



**Maritime Hockey League /Branch AGREEMENT  
FOR U18 AGED PLAYERS IN THE MARITIME HOCKEY LEAGUE**

THIS AGREEMENT effective as of the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of JUNE, 2023.

Between:

Maritime Hockey League ("MHL")

-and-

Hockey Nova Scotia ("HNS")

-and-

Hockey New Brunswick ("HNB")

-and-

Hockey Prince Edward Island ("HPEI")

(collectively referred to hereinafter as the "Parties")

The Parties agree to the following as it relates to the signing, affiliation, releasing, and otherwise handling of U18-aged hockey players in the Maritime provinces.

**All aspects of this agreement are:**

- a. Exclusive to Hockey New Brunswick, Hockey Nova Scotia and Hockey PEI.
- b. Exclusive to the Maritime Hockey League and its respective teams.

Branches agree to follow the existing Hockey Canada Regulation H.1, with the exceptions noted below with regard to 16 and 17-year-old U18 eligible players.

**1.0 SIGNING OF 17-YEAR-OLD PLAYERS**

- 1.1 Applies only for players who are in their last year of U18 eligibility and reside within New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.
- 1.2 A Hockey Canada inter-branch transfer is mandatory for any such player leaving their home Branch.

- 1.3 Should a MHL team wish to return a 17-year old player to their respective U18 team from a MHL training camp, they must do so prior to start of their respective U18 league regular season.
- 1.4 Should a MHL team wish to release a signed 17-year old player they must do so by September 15<sup>th</sup> of that playing season. If a 17-year-old player is signed with a MHL team on or after September 15<sup>th</sup>, they must remain on the team's roster for the balance of the season.
- 1.5 Players and/or teams may appeal where applicable, if circumstances arise and it is in the best interest of the player(s) to be released or signed after September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 1.6 Should such player be released from their MHL team prior to or as a result of an appeal, they must return to their home Branch. The player shall not be released to another team, nor shall their playing rights be transferred to another team unless approved through appeal. They shall not be permitted to sign with a lower division/category team outside their home Branch.
- 1.7 QMJHL development fees for U18 players shall be forwarded to the player's respective home branch and/or league/team as pre-determined by the home branch.
- 1.8 A 17-year old player whose home Branch is outside the Maritime Region, who is released from a QMJHL team from within the Maritime Region and wishes to sign with a MHL team, the following shall apply:
  - a) They must return to their home Branch.
  - b) They must file an appeal with Hockey Canada.
  - c) The appeal will be supported by the respective Maritime Branch.

## **2.0 SIGNING OF 16-YEAR-OLD PLAYERS**

- 2.1 The Maritime Branches will follow Hockey Canada Regulation D18(ii) and permit each MHL team to register a maximum of 2 players from within their home province. Teams may not register a 16-year-old player from outside their home branch.
- 2.2 Teams that draft a 16-year-old (or below) players from outside their Branch, they will not have access to sign these players until they are 17, but these players may attend MHL training camps as a 16-year old and may be used as an affiliate player in that current season.
- 2.3 Should a MHL team wish to return a 16-year old player to their respective U18 team from a MHL training camp, they must do so prior to start of their respective U18 league regular season.
- 2.4 Should a MHL team wish to release a signed 16-year old player they must do so by September 15<sup>th</sup> of that playing season. If a 16-year-old player is signed with a MHL team on or after September 15<sup>th</sup>, they must remain on the team's roster for the balance of the season.
- 2.5 Players and/or teams may appeal where applicable, if circumstances arise and it is in the best interest of the player(s) to be released or signed after September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 2.6 Should such player be released from their MHL team prior to or as a result of an appeal, they must return to their home Branch. The player shall not be released to another team, nor shall

their playing rights be transferred to another team unless approved through appeal. They shall not be permitted to sign with a lower division/category team outside their home Branch.

### **3.0 PLAYER AFFILIATION OF U18 PLAYERS WITHIN THE MHL**

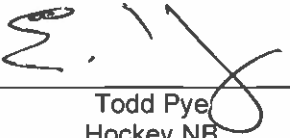
- Nova Scotia U18 Major Hockey League (NSU18MHL)
  - New Brunswick Prince Edward Island Major U18 Hockey League (NB/PEIMU18)
- 3.1 A 16 and 17-year-old player who appears on a MHL team's 50-man protected list, may affiliate from their lower category team to the respective MHL team. The player's respective Branch and the affiliate Branch (if different from player's respective Branch) must approve the affiliation documents prior to the player being used as an affiliate player.
- 3.2 The MHL teams shall strictly follow Hockey Canada Regulation F on Affiliation.
- 3.3 All affiliated players must be approved in the HCR by the home branch.
- 3.4 The MHL team must communicate with the U18 team contact and player, of their intent to affiliate the player during the current season. They must receive consent from the player prior to adding the name to the HCR.
- 3.5 The MHL team(s) cannot affiliate more than two (2) players per game from the same member team member of the NSU18MHL or NB/PEIMU18 during the regular season.
- 3.6 The MHL, NSU18MHL and NB/PEIMU18 will exchange a current list of league and team contacts on-or-before the first day of the U18 regular seasons.
- 3.7 The MHL team must inform the U18 team official (Coaching staff or Governor) before contacting the U18 player for each affiliate usage (game or practice).
- 3.8 The MHL teams are not permitted to affiliate U18 players while said player's team is competing in the U18 League playoffs. Once a U18 player's teams season is complete, the MHL team may call-up that player and the U18 team or league shall not restrict the player from playing.


### **4.0 AGREEMENT RENEWAL**

Annually upon expiry, the agreement is automatically renewed for a term of one year, unless one of the Parties has indicated to the other in writing their intention of amending the agreement.


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**THE PARTIES HEREBY AGREE** to abide by the terms and conditions as outlined in this Agreement by their signatures below and for this Agreement to be in effect as of the date first written above.


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Pye  
Hockey NB


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brad MacKinley  
Hockey NS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Al MacIsaac  
Hockey PEI

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nic Jansen  
Hockey NB

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Field  
Hockey NS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Connor Cameron  
Hockey PEI

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Troy Dumville  
MHL, President