or the Board.

**c) District Vice-Presidents**

Each District Vice-President shall:

- i) be responsible for their specific District.
- ii) assist the Regional Directors from their District.
- iii) facilitate information sharing, problem solving and the development of minor hockey in their District.
- iv) attend meetings of the Board and Meetings of Members.
- v) perform any other duties as assigned by the President or the Board.
- vi) not convene any league while holding office.
- vii) Chair one of the OMHA Appeals Committees.

**d) Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall:

- i) ensure adherence to and implementation of financial Policies in the financial administration of the OMHA.
- ii) present an accurate record of all monies received and disbursed, and reporting same at each regular Board meeting.
- iii) ensure the submission of the books of account to the auditor of the OMHA at the end of the financial year.
- iv) present a report of the auditor from the previous financial year and a projected financial position for the current year to the membership at the Annual Meeting.
- v) evaluate, review and recommend financial policy to the Finance Committee.
- vi) Chair the Finance Committee.
- vii) pay all accounts by cheque or electronic transfer of funds, signed by themselves and one other person authorized by the Board.
- viii) perform any other duties as assigned by the President or the Board.

**9.3 Roles and Responsibilities of Regional Directors/Area Convenors**

- a) Regional Director: The Regional Directors, under the direction of a District Vice-President and the President shall:
  - i) organize, form and supervise Leagues, ensuring schedules are created and standings are compiled and reported, as required.

- ii) attend League meetings under their jurisdiction, and attend League, playoff and OMHA Championship games as necessary.
- iii) approve eligibility of players and Team Officials to participate as per the Regulations and Policies of the OMHA.
- iv) administer automatic suspensions as established in the Regulations and Policies of the OMHA.
- v) assess and administer suspensions for match penalties, reporting situations and decisions to the President and District Vice-President.
- vi) serve on hearing and match penalty committees.
- vii) attend meetings of the Board and general meetings of Members.
- viii) serve on Standing and Ad Hoc Committees, and on OMHA Appeals Committees, as designated by the President.
- ix) report matters of concern or interest to their District Vice-President for information and possible action by the President, an OMHA committee or the Board.
- x) carry out duties or assignments as requested by their District Vice-President, the President or the Board.
- xi) annually appoint Regional Nomination Committee members from their area.
- xii) cannot be a convenor for another Regional Director/Area Convenor while holding office.

b) Area Convenor: One or more Area Convenors, under the direction of a District Vice-President and the President, may be appointed by the Board, who shall be delegated all or part of the powers, authority and responsibilities of a Regional Director

set out in **Subsection 9.3a)** of this By-law and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.

#### **9.4 Responsibilities of the Board**

The Board shall:

- a) have the powers of the OMHA and may delegate, subject to any limitations contained in the Act, any of its powers, duties and functions as is deemed necessary.
- b) make Policies and procedures as necessary for the governance of the OMHA, including Policies and procedures relating to conduct, discipline and the management of disputes.
- c) have the power to suspend, expel or take disciplinary action against any Association, League, team, player, team official, game official or individual for any breach of the OMHA By-Laws or of any decision, Policy or Regulation of the Board.
- d) interpret and clarify any clause of the Regulations and, at the request of a Board member, have the authority to correct or amend any decision or omission which may have been granted or allowed by that Board member or their designate, or by the preceding Board member or their designate.
- e) fill any vacancy which may occur in its number, with the position to be filled by election at the next Annual Meeting.
- f) be empowered to make agreements, from time to time, with other recognized hockey organizations, provided only that such agreements are within the general rules of organized hockey.
- g) to determine the Associations comprising each Area and Region, as may be revised from time to time by the Board.

## 10.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**10.1** The OMHA shall employ an Executive Director to administer the day-to-day operations of the OMHA.

### 10.2 Responsibilities of Executive Director

The Executive Director shall:

- a) record or delegate the recording of the minutes of Meetings of Members, Board meetings and any other meetings as required, and ensure that OMHA records are regularly and properly kept and all business is conducted in accordance with any applicable statute or law, the Articles, By-Laws, Regulations and the Policies and procedures established by the Board or by the Members.
- b) ensure the proper custody of the OMHA's corporate seal, corporate minutes and resolutions and other corporate records and documents.
- c) be responsible for receiving and distributing all correspondence received or sent by the OMHA and all communications within the OMHA.
- d) keep an accurate record of affiliated minor hockey associations and teams of the OMHA.
- e) prepare or delegate the preparation of schedules for Championships, in concert with anyone appointed to assist by the Board.
- f) be responsible for notifying all teams of the Championships schedules.
- g) recommend policy to the Board regarding internal and external communications of the OMHA.

- h) ensure that all necessary and appropriate insurance has been purchased.
- i) receive minutes from the Chairpersons of all Standing Committees and distribute same to all members of the Board.
- j) prepare payment of all accounts.
- k) maintain the membership list referred to in **Section 4.2** of this By-law.
- l) carry out duties as assigned by the President or the Board.
- m) receive and certify all electronic registrations submitted on behalf of the players, Team Officials and on-ice officials applying for registration in the OMHA.
- n) be the legal holder of the trophies for the OMHA.
- o) conduct such activities as necessary for the welfare of the OMHA.

## 11.0 COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

### 11.1 Standing Committees

- a) Nothing in this By-Law shall be construed to limit the ability of the Directors and Members from abolishing or creating Standing Committees by By-Law or from establishing such Ad Hoc Committees or Sub-Committees by Board resolution as may be desired or required from time to time.
- b) All Standing and Ad Hoc Committees will be comprised of a Chairperson, Directors, and/or any other Active Members or members of an Association as directed by the Board.
- c) The following may be the Standing Committees of the OMHA:

- AAA
- Annual Meeting
- Appeals
- By-Law and Regulations
- Category/Championships
- Finance
- League Structure
- Hockey Development
- Hockey Programming
- Overseas
- Subcommittee
- Tournaments and Awards

### **11.2 Standing Committee Procedure**

#### **a) Compliance**

- i) All Standing Committees shall comply with all By-Laws, guidelines, Policies and procedures of the OMHA as determined by the Board or the Members, from time to time, and also shall comply with all requirements of the OMHA, the OHF, HC and, if applicable, any other hockey organizations with which OMHA teams are participating.
- ii) The Treasurer shall hold the position of Chairperson for the Finance Committee.
- iii) With the exception of the Finance Committee, no Board member shall hold the position of Chairperson of a specific committee for a term of longer than three (3) years, without Special Resolution of the Board.
- iv) In addition to the Directors, any other Active Members or member of an Association, and all OMHA referees,

convenors and development personnel, shall be eligible to serve on a Standing Committee.

**b) Meetings**

Each Standing Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair as required.

**c) Notice**

Notice of all meetings of Standing Committees shall be communicated to all members of the Standing Committee at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting, except in the case of emergencies or that such notice may be waived by consent of all members of the Standing Committee.

**d) Quorum**

A quorum for a Standing Committee shall be a majority of the members of the Standing Committee.

**e) Voting Rights**

Each member of a Standing Committee present at a meeting of the Standing Committee shall be entitled to one vote. In the case of a tie vote, the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

**f) Minutes**

Standing Committees shall maintain and keep minutes of their meetings and shall report to the Board at regular intervals and at any other time upon request by the Board.

**g) Annual Report**

Each Standing Committee may prepare an annual report of the matters for which it is responsible, to be presented to the Members at the Annual Meeting.

### **11.3 Subcommittees and Ad Hoc Committees**

The Standing Committee procedure shall also govern the procedures for all Subcommittees and Ad Hoc committees of the OMHA.

### **11.4 Subcommittee**

- a) The Subcommittee shall be chaired by the President and shall be comprised of the Officers of the OMHA and three (3) Regional Directors, one from each District. Any Director who has an issue or problem related to the area for which they are responsible, and on the advice of the President, may attend.
- b) The Subcommittee shall be empowered to carry on interim and emergent activities as necessary, but may not set OMHA policy.
- c) A quorum of the Subcommittee shall consist of seventy-five percent (75%) of the committee members eligible to attend such meetings.
- d) All proceedings of the Subcommittee must be presented at the next Board meeting for ratification.

## **12.0 EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS**

### **12.1 Execution of Documents**

The Board may from time to time appoint any Officer or Officers, or any other individual or individuals, either to sign documents generally or to sign specific documents on behalf of the OMHA. The corporate seal of the OMHA, when required, shall be affixed to documents executed in accordance with the foregoing.

## **12.2 Books and Records**

The Board shall ensure that all necessary books and records of the OMHA required by the Act and this By-Law, or by any other applicable statute, are regularly and properly maintained and any contracts or agreements are filed for safekeeping.

## **13.0 FINANCIAL YEAR**

### **13.1 Financial Year**

The financial year of the OMHA shall end on **April 30th** in each year or on such other date as the Board may from time to time by resolution determine.

## **14.0 BANKING ARRANGEMENTS**

### **14.1 Banking Resolution**

The Board shall designate, by resolution, the Officers and other persons authorized to transact the banking business of the OMHA, or any part thereof, with the bank, trust company, or other corporation carrying on a banking business that the Board has designated as the banker of the OMHA, to have the authority to set out in the resolution, including, unless otherwise restricted, the power to:

- a) operate the accounts of the OMHA with a bank or a trust company.
- b) make, sign, draw, accept, endorse, negotiate, lodge, deposit or transfer any of the cheques, promissory notes, drafts, acceptances, bills of exchange and orders for the payment of money.
- c) issue receipts for and orders relating to any property of the OMHA.

- d) authorize any officer of the bank or trust company to do any act or thing on behalf of the OMHA to facilitate the activities of the OMHA.

#### **14.2 Deposit of Securities**

The securities of the OMHA shall be deposited for safekeeping with one or more banks, trust companies or other place or places of safekeeping to be selected by the Board. Any and all securities so deposited may be withdrawn, from time to time, only upon the written order of the OMHA signed by such Officer or Officers, agent or agents of the OMHA, and in such manner as shall be determined from time to time by resolution of the Board, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances. The institutions which may be so selected as custodians of the OMHA shall be fully protected in acting in accordance with the directions of the OMHA and shall in no event be liable for the due application of the securities so withdrawn from deposit or the proceeds thereof.

#### **14.3 Bonding**

All authorized signing officers and the Executive Director shall be bonded in an appropriate amount at the expense of the OMHA.

#### **14.4 Cheques or Electronic Transfer of Funds**

All accounts shall be paid by cheque or electronic transfer of funds with two authorized signatures. Until otherwise determined by the Board, the authorized signees shall be the Treasurer and any one of either the Executive Director or President.

## **14.5 Absence**

During an unavoidable absence or incapacity of the Treasurer, as determined by the Board, the Board shall appoint a temporary signing officer for the duration of such absence or incapacity.

# **15.0 BORROWING BY THE OMHA**

## **15.1 Borrowing Power**

Subject to the limitations set out in the Articles, By-Laws or Policies of the OMHA, the Board may by resolution authorize the OMHA to:

- a) borrow money on the credit of the OMHA.
- b) issue, sell or pledge securities of the OMHA; or
- c) charge, mortgage, hypothecate or pledge all or any of the real or personal property of the OMHA, including book debts, rights, powers, franchises and undertakings, to secure any securities or any money borrowed, or other debt, or any other obligation or liability of the OMHA.

## **15.2 Borrowing Resolution**

From time to time, the Board may authorize any Director or Officer of the OMHA, or any other person to make arrangements with reference to the monies so borrowed or to be borrowed and as to the terms and conditions of any loan, and as to the security to be given therefore, with power to vary or modify such arrangements, terms and conditions, and to give such additional security as the Board may authorize, and generally to manage, transact and settle the borrowing of money by the OMHA.

## **16.0 NOTICE**

### **16.1 Computation of Time**

In computing the date when notice must be given under any provision of this By-Law requiring a specified number of days' notice of any meeting or other event, the date of giving the notice is excluded, unless otherwise permitted under the Act, and the deadline on the final day of the notice period shall be 11:59 p.m.

### **16.2 Omissions and Errors**

The accidental omission to give notice of any meeting of the Board or Members or the non-receipt of any notice by any Director or Member or by the auditor of the OMHA or any error in any notice not affecting its substance does not invalidate any resolution passed or any proceedings taken at the meeting. Any Director, Member or the auditor of the OMHA may at any time waive notice of any meeting and may ratify and approve any or all proceedings taken thereat.

### **16.3 Method of Giving Notice**

Whenever any notice, communication or other document is required or permitted under any provision of the Act, Articles, By-laws, Regulations, Policies or otherwise by the OMHA to any Member, Director, Officer, auditor or member of a committee of the Board shall be sufficiently given if (i) sent by electronic mail (email) or by an recognized overnight courier service, or (ii) personally delivered to the person to whom it is to be given or to his or her recorded address, or (iii) sent by prepaid ordinary mail to such person at his or her recorded address. A notice sent by electronic mail or a recognized overnight courier

service shall be deemed to have been received on the next Business Day following such delivery. A notice personally delivered shall be deemed to have been delivered immediately upon personal delivery. A notice sent by prepaid ordinary mail shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in a post office or public letter box and shall be deemed to have been received on the fifth (5th) Business Day after mailing. The Executive Director or, in the absence of the Executive Director, any other Officer of the Association, may change or cause to be changed the recorded address of any Member, Director, Officer, auditor or member of a committee of the Board in accordance with any information believed by such Officer to be reliable. The declaration by the Executive Director, or any other Officer of the Association, that notice has been given pursuant to this By-law shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice. The recorded address of a Director shall be his or her latest address as shown in the records of the OMHA or in the most recent notice filed under the Act, whichever is the more current.

## **17.0 PASSING AND AMENDING BY-LAWS**

**17.1** The Board or any Member In Good Standing may, from time to time, recommend to the Members amendments to the By-Laws or Regulations.

**17.2** Notice of proposed amendments to a By-Law or Regulation must be made in writing, signed by a Member In Good Standing and must be received by the Executive Director by electronic mail, registered mail or the equivalent at least sixty

(60) days in advance of the Annual Meeting at which they are to be considered.

**17.3** Except where the amendment proposed in accordance with either **Section 17.1** or **17.2** does not comply with the Act, the Executive Director shall, by electronic mail, ordinary mail or the equivalent, notify all Members of the list of proposed amendments at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**17.4** If the Board intends to discuss any amendment of the By-Laws or Regulations at a Board meeting, written notice of such intention shall be sent by the Executive Director to each Director not less than ten (10) days before such meeting. Where such notice is not provided, any recommendation to amend the By-Laws or Regulations may nevertheless be moved at the meeting and discussion and voting thereon adjourned to the next meeting for which written notice of intention to pass or amend such By-Laws or Regulations shall be given.

**17.5** a) A By-Law, Regulation or an amendment to a By-Law or Regulation, recommended by the Board or proposed by a Member, shall be presented for adoption by the Members at the next Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting called by the Board for that purpose in accordance with the Act. The notice of such Annual Meeting shall refer to, describe and explain the By-Law, Regulation or amendment(s) to the By-Law or Regulation to be presented at the Meeting of Members, including the proposed text of such By-Law, Regulation or amendment(s) to a By-Law or Regulation.

- b) Except as otherwise required by the Act, a motion to amend the By-Laws, recommended by the Board or proposed by a Member at an Annual Meeting or at a Special Meeting called for that purpose, must be approved by a majority of the Members present and voting at such meeting.
- c) A motion to amend the Regulations, recommended by the Board or proposed by a Member, at an Annual Meeting or at a Special Meeting called for that purpose, must be approved by a majority of the Members present and voting at such meeting.
- d) The Members at an Annual Meeting or at a Special Meeting may confirm the proposed By-Law, Regulation or amended By-Law or Regulation as presented, or amend or reject the proposed By-Law, Regulation or amended By-Law or Regulation.

**17.6** Any changes to **Hockey Canada or OHF Regulations**, which make the Regulations more stringent than the current OMHA Regulations, will be adopted by the OMHA and be implemented for the current playing season.

**17.7** In addition to the Chair of any Meeting of Members pursuant to **Section 5.9** of this By-law, an independent “**Resolutions Chairperson**” may be appointed by the Board to conduct that portion of the Meeting of Members dealing with changes or amendments to the By-Laws and/or changes or amendments to the Regulations.

## **18.0 REPEAL OF PRIOR BY-LAWS**

### **18.1 Repeal**

All prior by-laws of the OMHA are hereby repealed as of the coming into force of this By-Law.

### **18.2 Proviso**

The repeal of all prior by-laws of the OMHA shall not impair in any way the validity of any act or thing done or right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired or incurred under, or the validity of any contract or agreement made pursuant to any such by-laws prior to its repeal.

## **19.0 RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**19.1** The most current edition of "Procedures for Meetings and Organizations" by M.K. Kerr and Hubert W. King shall govern the rules and procedures to be used in conducting the meetings and affairs of the OMHA in all cases to which they are applicable, provided they are not inconsistent with the By-Laws or any other governing documents or laws affecting the OMHA.

## **20.0 ENACTMENT & EFFECTIVE DATE**

**20.1** This By-Law shall come into force at the close of the 2025 OMHA Annual Meeting without further formality, upon its enactment after approval by the Voting Members of the OMHA.

## By-Law One

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**20.2** This By-law is hereby enacted, sanctioned, confirmed and approved without variation by the affirmative vote of the Voting Members at a Meeting of Members held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

## ELECTORAL REGIONS

### REGION ONE - WESTERN DISTRICT

Ausable Valley	Mooretown	St. Thomas
Belle River	Mount Brydges	Strathroy
Dresden	Petrolia	Talbot
East Lambton	Point Edward	Tecumseh-Shoreline
Elgin Thames	Port Stanley	Thamesford
Lake Erie	Riverside	Wallaceburg
Kent	South Huron	West Lorne
Lambeth	South Kent	Windsor
Lambton Shores	Southwest	
Lasalle	St. Marys	

### REGION TWO - WESTERN DISTRICT

Ayr	Hamilton Steel	Port Colborne
Beverly	Jordan	South Oxford
Brant County	Langton	Southern Tier Zone
Delhi Norwich	New Hamburg	Stoney Creek
Embro	Niagara Falls	Tavistock
Garden City	Niagara North Zone	Thorold
Garden City Kiwanis	Niagara-On-The-Lake	Twin Centre
Glancaster	Norfolk	Wainfleet
Greater Fort Erie	Pelham	Welland
Haldimand	Plattsburg	West Niagara

## **REGION THREE - CENTRAL DISTRICT**

Arthur	Dundas	Halton Zone
Brampton	Erin-Hillsburgh	Hespeler
Burlington	Flamborough	Milton
Caledon	Guelph	Oakville
Centre Wellington	Guelph Zone	Orangeville
Credit River Zone	Halton Hills	Woolwich

## **REGION FOUR - CENTRAL DISTRICT**

Aurora	Markham/Unionville	Upper York
Barrie	Markham Zone	Whitchurch-Stouffville
Barrie Zone	Newmarket	York Simcoe Zone
Beeton	New Tecumseth	
King Township	Orillia	
Lefroy	Richmond Hill	
Markham House	South Simcoe	
League	Thornton	

## **REGION FIVE - EASTERN DISTRICT**

Almaguin	Grand Valley	North Central Zone
Apsley	Grey Bruce Zone	Oro
Bancroft	Highland Storm	Orono
Brock	Honeywood	Osprey
Clearview	Huntsville	Owen Sound
Coldwater	Kawartha	Parry Sound
Collingwood	Lindsay	Shelburne
Durham	Manvers	South Grey
Elmvale	Mariposa	South Muskoka
Essa	Millbrook	Sturgeon Lake
Georgian Bay	Muskoka Rock	Wasaga Beach
Georgian Shores	Newcastle	Woodville

## **REGION SIX - EASTERN DISTRICT**

Ajax Pickering	Ennismore	Norwood
Belleville	Frontenac	Oshawa
Brighton	Gananoque	Otonabee
Campbellford	Grafton	Peterborough
Central Ontario Zone	Greater Kingston Zone	Peterborough Zone
Centre Hastings	Havelock	Prince Edward County
Church Athletic League of Kingston	Kingston Area	Quinte West
Clarington	Lakefield	Quinte Zone
Clarington Rec	Loyalist Township	Stirling
Colborne	Napanee	Stone Mills
Deseronto	North Durham	Tweed
Douro	North Shore Zone	Warkworth
	Northumberland	Whitby

### WOAA

Arran-Elderslie	Kincardine	South Bruce
Blyth-Brussels	Listowel	Southeast
Bruce Grey	Mid-Huron	Southwest Admirals
Bruce Peninsula	Midwest	Tri-Centre
Central Perth	Minto Township	Walkerton
Chatsworth & District	Mitchell	Wallace
Drayton	Mount Forest	West Coast
Goderich	Saugeen Shores	Wingham
Howick	Saugeen Valley	Zurich
Huron-Bruce	Shallow Lake	

**Note:** The current OMHA-WOAA agreement is on file with both the OMHA and the WOAA.



# REGULATIONS

AS REVISED AND AMENDED AT THE  
ANNUAL MEETING ON JUNE 14, 2025



Wherever the context herein permits, reference to the male shall be inclusive of all gender identities and gender expressions.

Highlighted sections and/or paragraphs are new or changed sections.

REGULATIONS



# REGULATIONS

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## 1.0 MEMBERSHIP

### 1.1 Application

Every team applying for entry must specify the Centre from which it plans to operate, and be governed by all Regulations (residential or otherwise) applicable to that particular Centre.

### 1.2 Date

- a) The closing date for all entries shall be **June 1st**.
- b) Any or all dates set for entries, at the Annual Meeting, may be changed by the Board, if conditions warrant.

### 1.3 Entries

- a) The Board shall have the authority to accept and classify entries.
- b) Each Centre will file a map with the OMHA office. This map will show the built up area of the Centre and any OMHA authorized defined boundaries. A written description will accompany the map. These maps and descriptions will be kept on file in the OMHA office and will be updated as required. All such submissions require approval of the Board.
- c) All sanctioned teams must be registered and approved on OMHA electronic rosters.
- d) A Centre must enter a representative team in any age group before it can enter a sub-division representative team in the same age group.
- e) Except as outlined in **Regulation 1.3h**, any team wishing to enter from a Centre operating an organized league affiliated

with the OMHA must receive permission in writing from the affiliated local organization.

- f) Member teams shall not play in any league not under the direct control of the OMHA without permission of the OMHA Board.
- g) The OMHA reserves the right to refuse any entry.
- h) Where the OMHA Board after due consideration of all the circumstances of hockey in any given Centre, and after consultation with the local affiliated organization, feels that a second Association is in the best interest of minor hockey it may grant permission for such additional Association.

### **1.4 Centres Over 200,000 Population**

- a) Any OMHA Centre whose population base has reached a level of approximately 200,000 may be required to enter more teams at existing categories or to restructure their organization in an equitable manner.
  - i) Prior to any decision being considered the affected organizations must be included in discussions about the situation.
  - ii) There must be an extensive review completed, appropriate to the situation, with consideration given to all contributory factors which may include, calibre, demographics, ice availability, travel, and economic costs amongst others.
  - iii) The process must allow for this input and involvement although the decision rests with the League Structure Committee and ultimately the Board.

- b) Any OMHA Centre which is required to have multiple entries, will have the option of determining player eligibility by either of the following methods:
  - i) voluntarily, and with the concurrence of the OMHA Board, a Centre may divide its Centre geographically.
  - ii) an open draft of all eligible players in an OMHA Centre who desire to play representative or additional entry team hockey, shall be conducted under one of the following methods:
    - (a) where there is only one organization governing Minor hockey in a Centre, the OMHA Board shall appoint a person to supervise the common draft and its implementations.
    - (b) where there is more than one OMHA affiliated organization governing Minor hockey in a Centre, the common draft shall be supervised by a Council, which shall consist of a Chairperson and one delegate appointed by each of the OMHA affiliated organizations in that Centre. The chairperson will have one vote on all matters brought before the Council and will also cast the deciding vote in the case of a tie.
    - (c) each member of the Council will be entitled to have an observer who will act in that member's absence. An observer may be granted permission to speak at the discretion of the chairperson, but may not propose or second motions or vote.

### **1.5 Governing Authority**

In all OMHA competition, the Hockey Canada Rule Book will be the governing authority for all hockey played under the jurisdiction of the OMHA. Additional Rules to the Hockey Canada Rule Book, as appearing herein, shall also be in force.

### **1.6 Association Contacts**

Each association shall appoint not more than two contact persons to the OMHA.

### **1.7 Fees**

- a) The OMHA Board shall be empowered to establish all team entry fees at a sum sufficient to assure the reasonable financial requirements of the OMHA, OHF and Hockey Canada assessments. The entry fees for OMHA teams shall be communicated annually upon approval by the OMHA Board.
- b) Centres are required to register and pay for their teams by **June 1st** each year. Any teams not registered and paid for by **June 1st** will be assessed an additional non-refundable \$10 late fee per team. Centres wishing to add additional teams, following their initial team registration, or requesting a refund of the entry fee for any team which they cannot ice, must submit to the OMHA office by **December 1st** of that playing year.

### **1.8 Release of Membership**

- a) Any release, which is required under the Regulations, must be signed by the President and Secretary of the Home Centre, which holds their playing rights. The release will not be valid if OMHA Regulations do not permit.
- b) Any release to a Junior or higher division team for players granted permission to play for a team in a Centre or Zone other than the player's Home Centre shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the Home Centre as well as the President and Secretary of the other Centre or Zone.

### **1.9 Responsibilities**

- a) Any player, team or team official accepted by the OMHA resorting to legal action against the OMHA without first exercising their right of appeal throughout the complete appeal procedure shall be deemed to have withdrawn from further competition.

## 2.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

### 2.1 Players

a) Division	Age Limit
U21	18, 19 & 20 years as at Dec. 31
U18	15, 16 & 17 years as at Dec. 31
U15	13 & 14 years as at Dec. 31
U13	11 & 12 years as at Dec. 31
U11	9 & 10 years as at Dec. 31
U9	8 years as at Dec. 31
U7	5 & 6 years as at Dec. 31
U5	4 years as at Dec. 31
Sub-Division	Age Limit
U16	15 years as at Dec. 31
U14	13 years as at Dec. 31
U12	11 years as at Dec. 31
U10	9 years as at Dec. 31
U8	7 years as at Dec. 31

b) A birth certificate for each player, issued by the Registrar-General, indicating the Province in which the player was born and the date on which the player was born, shall be filed by each Centre with the Regional Director or their designate. This certificate must indicate that the player has not attained the age limit as set out in **Regulation 2.1a)** before **January 1st** of the season in which the player intends to compete.

c) The Regional Director or their designate will check each birth certificate to ensure that the player has not exceeded the age limit for the division to which the player has applied.

- d) Where a player was born in a country other than Canada, the player may provide a document from Employment and Immigration Canada, which verifies the date of birth of the player, and such document will be accepted as being equivalent to a birth certificate.
- e) Any player who is an amateur in good standing shall be eligible to play for a Centre, provided they have obtained any consent required by Hockey Canada, or any Member Partner of the Ontario Hockey Federation.

### **2.2 Registration**

#### **a) Representative/Minor Development**

All players shall be eligible in accordance with related regulations and be registered with the OMHA on an **approved** electronic roster. These player's names are to be submitted for approval by the Regional Directors.

- i) Any player released after **January 10th** of the current season is ineligible to register with any other team in the current season.

#### **b) House League and Local League**

- i) All players shall be registered with the OMHA on **approved** electronic rosters which are to be submitted to the Regional Director within three (3) weeks after the Centres' schedule begins, but no later than **December 1st**.
- ii) No players shall be transferred after **January 10th**. Any player released after **January 10th** of the current season is ineligible to register with any other team in the current season.

### **2.3 Residential Qualifications**

- a) Refer to OHF Regulations.

### **2.4 Eligibility to Play in a Higher Division**

- a) Centres must establish criteria that players would be required to meet in order to play on a higher division team.
- b) A player shall be eligible to attend evaluations and, if qualified by ability, may register and play for a Representative team in the next higher division. Associations cannot prevent underage players from attending evaluations in the higher division.

Example: A Minor-age U13 player would be eligible to try-out and sign with either the U13 team, the U14 team or the U15 team.

### **2.5 Residential Move**

- a) Any player who legitimately moves after **December 1st** of any season shall have the choice of finishing the season with their original team or with a team in the Centre to which he has moved. If the move takes place on or before **December 1st** they will be only eligible to play for a team in the Centre to which they have moved.
- b) Any player who moves into the jurisdiction of another Centre or any player who resides in a right of choice area and makes any change of residence after **December 1st** prior to the end of the current season must file a residence questionnaire with the OMHA office.

### 2.6 Eligibility To Play

- a) Refer to **Regulation 1.8**.
- b) A player shall not participate in any game of the team's regular playing schedule before registering with the Regional Director the following documents:
  - i) OMHA electronic roster.
  - ii) proof of age.
- c) The Regional Director or their designate will approve Electronic Rosters.
- d) Players shall not be signed after **February 10th** for current season play.
- e) An approved electronic roster is the only document needed for participation in the first five (5) games of the regular playing schedule.

Note: The Executive Director shall not have any authority to accept an electronic roster submitted and date stamped later than **February 10th** for the current season.
- f) An approved electronic roster must be in the possession of the Team Officials before the player is eligible to take part in any OMHA Championships game.
- g) An approved copy of the electronic roster will be returned to the team's management. The electronic roster must be kept in the team's possession at all times and be available for examination by the opposing team prior to the commencement of games in OMHA Championships. The team management shall make any such request for examination to the opposing team management prior to the commencement of the game. For the eligibility of affiliated players, refer to **Regulation 5**.

- h) Any player moving back from Junior hockey may sign for the Representative or Sub-Division Representative team only. Such player is not eligible to sign and play for an additional entry team, Minor Development, Local League or House League team that season.

## 3.0 TEAM COMPOSITION

### 3.1 Representative

- a) Representative teams, U10 through U18, may roster a maximum of twenty (20) players but not less than eleven (11) players. U21 teams may roster a maximum of twenty-five (25) players.
  - i) Teams may dress, for any sanctioned game, a maximum of twenty (20) players (up to eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goaltenders.)
  - ii) Players identified as a goaltender shall play only in goal.
- b) Teams in Categories AAA, AA, A, eligible to compete in Branch, Regional or National Championships which have rostered their maximum number of players as of January 10<sup>th</sup>, shall not be permitted to register any additional players during the current season. Teams that have not rostered their maximum number of players as of **January 10<sup>th</sup>**, may register qualified players until **February 10<sup>th</sup>**.
- c) Before any such team is eligible to take part in any OMHA Championships game, a copy of the team's approved roster must be in the possession of the Team Officials and a copy should be carried by the responsible team official to all games.

d) Teams eligible for Hockey Canada National and Regional Championships, or OHF Championships include:

National/Regional Championships	OHF Championships	
AAA	AA	A
U18	U18	U18
U15	U15	U15
U13	U13	U13

e) Electronic rosters upon which goaltenders are registered shall be clearly marked as “goaltender” and shall not be permitted to play any other position.

- i) Any Coach who allows either of the goaltenders to play any position other than goal shall automatically be suspended until dealt with by the President.
- ii) The goaltender restriction cited in **Regulations 3.1b), 3.1e) and 3.1e)i)** above shall not apply to the U13 Division or below.

f) Travel permits for Tournament and Exhibition games must be approved via the OMHA Portal by the Regional Director, appointed OMHA Area Convenor, or designate prior to being played. Any applicable fees must be paid prior to approval.

### **3.2 House League and Local League**

a) A House League Team is a team which competes regularly in a recreational House League within a Centre through which it must be affiliated with the OMHA. A Local League Team is a team which competes regularly in a Local League comprised of a number of Centres which must be affiliated with the OMHA.

- b) OMHA House League and Local League Roster Sheets will be released upon payment of the entry fee. Completed electronic rosters are to be submitted for approval to the Regional Director or his designate as per **Regulation 2.2**. Players may be used as affiliated players as per Affiliation Regulations.
- c) House League and Local League teams may roster a maximum of twenty (20) players. U18 and U21 teams may roster a maximum of twenty-five (25) players.
  - i) House League and Local League teams are not required to declare a goaltender on their rosters.
  - ii) Teams may dress, for any sanctioned game, a maximum of twenty (20) players (up to eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goaltenders.)
  - iii) Players identified as a goaltender shall play only in goal.
- d) Travel permits for Tournament and Exhibition games must be approved via the OMHA Portal by the Regional Director, appointed OMHA Area Convenor, or designate prior to being played. Any applicable fees must be paid prior to approval.
- e) House League and Local League teams must include Team Officials as noted in **Regulation 4**.
- f) House League and Local Leagues teams are not eligible to participate in Representative or Minor Development exhibition games or tournaments.
- g) Players registered and approved on OMHA House League and Local League electronic rosters may play as per OMHA Affiliation Regulations.
  - i) Players affiliating to a Representative team, or a higher divisional House League or Local League team must be listed on

the team's approved OMHA Affiliated Players List, as per current Affiliation Regulation.

- ii) House League and Local League players must fulfill their commitment to their House League or Local League team before playing as an affiliated player as per OMHA Affiliation Regulations.
- h) Refer to OMHA **Policy 3.3** for additional information.
- i) Within the House League or Local League, the OMHA establishes a special Division to be named U18-U21, for the purpose of it being to enable participants to continue to play minor hockey. While the age range for U18-U21 is the combined age range for separate U18 and U21 Divisions, the U18 age players participating in U18-U21 will be deemed to be playing on U18 electronic rosters and U21 age players will be deemed to be playing on U21 electronic rosters. Within the Centre, providing the player is eligible for residency restricted hockey within that Centre, a U18 age player is eligible to affiliate to one U18 team of their own age Division and a U21 age player is eligible to affiliate to one U21 team of their own age Division, regardless of the category of the affiliating team.

### **3.3 Select**

- a) A Select Team is a team comprised of players selected from affiliated House League or Local League teams in a Centre. All players must be eligible by age.
- b) All teams must be registered on an electronic roster.
- c) Select teams may roster a maximum of twenty (20) players. U18 and U21 teams may roster a maximum of twenty-five (25) players.

- i) Select teams are not required to declare a goaltender on their rosters.
- ii) Teams may dress, for any sanctioned game, a maximum of twenty (20) players (up to eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goaltenders.)
- iii) Players identified as a goaltender shall play only in goal.
- d) Select Team rosters must be submitted to the Regional Director or their designate for approval prior to participation.
- e) Players are not eligible to be registered with more than one Select Team in a Centre in a season.
- f) The number of exhibition games allowed is four (4) per month and the number of tournaments allowed is four (4) per season.
- g) Travel permits for Tournament and Exhibition games must be approved via the OMHA Portal by the Regional Director, appointed OMHA Area Convenor, or designate prior to being played.
- h) Participation on a Select Team is not considered an OMHA affiliation.
- i) A Select Team may not affiliate players.
- j) Players rostered to a higher age division team in House/Local League are allowed to be rostered to the Select team in their own age division, provided the rostering team is not eligible for OHF, Provincial or Regional Championships.

### 3.4 Minor Development

- a) A Minor Development Team is a team comprised of players who are eligible as per OMHA **Regulation and Policy**.
- b) Minor Development Teams shall not be permitted participation until the Regional Director or their designate has approved the team's electronic roster as per **Regulation 2.6**.
- c) Applications to register a Minor Development Team with the OMHA must be received by the OMHA by **June 1st** prior to the current playing season. Such application will only be accepted if the requirements of the Local and House League Regulations have been fulfilled. Application to register a Minor Development Team must be accompanied by the appropriate fee as per the current OMHA fee schedule.
- d) Minor Development teams may roster a maximum of twenty (20) players. U18 and U21 teams may roster a maximum of twenty-five (25) players.
  - i) Minor Development teams are not required to declare a goaltender on their rosters.
  - ii) Teams may dress, for any sanctioned game, a maximum of twenty (20) players (up to eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goaltenders.)
  - iii) Players identified as a goaltender shall play only in goal.
- e) Minor Development Teams registered with the OMHA will be eligible to participate in sanctioned tournaments and exhibition games with other OMHA and approved teams from affiliated members/branches of the OHF/Hockey Canada.

- f) Minor Development Teams, in divisions U12 and above, will be permitted participation in four (4) tournaments per season.
- g) Travel permits for Tournament and Exhibition games must be approved via the OMHA Portal by the Regional Director, appointed OMHA Area Convenor, or designate prior to being played. Any applicable fees must be paid prior to approval.
- h) Minor Development teams shall be permitted affiliation per OMHA **Regulation 5.0**.
- i) Players are not eligible to be registered with more than one Minor Development Team in a Centre in a season.
  - i) Players registered and participating solely on a Minor Development Team shall be permitted one affiliation as per current OMHA Regulations.

## 4.0 TEAM OFFICIALS

### 4.1 Games/Responsibilities

- a) The Coach in charge of any team must, before any game, place their name and signature on the official game report in the spaces provided for the Head Coach and he shall be regarded as the responsible officer of the team for that game. The individual will assume responsibility to the OMHA for the eligibility of all players of the team in that game, and for the conduct of their Team Officials and players during the game, and while traveling to and from that game.
  - i) Failure of the coach in charge to place their name and signature on the official game report shall result in an

automatic two (2) game suspension to the person failing to do so.

- ii) Failure of Team Officials, other than the coach in charge, to place their name and signature on the official game report shall result in a one (1) game suspension to the person failing to do so.
- b) Where an OMHA team has only one team official remaining on the bench and that team official leaves their position for any reason (e.g. ejection, sickness, injury to a player, unforeseen emergency) the referee shall enlist the supervisory services of a registered team official from that same Association, who is in attendance at the game. If an appropriate designate cannot be found, the game shall be suspended.  
Note: Any new team official so enlisted shall print and sign their name on the official game report.
- c) Where a player arrives late and their name has been included on the official game report prior to the game, the referee shall be notified at the first stoppage of play following their arrival.
- d) Team Officials are designated as Coach, Trainer, Manager, Assistant Coach or Assistant Trainer.
  - i) Each team registered in the OMHA on an electronic roster must have registered at least two different persons on the electronic roster, a Coach and a Trainer, qualified as outlined in **Regulation 4.2** and **4.3**.
  - ii) After the Coach and Trainer positions are filled, additional Team Officials may be designated up to a maximum of five (5). If a team wishes to add additional personnel, they

will be designated as either Assistant Coach or Assistant Trainer or Manager. The team may only identify one Manager on their roster.

- iii) Every OMHA team registered on an approved electronic roster must have a qualified and registered coach and a qualified and registered trainer on the bench at the start of and during the game (unless ejected from the game). In addition, other qualified and registered officials of that team may sign the official game sheet and be on the bench at the start of and during the game. There shall be no more than five (5) Team Officials signed to the official game report and on the bench during a game.
- iv) All Team Officials must have Speak Out or Respect in Sport Activity Leader, in addition to all other Certification appropriate to their position.
- e) All Team Officials must be registered with the OMHA and the appropriate Centre/Zone to be able to participate in sanctioned activities with any team from that Centre/Zone and must also be recorded on a game report to be eligible to be on the team bench during a game.

### **4.2 Coaches**

(see **Regulations Appendix A** - Team Official Qualification Requirements)

- a) Electronic Rosters will not be approved by the Regional Director for a coach or assistant coach unless the OMHA NCCP Qualification issued to that person on completion of the NCCP Program is clearly indicated on all copies of the electronic roster.

- b) The age requirement for Head Coaches is a minimum of nineteen (19) years of age and a minimum of four (4) years older than the division age limit of the team for which they are Coach. The minimum age for Assistant Coaches is sixteen (16) years of age and a minimum of four (4) years older than the division age limit of which they are Coach. Assistant Coaches may not act as Head Coach unless a minimum of age nineteen (19) and a minimum of four (4) years older than the division age limit of the team.
- c) The OMHA Chair, Coaches Program may grant equivalency for NCCP Development 1 based on written application outlining academic, playing, and coaching experience and submitting the appropriate fee.
- d) To be eligible to be a coach or an assistant coach on any team registered with the OMHA on an electronic roster, a person must be qualified in accordance with **Regulations Appendix A** – Team Official Qualification Requirements.

### 4.3 Trainers

- a) To be eligible to be a trainer or assistant trainer on any team registered with the OMHA, on an electronic roster, a person must be qualified in accordance with **Regulations Appendix A** – Team Officials Qualification Requirements.  
Note: The age requirement for Head Trainers and Assistant Trainers is a minimum of nineteen (19) years of age and a minimum of one (1) year older than the division age limit of the team for which they are Trainer.
- b) There is no equivalency to the HTCP Level I. Any person who shows proof of current certification in Standard First Aid

from a recognized service provider (as recognized by Workers' Safety Insurance Board), and has successfully completed HTCP Level I, may be granted the HTCP Level II certification by remitting a fee and proof of current qualification to the OMHA. Individuals who have successfully completed HTCP Level I and hold the following professional qualifications may also be granted HTCP Level II certification by remitting a fee and proof of current qualification to the OMHA:

- Ambulance Emergency Medical Care Attendant
- Basic Trauma Life Support
- Canadian Athletic Therapists Association
- Chiropractor
- Dentist
- Military Medic (valid for two (2) years from end of service date and all qualifications must be licensed in Canada)
- National Athletic Trainers' Association
- Occupational Health Nurse
- Registered Nurse
- Registered Respiratory Therapist
- Physician
- Physiotherapist

c) The HTCP Level I program is valid for three (3) seasons including the season of issue with the exception of those qualifying under **Regulation 4.3b**). Those persons holding an HTCP level I qualification only must attend an HTCP clinic and re-qualify after the third season. Those persons who qualify under **Regulation 4.3b**) must submit a photocopy of

valid current certification each season with their Hockey Canada Registration Certificate to remain eligible.

### **4.5 Managers**

The age requirement for Managers is a minimum of 19 years of age and a minimum of four (4) years older than the division age limit of the team for which they are Manager.

## **5.0 AFFILIATION**

### **5.1 Teams**

- a) Refer to OHF Playing Regulations.

### **5.2 Affiliated Player**

- a) Any player participating in a game as an affiliated player must be indicated on the game report by having "AP" beside their name. Appearance of the player's name on the official game report shall be considered participation in the game, except in the case of a substitute goaltender, in which case actual participation shall be specifically noted on the game report.
- b) To be eligible to play in OMHA Championships and/or League Playoffs with their rostered team, a player affiliating to another team, including Junior, must have played in a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the regular season League games played by their rostered team after he has been rostered with that team.
- c) An OWHA Registered player/goalie is permitted to participate as an affiliated player/goalie with one Minor

Hockey team at one time, of a higher division or category during the playing season. OWhA players may affiliate to a category lower than their rostered OWhA team pending approval by the Regional Director and the Vice President.

- d) In addition to their Minor affiliation, a player may affiliate with a Junior team.
- e) A player, to be affiliated with their eligible AAA Zone team, must be registered with their Home Centre, must be eligible by age for the AAA Zone team, and must be registered with a team of the same or lower division in their Home Centre.
- f) Players rostered to a higher age division team in House/Local League who are eligible for residency restricted hockey within the Centre of registration are allowed to Affiliate to a Representative team in their own age Division, provided the affiliating team is not eligible for Hockey Canada National or Regional Championships or OHF Championships (see **Regulation 3.1d) and e)**).

g) For the purpose of affiliation, Categories will be ranked in the following order:  
B, BB, A, AA, AAA

In age divisions where an Association rosters two teams at the same Category, the teams will be rostered using the following designation eg. B1 and B2 etc.

Example:

Player on U11 B2 team may affiliate to:  
U11 B1\* or;  
U13 B2

Player on U15 BB team may affiliate to:  
U16 BB or;  
U15 A

\*NOTE: Players cannot affiliate from a B2 team to a B1 team if these teams participate in the same League and play games against each other.

### 5.3 Restriction on Affiliation

a) Players affiliated to a AAA team eligible for Hockey Canada National and Regional Championships (U13, U15 or U18) may participate as an affiliated player to a maximum of ten (10) games before becoming ineligible to affiliate. If a player plays an eleventh (11th) game as an affiliate while their registered team is still in regular season, OMHA Championships or League playoffs he is considered an

ineligible player with their affiliate team and the sanctions, within OMHA **Regulation 6.1h**), for playing an ineligible player will apply. For goaltender participation see OMHA **Regulation 5.2a**).

Note: Tournament and exhibition games shall not count as part of the player's ten (10) games.

Examples:

(1) Player's affiliated AAA team is eligible for National and Regional Championships:

Player 'A' is registered to a U16 AAA team (a team that is not eligible for Regional and National Championships) and is an affiliate player to a U18 AAA team (a team that is eligible for regional and national championships). They are eligible to participate as an affiliate player for a maximum of ten (10) games with the U18 AAA team while their U16 AAA team is still in regular season, OMHA Championships or League Playoffs.

(2) Player's affiliated team is not eligible for regional and national championships:

Player 'B' is an affiliate player with a team not eligible for Regional and National championships. They are eligible to affiliate an unlimited number of times during the season.

## 6.0 SUSPENSIONS

### 6.1 General Information

- a) OMHA Regional Directors, Officers or the Board of Directors as a whole shall have the power to suspend or discipline any OMHA Player, Manager, Coach, Trainer, Referee or Executive member connected with any OMHA Centre, Zone or League.
- b) If a player or team official receive a match penalty the team's Centre contact shall be notified by midnight of the fourteenth (14th) day following the infraction (match) as to the total number of games or calendar days received. If the OMHA fails to notify the team's Centre contact of the terms of suspension by midnight of the fourteenth (14th) day following the infraction, the match penalty suspension will be considered served, and the said player or team official will be eligible to return to play.
- c) The Coach or in the absence of the Head Coach the Coach in Charge, of any OMHA team whose team accumulates more than the allowable minutes in penalties in any game shall be automatically suspended per **Regulation 6.2** Serving Suspensions, according to the chart below:

<b>Division</b>	<b>Penalty Minutes (Including Overtime)</b>	<b>Suspension</b>
<b>U13 and Below</b>	27-51 Minutes	1 Game
	52-77 Minutes	3 Games
	78+ Minutes	5 Games
<b>U14 and Above</b>	37-71 Minutes	1 Game
	72-107 Minutes	3 Games
	108+ Minutes	5 Games

Note: For the purpose of the Regulation the time of misconducts, gross misconducts and game misconducts assessed to players shall not be counted, but any such penalties assessed to Team Officials and the five (5) minutes charged to a player for a match penalty shall be counted. Any game misconduct or gross misconduct penalty assessed to Team Officials will automatically add ten (10) minutes to the team's penalty minutes in each case.

- d) Any team which fails to comply with the **Regulations 4.1d)iii)** in any game, shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- e) Any player or team official whose name appears on the official game report and/or participates in the game and is ineligible for any reason will cause their team to forfeit the game regardless of the score of the game. The nonoffending team shall be awarded the two (2) points for the game. The Coach shall be suspended for three (3) games, in addition to any other suspension he might receive in the game. The ineligible player shall be required to fulfill the balance of any

suspension that made them ineligible. The ineligible team official shall be required to fulfill the balance of any suspension that made them ineligible and shall also have two (2) games added to their suspension. Any team official who participates a second time during the current season while ineligible or in a second game while using an ineligible participant shall be suspended for the balance of the current season.

- f) Any player or team official who incurs a penalty at any time before, during or after a game when an offence is committed on or off the ice, shall be assessed at least the minimum suspension(s) contained in the Suspension List Minor Hockey as adopted by the OHF Board of Directors.

### 6.2 Serving Suspensions

**Note 1:** In no case will a team be allowed to schedule or reschedule a game after a suspension has been assessed in order to lessen the severity of a suspension. Exhibition games do not count towards the games to be served as a result of a suspension.

- a) A player or team official who is assessed a penalty which calls for an automatic (1, 2 or multiple games) or a match penalty suspension will serve it/them in the next game(s) their rostered team plays, whether tournament, League, League Playoff or OMHA Championships. Suspensions will be served with the team with which they were incurred. In the event the team to which the player or team official is rostered has been eliminated from OMHA Championships and all League Playoffs, the suspended player or team

Official may serve the balance of the suspension with their other rostered team in tournaments, OMHA Championships or League Playoffs. **See Note 1**

- b) A player or team official under suspension as a result of a match penalty shall be suspended for a number of OMHA games or calendar days, and shall not take part in any games, including exhibition, during the term of suspension. Exhibition games do not count towards the games to be served as a result of a match penalty. The participants name shall be recorded on the game sheet as suspended until the appropriate number of games have been served.
  - i) A player shall not play with their team, nor shall he participate in any other OMHA capacity, including as an affiliated player, for which he may be eligible during the term of their suspension. The player may participate in practice.
  - ii) A team official shall be suspended from all game related duties and will not participate, communicate or associate with the team nor shall they participate in any other OMHA capacity, including as a team official for any other team(s) for which they may be eligible during the full term of the suspension. The team official may participate in practice.
- c) If an affiliated player receives a suspension with either their rostered team or the team to which they are affiliated, the player must serve the suspension with the team to which they are rostered and will not be allowed to participate as an affiliate player with any team until the suspension has been served. **See Note 1**

Exception 1: In the event the team to which the player is rostered has been eliminated from OMHA Championships and all League Playoffs, the suspended player may serve the balance of the suspension with their affiliated team in tournaments, OMHA Championships or League Playoffs.

The player's name must be recorded on the official game report of their affiliated team as a suspended player. This player would now become a member of their affiliated team and forfeit the right to play for the team to which they are rostered for the balance of the current season.

Exception 2: When an affiliate player receives a suspension in a tournament game they shall commence serving the suspension in the next following tournament game. If the suspension is fully served before the tournament is over, the affiliate player may participate in any remaining tournament games and there will be no carryover of the suspension. Any remaining unserved game suspensions shall be carried over from the tournament and served with the team to which the player is rostered. The suspended player will not be allowed to play for any team until the suspension has been served.

Note: In this situation the affiliate player does not forfeit the right to play for the team to which they are registered for the balance of the current season.

- d) A player on a Select team receiving any suspension, as a result of penalties incurred with either their rostered house/local league team or their Select team will serve the suspension with either their house/local league or Select

team and will not be allowed to participate as an affiliate to any team, until the suspension has been served.

e) When a suspension falls under **Policy 5.1.3 or Regulation 6.1a)** an appeal hearing can be requested on behalf of the suspended participant. Such request shall be made in writing, signed by the President and Secretary of the Minor Hockey Association, to the Regional Director assessing the suspension. Such hearing shall be held within four weeks from receipt of the request.

### **6.3 Refusing to Start Play**

In any application of **Hockey Canada Playing Rule 10.8 b)** Refusing to Start Play, the person registered in that game as Head Coach shall be immediately suspended until the matter has been reviewed by the OMHA and an ultimate decision rendered. The Team Officials and/or players of the team may be suspended for one year or more.

### **6.4 Falsifying Documents**

a) Any player proven guilty by their Branch or Hockey Canada of falsifying a birth certificate, electronic registration, or forging and playing under an assumed name, or of having had the knowledge that same had been falsified, or of playing on other than their own birth certificate or electronic roster, shall be automatically suspended from playing hockey with any team affiliated with Hockey Canada for a period of no less than one year and no more than three (3) years from the date of his suspension.

- b) Any officer, executive member of a team, club, union or Association, proven guilty by their Branch or Hockey Canada of having been a party to, or having had such knowledge of such falsification, shall be automatically suspended from playing or holding office with any team, club, union or Association affiliated with Hockey Canada for a period to be determined by the OMHA Board.
- c) Falsifying a Hockey Canada coaches or assistant coaches Qualification/Certification when the person has not completed the appropriate NCCP program and has not properly registered the proof of valid Qualification/Certification with the OMHA, shall cause that person to be ineligible to be registered on an electronic roster in the OMHA for that season.
- d) Falsifying a trainer's Hockey Canada certificate, when the person has not successfully completed the appropriate HTCP program and has not properly registered the proof of valid certification with the OMHA, shall cause that person to be ineligible to be registered on an electronic roster in the OMHA for that season.

## 7.0 GAME REGULATIONS

### 7.1 Postponement

- a) League games shall not be postponed except in the case of emergency. When a team desires to change the date of a game for any reason other than an emergency, the change must be requested a minimum of fourteen (14) days in advance of the scheduled date, and a mutually

agreeable date prior to that originally scheduled arranged through the league designate or OMHA Convenor. Failing to secure such agreement, no team may change the date of any scheduled game.

### 7.2 Length of Game

a) Games will be played in accordance with the following schedule as it fits the available ice time. This time must be noted on the game report and signed by the responsible officers of each team. All playing times shall be stop time.

b) **Table 7.2b)** applies to all games U9 to U21 inclusive.

Note: The playing time of each period may not be adjusted, however, the warm up time may be adjusted to suit local conditions, but may not be eliminated. This must be noted on the game sheet, and signed by the responsible officials of both teams.

Available	Ice Time	Warm Up	1 <sup>st</sup> Per.	Rest	2 <sup>nd</sup> Per.	Rest	3 <sup>rd</sup> Per.
A	60	5	10		10		10
B	70	5	10		10		15
C	1:15	5	10		15		15
D	1:45	5	15		15	10	15
E	2:00	5	15		15	10	20
F	2:15	5	15		20	10	20
G	2:25	5	20	10	20	10	20
H	2:40	10	20	10	20	10	20

### 7.3 Curfew

- a) In all OMHA regular season, league, or playoff games, curfews are strongly discouraged and games should be completed as to the length of game agreed to at the beginning of the season or as per the play-off contract previously signed. In the event that a curfew cannot be avoided by the Home Centre, the following procedure must be followed. The length of the game must be adjusted to more accurately reflect the actual playing time available for the game as per **Table 7.2b**) (Not less than three (3) ten-minute periods). The adjusted length of game along with the actual curfew time must be noted on the official game report and signed by the responsible officials of both teams before the start of the game. The curfew time shall be judged by a mutually agreed upon clock. Each curfewed game requires the offending Centre to complete a report to their Regional Director, the league Convenor, and a copy to the visiting Centre affected by the curfew, explaining the reason for the curfewed game. If there is no attempt to avoid future curfewed games by repeat offenders, the OMHA may be requested to become involved in rectifying the situation.

Note: Penalty shots awarded at the expiry of regular playing time in any period/game of an OMHA regulation season, League Playoff or OMHA Championships game will be taken as per **Hockey Canada Rule 4.11 d)**, even if the game has ended, or is about to end by means of a prearranged curfew.

## 8.0 DEVELOPMENT (RELEASE) FEES

### 8.1 Scale

- a) Development Fees and Releases between Seasons
  - i) The OMHA follows the regulations for player release and player development fees as outlined in **OHF Regulation**, whereby the player release is automatically granted upon receipt of the maximum dollar figure paid by the new organization to the previous organization's Member Partner for players moving to higher levels of hockey.
  - ii) A Junior team requesting a release of a Minor Hockey player from the OMHA would pay the fees to the OHL/OHA with a cheque made payable to the OHL/OHA.
  - iii) Development fees will be paid by the OHL/OHA to the OMHA.
  - iv) Once received, the OMHA will disburse the development fees to the Association of the last rostered team, or split payment between Associations as is required by the **OHF Regulation**.
  - v) The split will be based on one (1) year of U9 through to U18 participation.  
(Example – If a participant plays U9 through U14 in X Association and U15 and U16 in Y Association, then X Association would be entitled to 6/8ths of the development fee).

## 9.0 LEAGUES

### 9.1 Leagues

Where a sufficient number of players are not available within a Centre's boundaries to form a House League Program, the Regional Director will assist it in combining with other Centres to form a Local League program.

## 10.0 PERSONAL APPEALS

Note: For information regarding the appeal of a Match Penalty please refer to OMHA **Policies and Procedures**. For additional information on Suspensions, refer to **Regulation 6.1**

### 10.1 Type and Cost

Any matter (excluding Match Penalties) which is appealed to the OMHA Appeal Committee or Board and is to be presented in person or virtually shall be subject to a fee of \$400.00.

### 10.2 Decision

- a) The hearer of the OMHA Appeal shall give its final decision in writing after the hearing, fact finding and/or further investigation is completed and may:
  - i) grant the appeal
  - ii) deny the appeal
  - iii) vary the decision appealed by:
    - (a) increasing or decreasing any suspension
    - (b) issuing an order prohibiting the continuation of any of the matters dealt with in the appeal

- iv) grant a refund of up to fifty (50) percent of the appeal fee
- b) A decision of the OMHA Appeal Committee or Board shall be final and binding on all parties and, provided that such matter has been first dealt with by the OMHA as a personal appeal, subject only to such further rights of Appeal as may be available under the By-Laws of the Ontario Hockey Federation.
- c) Whenever the President, a Board Member or Convenor, the sub-committee or the Board of the OMHA is required to, and has resolved a question, any Club, official or player who has been the recipient of the decision and who feels aggrieved thereby, shall have an appeal from such resolution to the "Ontario Hockey Federation Appeal Committee" provided such matter has been dealt with as a personal appeal except as follows:
  - i) an appeal lies from a decision of the President of the OMHA in matters which the President is authorized to decide as per Policy established by the Board of the OMHA. Such decisions may not be appealed beyond the limits established by the Board of the OMHA.
  - ii) an appeal lies from a decision regarding categorization (classification) or grouping of teams but such appeal shall be only to the Board of the OMHA and that decision shall be final.

## **11.0 EQUIPMENT**

### **11.1 Mandatory**

All mandatory equipment must be worn during all games and practices.

### **11.2 Sweaters**

No team shall be permitted to wear sweaters with vertical stripes.

### **11.3 Helmets**

Refer to **HC Playing Rule 3.6 – Protective Equipment**.

Team Officials – Refer to **Policy 3.4.1**.

### **11.4 Throat Protectors**

- a) Refer to **HC Playing Rule 3.6 c) – Protective Equipment**.
- b) All goaltenders must wear a BNQ approved throat protector as stated in **Regulation 11.4a)** and they must wear a throat guard fastened in such a way as to protect the throat. (It may not be fastened in any manner that will void the CSA approval of the mask and/or helmet).

### **11.5 Mouth Guards**

Refer to **Hockey Canada Playing Rule 3.6 – Protective Equipment** and **OMHA Policy 3.4.4**.

## 12.0 GAME OFFICIALS

### 12.1 Qualifications

- a) For all OMHA sanctioned programs, officials must be registered with the OMHA, as HCOP officials as per OMHA regulations.
- b) All OMHA sanctioned games shall be officiated as per **Regulations Appendix B** (Representative Assignments) or **Regulations Appendix C** (Minor Development, Local, and House League Assignments).  
Note 1: In the four (4) official system, the other referee must be certified Level 3 or higher.
- c) Refer to **Regulations Appendix B** for On-Ice Officials Representative Assignments Chart.
- d) Refer to **Regulations Appendix C** for On-Ice Officials Minor Development/Local/House League Assignments Chart.
- e) For development purposes, on the recommendations of the Area Supervisor and with the approval of the Area Referee Instructor and the Regional Director, some Officials may be requested to work a higher category or division of hockey as per **Regulations Appendix B** and **Regulations Appendix C**. In such a case as described herein, an Area Supervisor or Instructor must be in attendance at the game(s).
- f) A Level 1 (House League) Official is one who:
  - i) is fourteen (14) or fifteen (15) years of age
  - ii) has completed either a HCOP Entry Level, or HCOP House League Recertification Clinic.

- g) A Registered Official is one who:
  - i) is a minimum of fifteen (15) years of age with one (1) year's experience at Level 1 or is a minimum of sixteen (16) years of age.
  - ii) is a HCOP Level 2 official or higher.
  - iii) has attended and completed all sessions of a current season HCOP clinic.
  - iv) has written and/or passed the current HCOP exam (as appropriate for their level).
  - v) has paid the current OMHA registration fee.
- h) A Certified Official is one who:
  - i) has received a minimum of one (1) Supervision that is satisfactory to the Supervisor, and
  - ii) has been recommended for Certification.

### **12.2 Restrictions**

- a) In all OMHA competition, on-ice officials will be permitted to work a maximum of six (6) games per day. This limit can be extended to eight (8) games under the specific conditions outlined in **Regulation 12.2 b) Note**.
- b) On-ice officials will be permitted to work a maximum of three (3) consecutive games before adhering to a rest period as described in **Regulation 12.2c)**.  
Note: On-ice officials will be permitted to work a maximum of four (4) consecutive games, provided that the total duration of these games does not exceed periods lengths of 10-10-15 minutes each. Following this, officials must adhere to a mandatory rest period as detailed in **Regulation 12.2 c)**.

- c) On-ice officials who work two (2) consecutive games must adhere to a minimum rest period of two (2) hours before working the next scheduled assignments.  
For officials working three (3) consecutive games, a minimum rest period of three (3) hours is mandatory before they can proceed to their next scheduled assignments.  
If Officials are assigned four (4) consecutive games, provided none of the games exceed the standard 10-10-15 minute periods, they must still observe a minimum rest period of three (3) hours before taking on any additional assignments.
- d) Officials who fail to comply with any part of this Regulation shall be subject to disciplinary action by the OMHA Chair, Referees.

### **12.3 Age of Officials**

Age for Officials shall be determined as at **December 31st** of the current playing season. All On-Ice Officials must be at least two (2) years older than the division age limit (see **Regulation 2.1**) they are officiating. All Officials eighteen (18) years of age or older on or before **December 31st** of the current playing season and are carded as a HCOP Level 2 or higher are eligible to officiate any level of OMHA hockey as per OMHA **Regulations Appendix B** (Representative Assignments) or OMHA **Regulations Appendix C** (Local, Minor Development and House League Assignments).

### 12.4 Rates

a) The following Minimum rates apply for all OMHA representative games. Any overtime periods are included in the game lengths.

### Two Official System

Game Lengths	10/10/10	10/10/15	10/15/15	15/15/15
U9 & Below	\$24.00	\$26.00	\$28.00	\$30.00
U10/U11	\$25.00	\$27.00	\$29.00	\$31.00
U12/U13	\$28.00	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$34.00
U14/U15	\$29.00	\$31.00	\$33.00	\$35.00
U16/U18	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$34.00	\$36.00
U21	\$31.00	\$33.00	\$35.00	\$37.00

### Three Official System

Game Lengths	10/10/ 10	10/10/15	10/15/15	15/15/15	15/15/20	15/20/20	20/20/20
U13 & Below							
Referee	\$32.00	\$34.00	\$36.00	\$38.00	\$40.00	\$42.00	\$44.00
Linesman	\$26.00	\$28.00	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$34.00	\$36.00	\$38.00
U14 & Above							
Referee	\$36.00	\$38.00	\$40.00	\$42.00	\$44.00	\$46.00	\$48.00
Linesman	\$28.00	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$34.00	\$36.00	\$38.00	\$40.00

### Four Official System

Game Lengths	15/15/15	15/15/20	15/20/20	20/20/20
Referee	\$42.00	\$44.00	\$46.00	\$48.00
Linesman	\$34.00	\$36.00	\$38.00	\$40.00

Note 1: A four (4) official system is only permitted at U14 and above.

Note 2: OMHA officials shall not officiate in a "one official" system.

### **12.5 Mileage**

Mileage will be paid at the annual Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) mileage rate per Kilometre each way with all Officials in one car wherever possible. The posted CRA mileage rate as of September 1 will remain in effect for the duration of that entire playing season.

Note 1: When the game(s) require 2 or 3 officials one mileage shall be paid. When the game(s) require 4 officials a second mileage shall be added.

Note 2: Any person charging or accepting more than the above rates, will be subject to immediate sanction until their case has been dealt with by the OMHA Board.

### **12.6 Referee Responsibilities**

- a) After each game the referees shall be responsible to ensure the official game report is filled in properly and entirely. Failure to receive any official game report by a team official shall not exempt such official from any subsequent disciplinary action.
- b) All maltreatment and match penalties in all sanctioned games must be reported by the Game Officials to the Regional Director.

### **12.7 Emergency Replacement**

OMHA Board Members or Convenors, team managers or coaches of any participating team, may not act as Referee or Linesman without first getting the approval of the Executive Director, except in cases of emergency. In such cases an OMHA Board Member, Convenor, Team Manager or Coach

may act as Referee or Linesman provided the responsible officers of both teams agree, in writing, to such an arrangement.

Note: This person must be currently certified under the HCOP program but will not be permitted to officiate a game by themselves.

### **12.8 Reports**

In games when the referee is required to write a report in specific instances as required by the Rules, such reports will be made available to the Centre involved at their request. Such request must be in writing to the Regional Director from the President and Secretary of the Centre's Minor Hockey Association.

## **13.0 TOURNAMENTS**

### **13.1 Participating Regulations**

- a) OMHA affiliated teams or players must not take part in any tournament unless such tournament has a sanction permit from the OMHA or unless the team has permission from the OMHA. Teams shall not participate in concurrent tournaments. The Manager and Coach of teams participating in concurrent tournaments, non-sanctioned tournaments, or entering such tournaments without written OMHA permission shall be suspended for eight (8) games or thirty (30) days whichever comes first.
- b) For the purpose of this Regulation, concurrent tournaments are separate tournaments in which some or

all of the games are played during the same time span. Any team must have completed or have been eliminated from one (1) tournament before being eligible to participate in another tournament within the same time span.

- c) The Manager and Coach of any team having applied and being accepted in one (1) or more concurrent tournaments who fail to cancel their application for one (1) or more of the tournaments at least twenty (20) days prior to the start of the tournaments, will be automatically suspended for eight (8) league games or thirty (30) days of the playing season.
- d) The Manager and Coach of any team once accepting an invitation to a tournament who fail to notify the Tournament Director that they cannot meet their obligation to the tournament at least twenty (20) days before the tournament, or who withdraw during the tournament, will be suspended for eight (8) league games or thirty (30) days of the playing season. See **Regulation 13.1f).**
- e) A Centre hosting an OMHA sanctioned tournament, once having received a completed application from a team, must notify, in writing, said team of acceptance or non-acceptance twenty (20) days prior to the commencement of the tournament. Should it be necessary to cancel or combine categories in any age division of a tournament, notification to all teams must be made twenty (20) days prior to the tournament date. A copy of the notification(s) must also be sent to the Regional Director in the area. Failure to do so may result in the Centre being subjected

to disciplinary action and/or monetary action by the OMHA.

- f) All tournament permits are granted with the understanding that they are not to interfere with OMHA Championships and league play. Any such team that has paid an entry fee to an OMHA tournament shall have their money refunded. This will be strictly enforced by the Regional Director or their designate.
- g) Any team required to withdraw from a tournament because of a failure to meet league commitments shall not be entitled to a refund of any tournament fees paid.
- h) OMHA teams, players, Coaches, Managers or Trainers taking part in unsanctioned tournaments without permission will be subject to disciplinary action.
- i) A team in a sanctioned tournament shall be permitted to use only those players whose eligibility is supported by an approved Hockey Canada, OMHA, USA Hockey or IIHF recognized playing certificates of the current playing season. OMHA teams may also use certified photocopies.
- j) All teams must have approved electronic rosters prior to participation in OMHA sanctioned tournaments
- k) Team Officials who fail to produce an approved electronic roster and allow a player to participate shall be suspended for a minimum of eight (8) league games or thirty (30) days whichever comes first.
- l) No team or player shall play more than three (3) games on one day.
- m) OMHA teams may not enter tournaments nor embark on exhibition tours of foreign countries without receiving

permission of Hockey Canada through the OHF and the OMHA office. Application for such permission must be made at least sixty (60) days in advance of the departure date.

# 14.0 AAA CENTRES AND ZONE REGULATIONS

## 14.1 AAA Centres and Zones

The OMHA shall operate its AAA Centres and Zones in compliance with current **OHF Policy and Regulations**. Where a conflict may appear in the regulations hereunder, the current OHF Policy and/or Regulations shall apply.

## 14.2 Application for AAA Zone Status

- a) The Chair of the OMHA AAA Committee must receive all applications for AAA Zone status by **October 1st** to be considered for competition for the following season.
- b) A decision on all applications for Zone status will be communicated by **February 1st**.
- c) All applications to realign an existing Zone must be received by the Chair of the OMHA AAA Committee by **November 24<sup>th</sup>** to be considered for competition for the following season. A decision will be communicated by **February 1st**.
- d) The OMHA Board reserves the right to realign, reduce, consolidate, or expand Zones, in full consultation with all concerned Centres and Zones. Issues for consideration by the OMHA Board shall be submitted by **November 24<sup>th</sup>** for

implementation for the upcoming season. A decision will be communicated by **February 1st**.

### **14.3 Regulations for Zone Formation & Operations**

- a) Each Centre in a Zone shall have the opportunity to be represented on the Zone Governing/Operating Committee.
- b) The Zone Governing/Operating Committee will operate the Zone entries and shall file a Constitution and By-Laws and an initial operational budget with the OMHA AAA Committee.

### **14.4 Player Evaluation**

- a) There will be no movement of players after **November 1st** unless agreed by the player's parents (guardian), the Zone Governing/Operating Committee in writing.

## Regulations - APPENDIX A

### TEAM OFFICIAL QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- All qualifications listed are the **MINIMUM REQUIREMENT**
- All Team Officials (Coach, Trainer, & Manager) require Respect in Sport (RiS) - Activity Leader or Speak Out!
- All Team Officials (Coach, Trainer, & Manager) require Gender Identity & Expression Course
- All Team Officials must complete Rowan's Law Resource Review & Acknowledgement
- All qualifications must be registered in the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR)

DIVISION	CATEGORY	HEAD COACH	ASSISTANT COACH	TRAINER
<b>U7   U8   U9</b>	ALL	Coach 1 <sup>1</sup>	Coach 1 <sup>1</sup>	HTCP Level 1
<b>U10 - U21</b>	House League (HL) Local League (LL) Minor Development (MD) Select	Coach 2 Trained <sup>2</sup>	Coach 2 Trained <sup>2</sup>	HTCP Level 1
<b>U10   U11</b>	Representative	Development 1 Trained <sup>3</sup>	Coach 2 Trained <sup>2</sup>	HTCP Level 1
<b>U12   U13 U14   U15 U16   U18 U21</b>	Representative (Below A)	Development 1 Certified <sup>4</sup>	Development 1 Trained <sup>3</sup>	HTCP Level 1
<b>U12   U13 U21</b>	AAA/AA/A	Development 1 Certified <sup>4</sup>	Development 1 Trained <sup>3</sup>	HTCP Level 1
<b>U14   U15 U16   U18</b>	AA/A	Development 1 Certified <sup>4</sup>	Development 1 Trained <sup>3</sup>	HTCP Level 1
<b>U14   U15 U16   U18</b>	AAA	High Performance 1 Certified <sup>5</sup>	Development 1 Trained <sup>3</sup>	HTCP Level 2

#### COACHING QUALIFICATION LEGEND:

1. Coaches in divisions U9 and Below must hold Coach 1- No other qualifications are accepted
2. Coach 2 'Trained' or higher: Coach 2 'Trained' or 'Certified'; Development 1 'Trained' or 'Certified'; High Performance 1 & 2 'Trained' or 'Certified'
3. Development 1 'Trained' or higher: Development 1 'Trained' or 'Certified' or; High Performance 1 & 2 'Trained' or 'Certified'
4. Development 1 'Certified' or higher: Development 1 'Certified' or; High Performance 1 & 2 'Trained' or 'Certified'
5. High Performance 1 'Certified' or higher: High Performance 2 'Certified'

## Regulations - APPENDIX A

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### **ACTING IN THE ROLE OF HEAD COACH:**

Should a team's Head Coach not be available, an Assistant Coach rostered to that team is eligible to act in the role of Head Coach for that game only. If the Head Coach resigns or is removed from the position and subsequently removed from the team's Roster, the Association is responsible to Roster a new individual as Head Coach holding the qualifications appropriate to the role.

### **HOUSE LEAGUE (HL):**

- Assistant Coaches at House League require Respect in Sport (RiS)-Activity Leader or Speak Out! and Gender Identity and Expression Course Only. However, they would require the appropriate qualification listed in chart above for participation with teams from outside their House League (i.e. exhibition and/or tournament play)
- In addition, if the Head Coach were not available to start a House League game, an appropriately NCCP qualified Coach would be required to act as the Head Coach.

## Regulations - APPENDIX B

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### REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS (APPENDIX B)

As referenced in **Regulation 12.1b)**

	LEVEL					
	Level 1	Level 2	Registered 3	Certified 3	Registered 4	Certified 4
<b>U8</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>U9</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U11-R2</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U11-R3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U11-L3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U13-R2</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U13-R3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U13-L3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U15-R2</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U15-R3</b>			X	X	X	X
<b>U15-L3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U15-R4</b>		X-Note 1	X	X	X	X
<b>U15-L4</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U18-R2</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U18-R3</b>				X	X	X
<b>U18-L3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U18-R4</b>		X-Note 1	X-Note 1	X	X	X
<b>U18-L4</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U21-R2</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U21-R3</b>				X	X	X
<b>U21-L3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U21-R4</b>		X-Note 1	X-Note 1	X	X	X
<b>U21-L4</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>International</b>				Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
<b>Intra-Branch</b>				Eligible	Eligible	Eligible

R2: Referee in a two-official system.

R3: Referee in a three-official system.

R4: Referee in a four-official system.

L3: Linesman in a three-official system.

L4: Linesman in a four-official system.

Note 1: In the four (4) official system, the other referee must be certified Level 3 or higher.

## Regulations - APPENDIX C

### LOCAL/MINOR DEVELOPMENT/HOUSE LEAGUE ASSIGNMENTS (APPENDIX C)

As referenced in **Regulation 12.1b)**

	LEVEL					
	Level 1	Level 2	Registered 3	Certified 3	Registered 4	Certified 4
<b>U8</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>U9</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>U11-R2</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>U11-R3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U11-L3</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>U13-R2</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>U13-R3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U13-L3</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>U15-R2</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U15-R3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U15-L3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U18-R2</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U18-R3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U18-L3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U21-R2</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U21-R3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>U21-L3</b>		X	X	X	X	X
<b>International</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Intra-Branch</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

R2: Referee in a two-official system.

R3: Referee in a three-official system.

R4: Referee in a four-official system.

L3: Linesman in a three-official system.

L4: Linesman in a four-official system.



# POLICIES & PROCEDURES



Wherever the context herein permits, reference to the male shall be inclusive of all gender identities and gender expressions.

Highlighted sections and/or paragraphs are new or changed sections.



# POLICIES & PROCEDURES

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“In accordance with **By-Law One, Article 9.4b) and 9.4c)**, the OMHA policies presented hereafter shall apply. Other policies approved by the Board from time to time and which are of a less specific nature are also in effect and these policies may be available through the OMHA upon request as applicable and required by the membership regarding other matters.”

## 1.0 VIDEO REVIEW POLICY

The use of video in minor hockey is increasingly prevalent, as is the quality of available technology. Many teams employ the use of video technology as a teaching or player/team development tool, in addition to parents or family members recording games for personal use.

From time to time, in cases involving protests, appeals, or other circumstances, the OMHA is responsible for determining or handing down a decision based on available information.

In the interest of supporting the OMHA decision-makers in arriving at the most informed decision with respect to protests, appeals, and other matters, the information gathering process may include any number of sources including but not restricted to personal interviews, parties directly involved in or witness to the event/incident, as well as technical subject matter experts in the OMHA. In consideration of this, there may be instances where video evidence may form part of the available information. The OMHA acknowledges that video evidence may possibly support the decision-makers, and as such, may consider it in the decision-making process, where appropriate.

The OMHA Regional Director may, at the request of a member Minor Hockey Association, review a video record of any OMHA sanctioned activity or event for the purpose of:

- Reviewing a game situation, including assessment of sanctions if warranted, resulting in injury to any player whether or not a penalty was assessed at the time of the occurrence. An injury report must accompany the submission.
- Identifying the correct player in situations in which an incorrect player may have been identified by the on-ice officials for an infraction resulting in a suspension.
- Reviewing the conduct or actions of team or game officials.
- Reviewing the conduct or actions of other members.

### **1.1 Intake Process**

The review will be considered by the Regional Director upon submission of the following:

- A copy of the video cued to the occurrence stating, in writing, at what time in the activity or event the incident occurred. A record of the entire activity or event, or such substantial part of the entire activity or event must be available upon request, including where the incident can be located.
- A non-refundable fee of \$200.00 payable to the OMHA Office, attention, Executive Director. The Executive Director will confirm receipt of payment to the Regional Director.
- A copy of the Game Sheet.
- Should a Video Review request be included within the scope of Appeals/Protests, the Fee will be considered included in the Appeal/Protest Fee.
- A statement requesting specifically what is to be reviewed, which must be signed by the President and at least one other signing officer of the member Association.

The submission must be received within 5 business days of the activity or event, or the communication of any decision related to the incident.

Maximum allowable requests from any single team within a member Association will be three (3) per season.

**NOTE: Video recording of any portion of games from the bench during OMHA games is not permitted.**

Upon receipt, the Regional Director will review the submission and make one of the following determinations:

- The review is inconclusive. A review may be deemed to be inconclusive if (among other things), in the opinion of the Regional Director, the video recording does not provide a sufficiently clear view of the incident. In this case, any decisions, and or suspension(s) resulting from penalty or penalties assessed will remain in effect.
- The review is conclusive that incorrect player(s) have been identified.
- The review is conclusive that the correct player has been identified. Suspension(s) issued as a result of the penalty or penalties will remain in effect.

In the course of intake, the review may include:

- Consultation with or referral of the matter to another OMHA Board Member if necessary. This may result in assessment of supplementary discipline for any infraction committed during the course of such activity or event by any player or team official whether or not such infraction has been penalized by the referee.

- Consultation with or referral to the OMHA Development Program Chair (Coaches, Referees, Trainers) for resolution.
- Consultation with any other individuals as deemed appropriate.

This review is not subject to any further appeal. The standard to be used by the Regional Director in conducting a review request is “conclusiveness”.

## 2.0 DEVELOPMENT

### 2.1 STOP Program Policy

The OMHA has adopted a policy that “The Safety Towards Other Players (STOP) Program” is mandatory for all OMHA Member Associations.

Reported instances of non-compliance will be referred to the Regional Director.

The Safety Towards Other Players (STOP) Program sends a message to all players that the dangerous act of checking-from-behind is not accepted in the game of hockey. The overall values of safety and Fair Play are also an essential part of the Program.

The STOP Program helmet decal is not a replacement for the three-inch patch worn on the back of hockey jerseys. While an additional visual reminder to enhance Program awareness, this does not serve to replace the STOP Patch on player jerseys. The STOP sticker should be used “in addition to” not “in replacement of” the STOP Patch. It serves as another method to promote the

program and awareness that checking from behind is not acceptable in hockey.

### **2.2 Throat Protectors: OMHA HCOP Officials**

In the interest of ensuring the safest possible environment for all participants in the OMHA, the OMHA Board has adopted the following policy:

That the wearing of a BNQ approved throat protector be mandatory for all OMHA HCOP on-ice Officials.

### **2.3 Helmets: Third Party Service Providers**

With respect to third party service providers working with Associations and teams who may not be wearing helmets for on-ice activity.

OMHA Members contracting third party service providers insist that helmets be properly worn by any personnel conducting any on-ice activities, per OMHA **Policy 3.4.1** for Team Officials. Additionally, it should also be noted here that the Policy also means that helmets must be CSA approved, and must be properly worn (i.e. chinstraps properly fastened).

It is essential to ensure that consistency with Safety and Risk Management initiatives, coaching philosophy, and messaging with respect to the positive role modelling for players remains in the forefront of OMHA programming. Clearly, a mixed message is being communicated to participants, parents and other stakeholders when individuals in positions of leadership are not adhering to OMHA policy.

### **2.4 Mandatory Equipment Requirements For On-Ice Volunteers**

Mandatory equipment requirements for those individuals acting in the role of On-Ice Volunteer, for example, individuals assisting with Initiation Program implementation, on-ice (parent/family) helpers, demonstrators, specialty (i.e. goaltender) coaches, etc. OMHA Guidelines for equipment to be worn by individuals assisting as a volunteer in On-Ice activities are as follows:

- a volunteer 14 years and above would be eligible to wear the same equipment as an On-Ice Team Officials. (i.e. CSA Certified Helmet, skates, gloves etc.)
- a volunteer below 14 years would be required to wear full player equipment.

Note: On-Ice Volunteers must be at least two years older than the division age limit they are associated with. (Minimum age, 9 years old)

### **2.5 Insurance for On-Ice Volunteers**

All OMHA Centres are required to identify and remit Hockey Canada Insurance Fees for all On-Ice Volunteers.

Some Centres use additional volunteers other than those rostered as Team Officials or players for on ice assistance (e.g., IP Instruction, team practices), and these volunteers must be identified and require Hockey Canada insurance.

Centres are required to identify these additional volunteers prior to **December 10<sup>th</sup>** each season on the Roster provided in HCR for this purpose.

### **2.6 Respect in the OMHA**

The Respect in Sport “Activity Leader”, “Officials” or “Parent Program” shall be completed by all Team Officials, HCOP Officials, and at least one parent/guardian of all registered players as described below.

All registered OMHA Team Officials must be certified in the Respect in Sport “Activity Leader” program or the equivalent “Speak Out” program certification.

It is recommended that all individuals identified in the Role of ‘On-Ice Volunteer’ (Age 16 and above) be certified in the Respect in Sport “Activity Leader” program or the equivalent “Speak Out” program certification.

Completion of the Respect in Sport “Parent Program” for at least one parent/guardian of each family of every registered player (under the age of 18) shall be a condition of their eligibility for participation.

All HCOP Officials (Referee & Linesman) (Age 16 and above) must be certified in either the Respect in Sport “Activity Leader” or “Officials” program or the equivalent “Speak Out” program certification as a condition of their eligibility to officiate.

## **3.0 MEMBERSHIP AND TEAMS**

### **3.1 Category**

- a) Centres are designated with a Base Category.
- b) Centres may request a review and change of their base category, prior to **April 30th**.
- c) The teams in a Centre are classified using the base category. The first team entered shall be classified at the base category and further entries shall be classified accordingly.
- d) Centres classified as House League/Local League which wish to register a U21 representative team in the upcoming season must apply through their Regional Director by **August 1st**. The Regional Director will submit to the OMHA Board for approval at the August Board Meeting.

### **3.2 Category Restriction**

Any Centre requesting, to be categorized "A" or above will be required to ice a sub-division entry at U11 through U18. Any exception to this policy must be approved by the OMHA Board.

### **3.3 Programming U11 & Below**

For programs U11 and Below, refer to the current Hockey Canada/OHF/OMHA Player Pathway Documents which will provide the framework and guidelines for programs at these divisions.

### **3.4 Safety and Risk Management**

#### **3.4.1 Helmets for Team Officials**

All on-ice Coaches, Trainers, Assistant Coach, Assistant Trainer or Volunteers will be required to wear CSA approved helmets,

which must be properly worn (i.e. chinstraps properly fastened) during all on-ice activities.

### **Sanctions for Non-Compliance**

- a) First incident results in written notification /warning by one or all of the following; OMHA Centre Contact, OMHA Regional Director, OMHA Development Instructor and OMHA Chair, Coaches Program.
- b) On a second incident by the same party, that individual shall be suspended from participation in OMHA activity for a minimum of two (2) weeks.
- c) For the third infraction of the policy, the participant shall be suspended for a period of one (1) year.

### **3.4.2 Single Trainer**

- a) Each Trainer for a hockey team will act as the Trainer for an opposing team's players if the Trainer for that team is ejected from the game or must leave the arena with an injured player or is unable to attend the game due to an emergency situation. A game may be played or completed if there is at least one (1) Trainer who is "readily available" to come to the assistance of an injured player.
- b) Where a team does not have a Trainer at the beginning of a game due to an emergency situation, the coach will contact the Trainer for the opposing team and request the assistance of that Trainer to act as Trainer for their team.
- c) The coach of a team without a Trainer is responsible for advising the game officials that the opposing team's Trainer is acting as the Trainer for both teams.
  - i) The referee for a game where there is only one (1) Trainer available for both teams at the beginning of a game will document on the game sheet the fact that only one (1)

Trainer was present and that the Trainer is acting for both teams.

- ii) In each instance where a Trainer is not available at the beginning of a game, the game sheet will be forwarded immediately following the game to the Convenor and the Board Member of the home team will be advised of the occurrence within twenty-four (24) hours.

### **3.4.3 Players with Physical Disabilities**

A player with a physical disability e.g. hearing, vision, etc. shall at the time of registration on an OMHA electronic roster, provide a certificate from a medical doctor which states that the subject player may safely engage in the level of hockey for which the player is registering.

### **3.4.4 Mouth Guards**

The use of a mouth guard product for each player participating in an Ontario Minor Hockey Association game or practice is mandatory. Players shall at all times while engaged in play or practices, practice drills or scrimmages on the ice surface wear an intraoral mouth guard that conforms to the specifications set out by the Association as approved as suitable for use by the team's Trainer.

#### Specifications

Be of any colour, not be clear or translucent in colour; be one-piece construction; be easily sized by the participant or the participant's parents; be of an even thickness from the front to the back of the device; engage the teeth of the upper jaw and lower jaw; maintain alignment of the upper and lower jaw in a neutral position; be able to be attached externally to the face mask or shield, it is to be attached to the participant's helmet

or to be form-fitted; to be custom-fitted to the teeth; and in addition for all hockey in non-body checking play will provide not less than one (1) millimetre of shock absorbent thickness between the teeth of the upper and lower jaw and for a player in body checking will provide not less than two (2) millimetres of shock absorbent thickness between the teeth of the upper and lower jaw.

### **3.4.5 Hockey Canada Playing Rule 2.2 (m) Players in Uniform**

A player that is registered to a team roster but unable to participate in a game due to injury is permitted to take a position on the bench during the game, as long as they are listed as a player in uniform on the official game report and wearing full equipment.

## **3.5 Support for Member Association Development Programs**

Member Associations may request support for any aspect of their Development Programs, including Coaching, Trainers, Officiating, and Player Development. This may include observation, program evaluation, and recommendations. Any such requests will be directed to the appropriate OMHA Program Chair, who will collaborate with Staff and the Regional Director to identify needs and strategies. Process, including financial considerations will be addressed depending on the nature and scope of any requests.

## **3.6 Responsibilities**

a) Stimulants such as non-prescribed drugs, vitamins or other similar substances, shall not be administered to a player by any team official.

b) Breweries, distilleries, wineries or cannabis growers and distributors shall not sponsor any team in the OMHA. No team will display, or allow to be displayed, any advertising of a brewery, distillery winery or cannabis growers and distributors in relation to a team.

### **3.7 Releases**

When a player signs with a Centre, they remain a member of that Centre until released. A release form/letter must be signed by the President and Secretary of the club to be valid. When a player becomes over-age for U16 they have their choice of playing U18, U21 or Junior in their Home Centre.

### **3.8 Amalgamations/Reorganizations/Mergers**

Associations must submit requests, which are ready for legal review, for Amalgamation, Reorganization or Merger, to the OMHA by **November 24th** for consideration for the following season.

## **4.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND AFFILIATION**

### **4.1 Goaltender Relief**

a) An OMHA Centre may request relief to enable a goaltender from an adjacent OMHA Centre, which has a surplus of goaltenders, to electronically register with them in the absence of a sufficient number of local goaltenders (House League programs – one (1) per team, Representative programs – two (2) per team). This relief applies to all divisions and subdivisions.

- b) No application for Goaltender Relief will be considered after **November 1st** of the current playing season.
- c) Relief may be granted to a maximum of two (2) goaltenders per division. An adjacent Centre shall not be reduced to less than two (2) goaltenders per division for Representative programs and not less than one (1) goaltender per team for House League programs. Relief shall be for one (1) season only. The President shall consult with the area Regional Director and affected Centres to consider all factors.
- d) A goaltender granted such permission may register only with the team for which they are approved, however they may exercise all affiliation privileges for which they are eligible.  
Notwithstanding the provisions of **Hockey Canada Regulations** any player registered under this policy must comply fully with the requirements of **Hockey Canada Regulations**.
- e) Any such relief shall be reported to the Board at the next earliest Board meeting for ratification.

### Procedure

- a) The Centre requesting "goaltender relief", shall submit a written request to the Regional Director. This application shall outline in detail the reasons for the request, i.e. lack of players in the division, loss of player to Zone entry, etc.
- b) The Regional Director may assist in canvassing adjacent Centres to determine the availability of any surplus goaltenders. Surplus goaltender(s) from the nearest adjacent Centre will be given priority, provided the player(s) have the written approval of the 'Home' Centre.

- c) The Regional Director shall review the facts in the application and consider all factors before submitting the recommendation to the District Vice-President.
- d) The District Vice-President shall review the facts in the application and consider all factors before submitting the request to the President.
- e) The President shall consider and determine a decision for the request. Such decision shall be communicated in writing to all parties.
- f) Applications for Goaltender Relief shall be submitted on the official form.

### **4.2 Affiliation of OWHA Players to OMHA Programs**

- a) OWHA players participating in both the OWHA and the OMHA must be registered with an OWHA team as their primary team.
- b) Any such player, upon confirmation of registration with a team in the OWHA, may be affiliated with an OMHA team providing they are eligible by residency and comply with OMHA Affiliation Regulations.

**Note:** OWHA players may not be primary to an OMHA team and registered with an OWHA team.

### **4.3 Grandfathering**

Grandfathering is a mechanism which is designed to give relief to a player who registered in a Centre the previous season within existing regulations and who would be denied that right in the following season as a result of the passage of new or amended residence regulations; Having exercised their right under this policy, such player may return and register with their

Home Centre within the regulations if a release is obtained from their current Centre.

### **4.4 U9 and Below MD Programming**

Players resident to the OMHA wishing to participate in U9 and below MD programming are eligible to attend evaluations and be rostered with any MD team within the OMHA.

### **4.5 U21 Policy**

Players resident to the OMHA wishing to participate in U21 Representative programming are eligible to attend evaluations and be rostered with any U21 Representative team within the OMHA.

U21 Division Teams, not including House Leagues, will be restricted to registering not more than six (6) Players who are in the last year of eligibility for that Division. Players Registered in excess of the six (6) Players allowed will be Released from the Teams' Roster based on the reverse date of the Registration being validated. For example, if a Team has seven (7) Players in their last year of eligibility, the Player whose Registration was Registered last will be rejected. A team can only dress six (6) players that are in their last year of eligibility in all games including Affiliated Players.

## **5.0 DISCIPLINE**

In the event that an alleged offense is so serious as to possibly jeopardize the safety of others, the OMHA may immediately remove the alleged offender from OMHA activities, pending an investigation of the alleged action(s). Whether or not an incident has been seen/reported by an on-ice official, the OMHA will consider taking particular action with a participant alleged to have done something that might be described as "a match penalty type of action" while in the arena or its vicinity (e.g., parking lot). An overly-aggressive fighting combatant could be included for consideration under the match penalty type action of "attempt to injure". A participant who has been formally charged with a criminal action by the Police for an action that occurred in or round the arena before, during or after a practice or game shall be placed on indefinite suspension, pending the outcome of an OMHA investigation and hearing.

A participant who has been formally charged with a criminal action for an alleged action that occurred in or around the arena before, during or after a practice or game shall be placed on indefinite suspension, pending the outcome of an OMHA investigation and hearing, when the OMHA determines there is a reason to accept that an action happened that could be described as "a match penalty type action" (including over-aggressive fighting). The incident may or may not have been seen/reported by an on-ice official.

### **5.1 Match Penalty**

Match penalty suspensions shall be served in accordance with Hockey Canada and Ontario Hockey Federation guidelines except where OMHA match penalty guidelines and

recommendations, as amended and approved by the Board from time to time, may be more severe or strict than those cited. The OMHA match penalty minimum suspension list – the 'Assessment Guide' – shall prevail in all OMHA games conducted under the jurisdiction of the OMHA. Match penalties which are regarded as "Automatic" and may, under the OMHA Minimum Suspension Policy (Assessment Guide), be administered by the Regional Director or Area Convenor, shall be reported to the President in the manner and form as prescribed by the President.

**5.1.1** All match penalties other than those regarded as 'Automatic' and which are incurred during any game played in OMHA jurisdiction in which an OMHA team takes part, or which is played under OMHA jurisdiction, including those match penalties which are or may be questionable and which may ultimately be "washed out", shall be forwarded immediately and directly by the responsible Regional Director or Area Convenor to the President of the OMHA after all the basic information and facts have been received. The President may impose a suspension of up to fifteen (15) OMHA League, and/or Championships games with the corresponding days of suspension.

### **5.1.2 Match Penalty Hearings**

If the Regional Director responsible for assessing a match penalty should determine that the match penalty is of a serious nature and that a hearing may be required to determine an appropriate response regarding the possible suspension, they shall request of the President that the matter be referred to a "Hearing Committee". Once

authorized by the President, the Regional Director shall appoint, or have appointed, a Committee of at least three (3) members. Two (2) Committee members must be members of the OMHA Board. Should circumstance render the attendance of a third Board Member unavailable, an OMHA Convenor may be utilized as the third member of such Committee. Additional OMHA personnel, including technical support persons, may be called upon to assist the committee by way of clarification or interpretation; however, such personnel shall not be entitled to a vote in these proceedings.

Such hearing shall be conducted in a timely manner by a date as may be determined by the Regional Director and within four (4) weeks from the referral to the Committee. A report of the findings and recommendations and determination of suspension shall be determined by a majority vote of all appointed Committee members.

Such Committee shall render a decision as provided above and must be in accordance with the OMHA minimum suspension guidelines. Should the Committee determine that the match penalty should be 'washed', the chair shall notify the President of such recommendation(s) and the President shall review the recommendations and act in accordance with the authority of the President to do so.

Should the Committee determine that a suspension should be increased beyond that prescribed by the minimum suspension guideline, or should the hearing reveal further suspensions which may be warranted, the chair shall notify the President of such recommendation(s) and the President

shall review the recommendations and act in accordance with the authority of the President to do so.

The Regional Director responsible for such hearing shall submit a report of such hearing and resultant decision(s) to the Board for ratification at its next scheduled Board meeting.

### **5.1.3 Match Penalty Appeals**

All suspensions resulting from a match penalty or from the action of the President shall be subject to an appeal procedure as follows:

- a) there shall be no appeal for any suspension of five (5) games or less.
- b) suspensions of six (6) to fifteen (15) games may be appealed to the President, in writing, by the local minor hockey organization involved (signed by the President and Secretary). Such request for appeal must be received within ten (10) days of the original notification to the Centre of that suspension and must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$200. No appeal will be accepted directly from the suspended individual or their parent(s)/guardian(s). Upon receipt of the matter and by talking directly to the officials involved as well as others he may feel are necessary to determine the validity of the facts with which they were originally provided, the President may then:
  - i) reduce, concur with, or increase the original suspension, (all of which must be in accordance with the OMHA minimum suspension guidelines), or he may 'wash out' the penalty, or:

- ii) refer the matter to a three (3) person Committee, the structure of which shall be as in **Policy 5.1.2** above, and one (1) member may be themselves. Such Appeal Committee shall be convened in a timely manner as determined by the President and within four (4) weeks of referral by the President.

Such Committee shall render a decision as provided above which decision shall be in accordance with **Policy 5.1.3** and shall be reported by the President to the Board for ratification at its next scheduled Board meeting.

### **5.1.4 Match Penalties Involving Teams/Games With OHF Member Partners**

When a Match Penalty is assessed to a Member Partner player/team official other than an OMHA registered participant during the course of an OMHA sanctioned game or event:

The Regional Director in whose OMHA area the match penalty was assessed will review and assess suspension in accordance with the OHF Minimum Suspension List and shall advise the Member Partner business office in writing by fax or email forthwith.

When an OMHA Centre becomes aware of a Match Penalty being assessed to an OMHA player/team official in a game played under a Member Partner jurisdiction:

The Centre is obligated to advise their Regional Director of the match penalty and provide particulars. The Regional Director

will make a request to the Member Partner business office in writing for information and assessment. The Regional Director is to be advised in writing directly by that Member Partner business office.

Should information not be forthcoming from the Member Partner within fourteen (14) days of the Match Penalty being assessed, the Regional Director will advise the District Vice-President of the particulars. The District Vice-President will advise the President and may request further suspension be waived in this instance. This Policy is in effect for all Tournament and Exhibition games with Member Partner teams.

### **5.1.5 Interrupted Serving of Suspension**

#### **Match Penalties**

Any match penalty suspension of games and/or days, which may be required to be carried from one season to the next, will be administered in the following manner:

- a) the suspension shall temporarily cease at the end of the penalized player's team's last League, League Playoff, or OMHA Championship game in the current season. The suspension shall be deemed to be 'in abeyance'. The suspension shall be reactivated on the day of the penalized player's team's first scheduled league/Tournament game the following season.
  - i) The computation of time/number of days served will commence with team's first day of the league's regular season.

Example: Player receives a five (5) game or twenty-two (22) day suspension on **March 21st**. Player's team plays **March 22nd** and **March 25th** and wins the championship. The team's season is over. The player has served two (2) games or four (4) days. The player must serve three (3) games or eighteen (18) days, whichever occurs first, commencing with the first scheduled league game their team plays the following season.

- b) they may participate in exhibition games which are incorporated as a requirement for Evaluations up to the time of that first scheduled league game. However, if the player incurs another match penalty during the time their suspension is 'in abeyance' the player shall be immediately suspended and they shall not participate in any games, exhibition or otherwise, until the suspensions have been served in their entirety.
- c) a player assessed a match penalty, and who is affiliated with another team, may serve the remainder of the match penalty suspension with their affiliated team only if the team to which he is registered has finished its season and the player shall not be eligible to participate with that team for the remainder of that season. (**Regulation 6.2c**)).
- d) when the impacted player or team official elects to participate as an HCOP Official in the ensuing season but is not being rostered to a team in that season, the serving of the portion of the suspension that is deemed to be 'in abeyance' shall be in the following manner:
  - i) the suspension will be reactivated on the day of the first game scheduled in the ensuing season for the team in the Division where the suspension was assessed.

ii) the number of games and /or days yet to be served for a Match or OMHA assessed suspension are known from the original assessment; for all suspensions, each game in abeyance will equate to one (1) game or four (4) days.

### **All Other Suspensions**

Carry-over of suspensions for all other suspensions (not match penalties) will be administered in the following manner:

e) All unserved suspensions carrying forward from one season to the next are considered to be held in abeyance and will commence with the Team's first Regular Season/Tournament game (including Development Phase Tournaments), as per OMHA Regulations – Suspensions.

f) Players/Team Officials will be permitted to participate in Team activities, including Exhibition and Evaluation games, during the Development Phase prior to the Team's first Regular Season/Tournament game. During the Development Phase, should a player incur any penalty for which a suspension applies, this will be added to any carry-forward suspensions currently in abeyance to be served with the commencement of the Team's next Regular Season/Tournament game.

g) When the impacted player or team official elects to participate as an HCOP Official in the ensuing season but is not being rostered to a team in that season, the serving of the portion of the suspension that is deemed to be in abeyance shall be served as noted in **Policy 5.1.4 d)** above.

## **5.2 Tampering**

a) Refer to OHF Regulations.

### 5.3 Return of Association Trophies and Associated Penalties

a) Champions and Finalists, have ample opportunity to display their winning trophy in their community and at any banquets or similar functions which may be planned. However, it is imperative that these same trophies are returned to the OMHA Office in a timely manner to ensure that necessary maintenance may be performed to prepare them for presentation during the following season of competition.

- i) By **October 1st** of each year a memo will be issued by the OMHA Office to the winning Centres advising them of the date by which all trophies which were won during the previous season are due to be returned to the OMHA Office or their OMHA Regional Director. That date is **November 1st**.
- ii) On **December 1st**, if the trophy has not been received by one of the above, a second memo will be issued as a reminder accompanied by an invoice in the amount of \$500.00 as a late fee penalty.
- iii) On **January 1st**, if the trophy has still not been received by one of the above, a third memo will be issued as a reminder accompanied by a replacement invoice in the amount of \$750.00 as a late fee penalty.
- iv) On **February 1st**, if the trophy has still not been received by one of the above, a final replacement invoice will be issued in the amount of \$1,500.00 and, in addition to this late fee penalty; the Centre shall be invoiced for the total cost of an updated replacement trophy.
- v) Failure to pay any of the appropriate fees will result in the delay or withholding of approval of electronic

rosters to the delinquent Centre until reconciled. Voting privileges at the Annual Meeting, or any Additional Meeting, of the Association will also be withheld until such reconciliation.

- vi) Failure to comply shall result in the Member Centre to be declared "Not in Good Standing".

## 6.0 OMHA CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 6.1 OMHA Championships

OMHA Championships will be determined by the OMHA Board in compliance with all OHF and Hockey Canada Regulations and Policies, including Hockey Canada Player Pathways.

## 7.0 OVERSEAS TRAVEL

The OMHA recommends that trips be carried out during the Christmas Break whenever possible. Teams applying to travel at a time other than as noted above and which may or do coincide in whole or in part with OMHA Championships shall be required to withdraw from said Championships conducted in that season.

### 7.1 Teams Wishing to Travel Overseas

#### a) Application Procedure

Each application must include the following:

- i) the name of the team, division, (i.e. U21, U18 etc.), OMHA category of the team.
- ii) the proposed country or countries that you would like the OMHA to consider you to visit.

- iii) a copy of the invitation from the host team and the governing body of hockey in the host team's country if available.
- iv) a copy of the letter of support of the Centre must be signed by two (2) directors of the association who are not directly involved with the team making application. It must also include the resolution of the association whereby approval has been granted to the team making the application to travel overseas.
- v) if available the proposed dates for leaving and returning to Canada and the proposed schedule of games should be submitted. If the team plans to participate in a tournament while overseas full details must be included in the application.

Note: It is the policy of the OMHA that trips be carried out during the Christmas break whenever possible. The OMHA Board will, in all cases, make the final decision as to which country or countries teams will visit.

- vi) the names of the Team Officials and any other adults accompanying the team in a supervisory capacity must be included.
- vii) details of how the trip will be financed must be included.
- viii) the name, address, and phone number of the person that further correspondence should be directed to concerning the application.
- ix) a fee equal to \$200/tour day non-refundable certified cheque.

**b) Requirements**

- i) An OMHA/Hockey Canada Official must accompany the team and shall be provided with separate accommodations at the team's expense.

- ii) Tour itinerary must be arranged through the OMHA.
- iii) Sixty (60) days prior to tour submit a roster list of all players for official approval by the Overseas Committee.

c) **Team Composition**

Teams shall be comprised of players and personnel electronically registered to that OMHA team for current season (season of trip), or its approved affiliated players, and must include a valid OMHA Qualified Coach and Qualified Trainer. Teams shall be comprised of a minimum of fifteen (15) skaters plus two (2) goaltenders (total seventeen (17)).

### **7.2 Teams Wishing to Host an Overseas Team**

a) **Application Procedure**

All applications must include the following information:

- i) the name of the host team, division, (i.e. U21, etc.), OMHA category.
- ii) the name of the team and its home country wishing to visit, must be accompanied by the letter of permission from the governing body, for hockey, in that country.
- iii) the proposed dates of the visit, arrival to departure.
- iv) a proposed schedule of games, if available, through the local Executive Member, should be submitted.
- v) details of financing.
- vi) a letter of support from the local Minor Hockey Association, signed by two (2) directors not directly involved with the team making application.
- vii) if the visiting team plans to participate in a tournament while in OMHA territory full details must be included with the application.

- viii) the name, address, and phone number of the person that further correspondence should be directed to concerning the application.

b) **Requirements**

- i) Each Centre, with the exception of the Host Centre(s), will pay a fee of \$100 to the OMHA prior to the game being played.
- ii) If arrangements are made for the visiting overseas team to play in a tournament in a Centre other than the Host Centre(s), that Centre will pay a flat fee of \$200 in lieu of the \$100 per game fee outlined above. This fee is in addition to all other tournament fees that apply, and must be paid in advance of the team participating in the tournament.
- iii) Officials for games played with the overseas team will be appointed by the OMHA.

## 8.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

### 8.1 OMHA Leagues

Guidelines have been established by the OMHA to assist in the proper formation of leagues. Copies of the guidelines may be obtained from the OMHA office.

### 8.2 Categories

In order to promote fair competition Centres will be placed in categories for competition based on calibre. The available pool of registered players and the population drawing area will provide an initial guide but the Board may take into account other factors. A Category Committee will review this every five (5) years commencing in 2002 to make appropriate adjustments

and maintain a balance in the number of teams per category. Individual teams within a Centre may have their category changed for several reasons. For example, if Centres combine teams at a particular age level that team would usually be categorized higher than the Centre itself.

Appeals of the category of individual teams shall consider the following guidelines:

- a) teams that are unusually strong may be classified one (1) or more categories higher. Consideration in making such a move will be:
  - i) an individual team in league play and tournament play has demonstrated that teams of its category are not competitive.
  - ii) the team's past performance in OMHA Championships.
- b) teams that are unusually weak may be reclassified one (1) or more categories lower. Consideration in determining such moves will be:
  - i) the team has demonstrated in its league play or tournament play, of similar category, that it is not competitive with teams in its category.
  - ii) the team's past performance in its category. A team applying to be re-classified as unusually weak shall be required to forward their request in writing and include their overall performance (games, tournaments, exhibitions) against teams in their own category and the proposed new category prior to the December meeting.

### **8.3 Exhibition Games**

To play any exhibition games, a team must register the game into the OMHA Portal. For exhibition games being played within the OHF branch, an OMHA team must obtain permission from their Regional Director. To play any exhibition game outside the OHF Branch, the permission must be obtained from the OMHA Regional Director and the proper fee must be paid. (Exception: border towns: e.g. Windsor and Detroit, Fort Erie and Buffalo).

### **8.4 Gate Fees**

There will be no gate fee permitted for entry to any OMHA sanctioned activity.

## 9.0 OMHA INSURANCE

All Associations must participate in the Hockey Canada Insurance Program, purchased through the OMHA.

Hockey Canada Insurance is in effect for:

- i) OMHA sanctioned events including but not limited to league & playoff games, tournaments, exhibition games, practices, training camps, sanctioned fundraisers.
- ii) On-Ice Officials with additional rider for dental insurance of at least \$10,000 per occurrence.

Direct any inquiries through the OMHA office. Terms of Insurance Coverage are from **June 30th** to **June 30th** of the following year.

All insurance registrations must be submitted to OMHA prior to participation.

Claims: All incidents must be reported immediately to the OMHA office. For any information on insurance contact the OMHA office.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

September 30	Final date for applications to go overseas.
October 31	Expiry date for Team Officials requiring requalification.
November 1	Final date for return of Trophies to the OMHA office from Champion and Finalist Teams from previous season.
November 24	Final date for Associations to submit requests for Amalgamation, Reorganization or Merger for consideration for the following season.
December 1	Final date for team entry refunds.
December 1	Final date to submit House/Local League Team Rosters to the Regional Director.
January 10	Final date for which applications for the establishment of AAA Zones will be accepted for consideration for entry into the upcoming season.
January 10	Date by which teams competing for a National, All Ontario, or Branch Championship must declare their roster.
January 10	No players shall be transferred after this date. Any player released after January 10th is ineligible to register with any other team in the current season.
January 15	Final date on which to file a team's Affiliated Players list.
February 10	Final date on which a player may be added to the electronic roster.
March 13-15	OMHA Championships
March 20-22	
March 27-29	
April 3-5	
March 30-April 5	U18 AAA Central Region Championship
April 8-12	U13, U15 AAA All-Ontario Championships
April 17-19	OHF Championships (U13A, AA & U15 A, AA & U18 A, AA)
June 1	Closing date for all team entries.
June 6	91st Annual Meeting of OMHA

## 2025-26 MINIMUM SUSPENSION LIST

The following are minimum suspensions that shall be imposed for infractions which occur in all OMHA sanctioned games during the current playing season for minor hockey.

### Notice re: Clarifications

Discipline applied in accordance with any minimum suspension(s) within these guidelines are not subject to appeal. These are minimum suspensions. Additional suspensions will be imposed wherever conditions and circumstances warrant.

It is the responsibility of each team manager and/or coach to ensure their players serve their appropriate suspensions. When in doubt as to the relevant suspension, contact the Association office. If unable to contact the Association office, sit player(s) in question out until clarification can be obtained. These suspensions are in addition to game incurred.

Match Penalty reports will be forwarded to the appropriate OMHA Regional Director for review and suspension assessment.

A participant who is suspended while playing in an out of OHF jurisdiction event (i.e. USA or out of Member) must serve that governing body's suspension or portion thereof in the participant teams remaining games in that event even if for a greater number of games than under the OHF Minimum Suspension List.

Upon returning to the OHF, a team will report any suspension received outside of the OHF jurisdiction and the affected Player/Team Official will not be eligible to participate until the report has been received by the Member and the Member rules on the Player/Team Official's eligibility based upon the OHF Minimum Suspension List.

\* All indefinite suspensions may be subject to a hearing.

The Coach or in the absence of the Head Coach the Coach in Charge, of any OMHA team whose team accumulates more than the allowable minutes in penalties in any game shall be automatically suspended per **Regulation 6.2** Serving Suspensions, according to the chart below:

Division	Penalty Minutes (Including Overtime)	Suspension
<b>U13 and Below</b>	27-51 Minutes	1 Game
	52-77 Minutes	3 Games
	78+ Minutes	5 Games
<b>U14 and Above</b>	37-71 Minutes	1 Game
	72-107 Minutes	3 Games
	108+ Minutes	5 Games

Note: For the purpose of the Regulation the time of misconducts, gross misconducts and game misconducts assessed to players shall not be counted, but any such penalties assessed to Team Officials and the five (5) minutes charged to a player for a match penalty shall be counted. Any game misconduct or gross misconduct penalty assessed to Team Officials will automatically add ten (10) minutes to the team's penalty minutes in each case.

## Suspensions List

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### **MISCONDUCTS**

<b>Rule/Code</b>	<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>Suspension</b>
7.10 (d)	Failure to go to the Player's Bench or Neutral Area	0 Games
10.5 (d)	Throwing Stick Over Boards	0 Games
10.6 (d)	Illegal Equipment	0 Games
11.1 (d) i	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	0 Games
11.1 (d) ii	Interference/Distraction During Penalty Shot	0 Games
11.1 (d) iii	Intentionally Knocks or Shoots the Puck out of Reach of an Official	0 Games
11.1 (d) iv	Failure to go directly to Penalty Bench	0 Games
11.1 (d) v	Entering Referee's Crease	0 Games
11.2 (d)	Disrespectful and Abusive Behaviour (includes Inciting)	0 Games

## Suspensions List

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### GAME MISCONDUCTS

Rule/Code	Penalty Description	Suspension
4.7 (c)	Second Misconduct – Same Game	2 Games
4.8 (b)	Game Ejections	0 Games
7.5 (a)	Checking from Behind (Minor + Game Misconduct)	2 Games
7.10 (e) ii	Player(s) 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Player into Fight	3 Games
7.10 (e) iii	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fight, Same stoppage of play (3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , etc.)	3 Games
8.1 (b)	Holding Injury (Major + Game Misconduct)	2 Games
8.2 (b)	Hooking Injury (Major + Game Misconduct)	2 Games
8.4 (a)	Interference from the Bench (Bench Minor + Game Misconduct, if identifiable)	2 Games
8.6 (b)	Tripping Injury (Major + Game Misconduct)	2 Games
10.4 (a)	Bench Official on the Ice Without Permission of Official	2 Games
10.4 (e)	<sup>1</sup> Coach whose player is penalized under 10.4 (e)	4 Games
10.4 (e)	Leaving the Bench without Clearance from the Referee (Assessed to coach if altercation results in penalties at end of any period)	2 Games
10.4 (e) i	Leaving the Players bench or Penalty Box	4 Games
10.4 (e) ii	Leaving the Players bench or Penalty Box and incurring subsequent penalty	5 Games
10.8 (b) i	Refusing to Start Play (Coach – Major + Game Misconduct)  Coach refusing to start play and then returns to the bench and the game resumes.	4 Games
10.8 (b) i	Refusing to Start Play (Coach – Major + Game Misconduct)  Coach does not return, and the game is suspended.	Indefinite*
10.8 (b) ii	Refusing to Leave the Players Bench (Major + Game Misconduct)	2 Games

## Suspensions List

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<sup>1</sup> 10.4 (e) – Coaches' penalty will be noted on the front and back of the game sheet of the Officials' copy only. Penalty to coach is automatic as a result of player receiving 10.4 (e), coach not to be ejected as a result of this penalty being assessed.

### PLAYER ACCUMULATION SANCTIONS

Accumulation Sanctions apply for any collective accumulation of the below **MAJORS** in the same season.

Rule/Code	Penalty Description	Offense Count			
		1st Major	2nd Major	3rd Major	4th Major
7.1 (b)	Grabbing Hair, Facial Protector, Helmet, Chin Strap or Throat Protector	2 Games	4 Games	6 Games	Indefinite*
7.2 (b)	Boarding (Major + Game Misconduct)				
7.3 (b)	Body Checking (Major + Game Misconduct)				
7.4 (b)	Charging (Major + Game Misconduct)				
7.5 (b)	Checking from Behind (Major + Game Misconduct)				
7.6 (b)	Head Contact (Major + Game Misconduct)				
7.8 (b)	Kneeing (Major + Game Misconduct)				
7.9 (b)	Roughing (Major + Game Misconduct)				
8.3 (b)	Interference (Major + Game Misconduct)				

\* All indefinite suspensions may be subject to a hearing. (Continued on Next Page)

## Suspensions List

(Continued from Previous Page)

<b>Rule/Code</b>	<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>Offense Count</b>			
		<b>1st Major</b>	<b>2nd Major</b>	<b>3rd Major</b>	<b>4th Major</b>
8.4 (b)	Interference from the Bench (Major + Game Misconduct)				
8.5 (b)	Interference with the Goaltender (Major + Game Misconduct)				
8.7 (b)	Clipping (Major + Game Misconduct)	2 Games	4 Games	6 Games	Indefinite*
9.2 (b)	Cross Checking (Major + Game Misconduct)				
9.3 (b)	Slashing (Major + Game Misconduct)				
10.5 (b)	Throwing or Shooting Stick or Object				

### COACHES ACCUMULATION SANCTIONS

<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>Suspension</b>
Any team receiving a combination equaling 3 or more x 5-minute time penalties in the same game	1 Game
For a 2nd violation of a team receiving a combination equaling 3 or more x 5-minute time penalties in the same game	3 Games
For a 3rd violation of a team receiving a combination equaling 3 or more x 5-minute time penalties in the same game	Indefinite*

\* All indefinite suspensions may be subject to a hearing.

## Suspensions List

### MATCH PENALTIES

### Offense Count

Rule/Code	Penalty Description	1st Match	2nd Match	3rd Match
7.1 (c)	Attempt to Injure or Deliberate Injury.			
7.1 (c) i	Head Butting			
7.1 (c) ii	Grabbing Hair, Throat Protector or Any Part of the Helmet			
7.1 (c) iii	Kicking			
7.1 (c) iv	Using Equipment as a Weapon			
7.2 (c)	Boarding			
7.3 (c)	Body Checking			
7.4 (c)	Charging			
7.5 (c)	Checking from Behind			
7.6 (c)	Head Contact			
7.8 (c)	Kneeing			
7.9 (c)	Roughing			
7.10 (c)	Fighting – Ring or Tape on Hand(s)			
8.3 (c)	Interference			
8.4 (c)	Interference from the Bench			
8.5 (c)	Interference with the Goaltender			
8.7 (c)	Clipping			
8.8 (c)	Slew Footing			
9.1 (c)	Butt Ending			
9.2 (c)	Cross-Checking			
9.3 (c)	Slashing			
9.4 (c)	Spearing			
10.5 (c)	Throwing or Shooting Stick or Object			

\* All indefinite suspensions may be subject to a hearing.

## Suspensions List

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### **GROSS MISCONDUCT**

<b>Rule/Code</b>	<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>Suspension</b>
7.1 (f)	Headbutting (Minimal Degree of Violence)	Indefinite*
7.10 (f)	Fighting with Team Official	Indefinite*
8.4 (f)	Interference from Bench (Team Official)	Indefinite*
10.4 (f)	Disrupts Game After Having Been Removed	Indefinite*
10.6 (f) i	Illegal Equipment	Indefinite*
10.6 (f) ii	Refusing to Remove Helmet or Facial Protector for Identification	Indefinite*
10.6 (f) iii/iv	Removing Helmet and/or Chinstrap	Indefinite*

### **PRE OR POST GAME ALTERCATIONS**

<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>Suspension</b>
Any Player Involved Where Major and Game Misconducts are Assessed	3 Games
Coach of Team Whose Players are so Penalized	Indefinite*
Any Team Involved in a Pre or Post Game Brawl	Indefinite*

### **FIGHTING**

<b>Rule/Code</b>	<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>Offense Count</b>			
		<b>1st Major</b>	<b>2nd Major</b>	<b>3rd Major</b>	<b>4th Major</b>
7.10 (b)	Fighting	2 Games	3 Games	5 Games	Indefinite*

\* All indefinite suspensions may be subject to a hearing.

## Suspensions List

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<b>INSTIGATOR/AGGRESSOR</b>		<b>Offense Count</b>		
<b>Rule/Code</b>	<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>1st Offense</b>	<b>2nd Offense</b>	<b>3rd Offense</b>
7.11 (a)	Instigator/Aggressor of a Fight <i>Note: If a player is assessed both penalties in the same altercation, they would receive a suspension for each offence.</i>	1 Game	3 Games	Indefinite*
N/A	Coach of Team Whose Player is Penalized for a Third Offense of Instigator or Aggressor	3 Games	N/A	N/A

<b>RULE 11 - MALTREATMENT</b>			<b>Offense Count</b>		
<b>Rule/Code</b>	<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>1st Offense</b>	<b>2nd Offense</b>	<b>3rd Offense</b>
11.1 (e)	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	Game Misconduct	2 Games	Minimum +4 Games	Indefinite*
11.2 (e)	Disrespectful and Abusive Behaviour	Game Misconduct	3 Games		
11.2 (f)	Disrespectful and Abusive Behaviour	Gross Misconduct	5 Games	Indefinite*	Indefinite*

\* All indefinite suspensions may be subject to a hearing. (Continued on Next Page)

## Suspensions List

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(Continued from Previous Page)

<b>Rule/Code</b>	<b>Penalty Description</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Offense Count</b>		
			<b>1st Offense</b>	<b>2nd Offense</b>	<b>3rd Offense</b>
11.3 (c)	Spitting	Match	Indefinite*	Indefinite*	Indefinite*
11.4	Discrimination	Gross Misconduct	Indefinite**	Indefinite*	Indefinite*
11.5 (c)	Physical Harassment of Officials	Match	Indefinite*	Indefinite*	Indefinite*
11.5 (e)	Physical Harassment of Officials	Game Misconduct	3 Games	Indefinite*	Indefinite*

\* All indefinite suspensions may be subject to a hearing.

\*\*11.4 Discrimination - First Offense: Minimum 7 Games and not subject to appeal.

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