



MARITIME HOCKEY LEAGUE ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT GUIDE



GUIDE ANNUEL DU REPÊCHAGE DE LA LIGUE DE HOCKEY DES MARITIMES





Tourism & Economic Impact Summary

2026 Maritime Hockey League AGM, Entry Draft & Alumni Gala

The 2026 Maritime Hockey League (MHL) Annual General Meeting, Entry Draft, and inaugural MHL Alumni Gala is a high-impact sport tourism event that will generate significant economic and promotional benefits for the host community. Hosted over four days June 18-21st, the event will attract League executives, team personnel, alumni, media, and hockey supporters from across the Maritimes and beyond.

The multi-day event is expected to draw 300 to 500 unique visitors, many travelling from outside the host region. Attendees will include representatives from all twelve MHL teams, League governors and staff, alumni and invited guests, and Eastlink TV broadcast personnel. This influx will create strong demand for accommodations, food and beverage services, transportation, retail, and local attractions.

Overall, the MHL AGM, Entry Draft, and Alumni Gala is projected to deliver a direct economic impact of greater than \$350,000.



To support League delivery, broadcast coordination, branding, and alumni gala programming, interested Hosting Organizations are asked to express a host fee contribution of cash and/or in-kind value at \$25,000. In kind value may be inclusive of (complimentary event space, complimentary accommodations, complimentary catering service, event staff support, marketing/promotions support, shuttle services, AV, discounted golf experiences, etc.). This host sponsorship delivers a strong return on investment, while also providing valuable destination exposure through regional broadcast coverage and the **MHL's 60th Anniversary Celebrations.**

Event Guide

This guide is provided to assist host groups with understanding the responsibilities that they are undertaking as the hosts of the event. The Hosting Group/Organization is responsible to organize, coordinate and provide all requirements in this guide in partnership with the MHL.

The Annual General Meeting and Entry Draft is one of the season's marquee events that assists in promoting the League and its member teams. The Draft, broadcasted by Eastlink TV attracts



significant interest throughout the region and is important to the overall function of the League. Held annually in June, the Draft represents the culmination of many months of observing and scouting players throughout the Maritimes and offers each team an excellent opportunity to continue to build its franchise. In addition, the hosting of the League's Annual General Meeting and General Managers Committee Meeting marks an important decision-making function of the League.

In 2026 the Maritime Hockey League is proud to launch the inaugural MHL Alumni Gala, held in conjunction with and following the League's annual Player Draft, as a signature celebration of 60 years of Maritime hockey excellence. This milestone event will bring together generations of players, coaches, executives, and community leaders who have shaped the MHL into one of junior hockey's most respected leagues.

The Alumni Gala will honor the League's rich history, recognize standout alumni contributions on and off the ice, and strengthen the connection between the MHL's past, present, and future. Timed alongside the excitement of Draft Day, the event underscores the League's ongoing commitment to development, tradition, and opportunity - celebrating those who built the legacy while welcoming the next generation of MHL players.

Featuring alumni recognition, storytelling, special commemorations from across six decades, and layered with authentic Maritime hospitality the MHL Alumni Gala will stand as a cornerstone event in the League's 60th anniversary celebrations and a lasting tribute to the impact of the MHL throughout the region and beyond.

Facility Requirements

Annual General Meeting: The host shall provide a meeting room to house the Annual General Meeting on Day One (1) of the event and the room shall meet the following requirements:

- Sufficient tables assembled in a horseshoe shape with appropriate spacing for fifteen (15) persons;
- All tables must be covered with cloth or other suitable covering material;
- Seating is to be supplied for fifteen (15) persons at the meeting table;
- Seating must also be provided for an additional fifteen (15) persons situated around the outer of the room not at the table;
- The tables must be equipped with a minimum of three (3) extension cords c/w power bars mounted on top of the table;
- The room must have a projection large screen and projector; and
- The room shall have access to wireless internet with sufficient capacity for thirty (30) persons.

General Managers Committee Meeting: The host shall provide a meeting room to house the General Managers Committee Meeting on Day One (1) of the event and the room shall meet the following requirements:

- Sufficient tables assembled in a horseshoe shape with appropriate spacing for twenty (20) persons.
- All tables must be covered with cloth or other suitable covering material;
- Seating is to be supplied for twenty (20) persons;
- The tables must be equipped with a minimum of three (3) extension cords c/w power bars mounted on top of the table;
- The room must have a large screen and projector; and
- The room shall have access to wireless internet with sufficient capacity for twenty (20) persons.

Draft Assembly Hall (Arena is not required): The host shall provide an Assembly Hall for use during the Draft that shall be of sufficient size to house 150 - 175 persons seated at 14 tables as well as the other requirements as outlined below. In addition, the Hall must have acceptable lighting and internet coverage for a group of this size. Unique assembly spaces are encouraged.

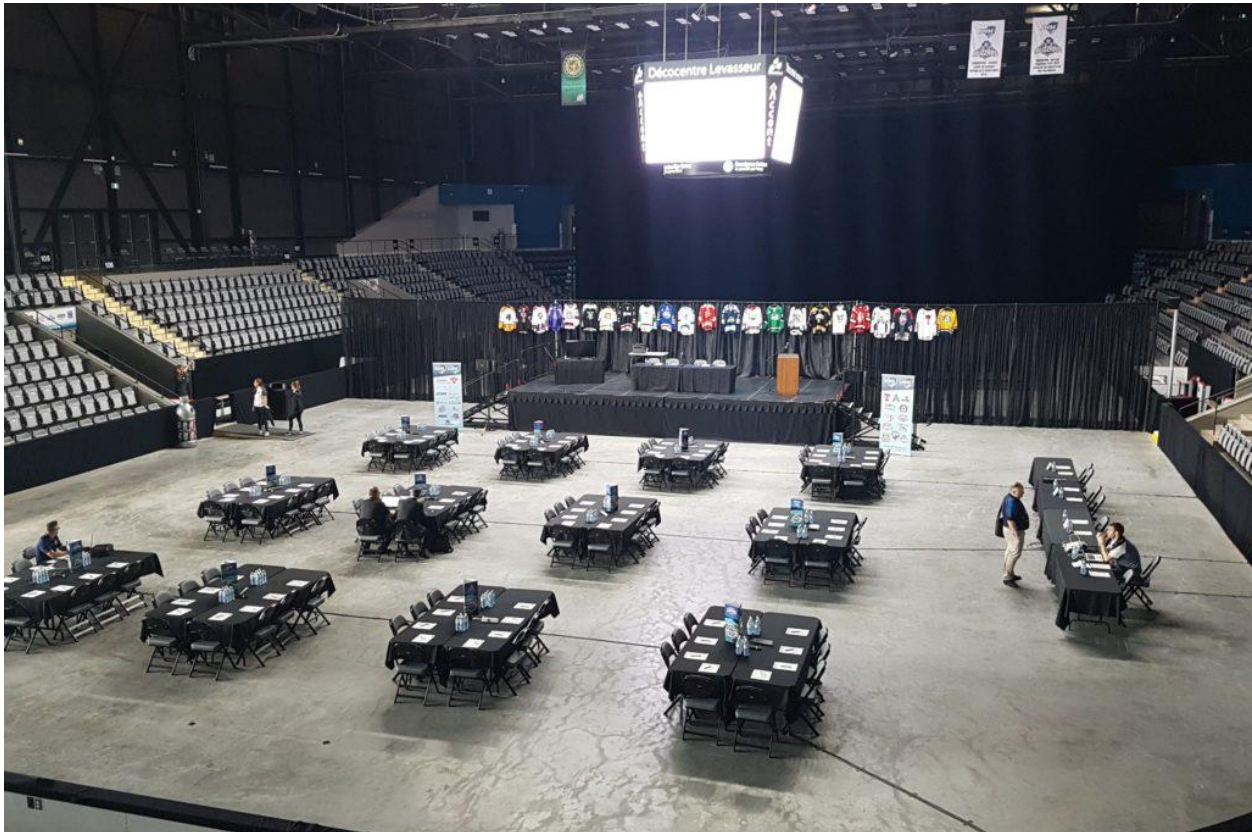
Head Table: The Head Table must include the following:

- The table must be situated at the front of the Assembly Room along the front wall of the assembly hall;
- The table must be linear in design and long enough to seat 10 persons comfortably;
- The entire table must be covered with cloth or other suitable covering material;
- Seating is to be supplied for ten (10) persons;
- The table must be equipped with a minimum of four extension cords c/w power bars mounted on top of the table; and
- In addition, a minimum of two hard wired internet connections (connected to a router) must be supplied for the table. (NOTE: Wireless internet connectivity for the Head Table

is not acceptable as the host site's Wi-Fi will become overburdened, creating delays and a possible failure of the operational draft.

Team Tables: Each of the League's twelve (12) teams must have its own Team Table. Each table must include the following:

- The tables may be circular in design or a combination of square/rectangle tables placed together in a square shape;
- Each table must be able to comfortably seat a minimum of twelve (12) persons;
- Tables must be at least ten (10) feet apart from each other from the outside of the back of the chairs to the nearest table.
- Seating is to be supplied for twelve (12) persons;
- Each table must be equipped with a minimum of two (2) extension cords c/w power bars mounted on the top of the table;
- Each table must be covered with cloth or other suitable covering material; and
- Each table shall have professionally created signage c/w with the logo of the team assigned to the table;



Awards Table: The host shall provide a table for use by the League to place any awards. The table must be table (covered by cloth) is situated within the Assembly Hall to the side of the Hall adjacent to the head table on which the League shall display any awards and/or information.

Alumni Gala: The host may consider to re-use the "Draft Assembly Hall" to also host the evening Alumni Gala. The location must include: a professional, full-service ballroom or convention centre space capable of hosting a formal evening gala.

- Ballroom seating for 200 to 250 guests in banquet-style configuration
- Flexible layout to include:
 - Elevated stage/presentation area
 - Reception or cocktail space
- Pre-function area for guest check-in, displays, and sponsor branding
- Built-in or partnered AV services, including:
 - Stage, podium, and professional sound system
 - Wireless microphones (handheld and lapel)
 - Large projection screens or LED displays
- Adjustable lighting suitable for dining, presentations, live music and media capture
- In-house catering for cocktail reception and plated or buffet dinner
- Licensed bar service compliant with local regulations and MHL sponsorship
- Service staffing aligned with a timed program schedule
- Fully accessible entrances, seating, and washrooms
- Coat check and adequate washroom capacity
- Reliable Wi-Fi and sufficient power access
- Back-of-house space for speakers, alumni, event staff
- Load-in/load-out access for AV and décor
- On-site or nearby parking
- Proximity to host hotel rooms and Player Draft venue
- Ability to display MHL branding and anniversary décor



Other Requirements

Catering Table(s): The host shall provide table(s) for the purposes of catering refreshments and lunch to all attendees. The catering table(s) may be at the rear of the Assembly Hall or in the facility common areas in close proximity to the Assembly Hall.

Interview Room/Area: Within the Assembly Hall or within very close proximity to the Hall, there is a requirement for an area of the Assembly Hall to be curtained off, or a separate room, for interviews. This space shall have a table (covered with cloth or other suitable material) and two chairs with appropriate lighting and immediate access to power.

Equipment

Sound System/Microphones: The host shall ensure that there is one (1) microphone mounted at the Head Table as well as two (2) additional microphones on stands situated in centralized locations within the Assembly Hall. These microphones shall be connected to a sound system that is sufficient for a large Hall. If the draft is to be held in an arena, the sound system must be significant enough to provide for the larger space and environment.

Podium: Within the Assembly Hall, a podium shall be available at the front of the Hall in close proximity to the Head Table. The podium must be adorned with the MHL/LHM logos on the front and place in front a professional looking backdrop.

Catering

Refreshments: The Draft facility shall have catering tables situated just outside the Assembly Hall or at the very rear of the hall. The Host is responsible to provide drinks/beverages (e.g. coffee, tea, water, juice, etc.) as well as snacks (muffins, donuts, etc.) at the catering area.

Lunch: The host shall also provide lunch (soup, sandwiches, pizza, desserts, etc.) for all attendees during the lunch break for the draft proceedings.

Meetings: The Host shall provide drinks/beverages (e.g. coffee, tea, water, juice, etc.) as well as snacks (muffins, donuts, etc.) for the Annual General Meeting (25-30 persons) as well as the General Managers Committee Meeting (15-20 persons).

Support Personnel

The host is required to ensure that the following personnel are available to assist with the event proceedings:

- Host lead (1) to coordinate logistical planning and delivery with the MHL leading up to and during the event.
- Draft Day Runners (2) to assist with taking the microphones from one team table to another; and
- Facility staff to address any equipment malfunctions (microphones, speakers, etc.)

Facility Access

The Host shall negotiate access to the Meetings rooms and Assembly Hall at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled start time to enable the League and its sponsored service providers to set up and required equipment and/or signage as well as to test any equipment.

Accommodations/Parking

The Host shall arrange hotel accommodations in advance for all visiting League and team personnel. The Host shall work to secure pricing for the event at group rates. The Host shall notify the League and all member teams of the rates and any related registration information so that teams can provide confirmations of their requirements.

The Host shall ensure that the facility has ample parking to host up to 200 persons with approximately 75 vehicles. In addition the host shall ensure that reserved parking space has been allocated specifically to house the broadcasting organization's vehicle(s). This requirement will be clarified by the League in advance of the event

Event Schedule

The Annual General Meeting & Entry Draft & Alumni Gala schedule is as follows;

DAY 1 – Thursday, June 18th 2026

- 10:00am MHL Management Team Arrival/Setup

DAY 2 – Friday, June 19th 2026

- 12:00pm Registration
- 1:00 pm Board of Governors Annual General Meeting
- 1:00 pm League Supplementary Draft
- 2:00 pm General Managers Committee Meeting
- 7:30 pm Hospitality

DAY 3 – Saturday, June 20th 2026

- 10:00 am Annual Entry Draft
- 11:45 pm Lunch Break
- 12:15 pm Resumption of Entry Draft

BREAK

- 7:30 pm MHL Alumni Gala

DAY 4 – Sunday, June 21st 2026 (Optional Golf – Course TBD)



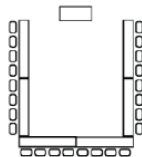
Miscellaneous

SOCIAL MEDIA - The Host shall be permitted to promote the event within their community through the use of their marketing resources such as social media as well as signage and media relationships. The host shall seek the approval of the League's Director, Communications prior to initiating any releases or signage.

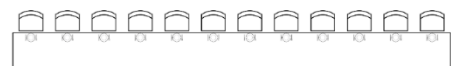
LEAGUE SUPPORT - The League may levy a fee to each member team to assist the Hosting Group with offsetting costs. The amount of this fee shall be determined upon submission of the event budget by the Hosting Group. This budget shall be submitted to the League with the expression of interest and will be confirmed no later than two (2) months in advance of the event.

SAMPLE FURNISHINGS (Not to scale):

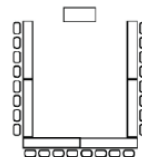
AGM Meeting Room Set-up



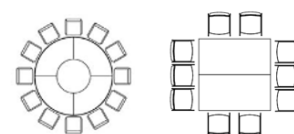
Draft Head Table



General Manager's Meeting Room Set-up



Draft Team Tables



Host Expression of Interest Template:

Group Name: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Event Location (Facility): _____

Address: _____

Accommodations Provider (Please list hotel and secured rates)

- 1) _____ Rate: _____
- 2) _____ Rate: _____
- 3) _____ Rate: _____

Please provide, in a separate document, the hosting plan for the event including information regarding your host committee, the facility layout, technical requirements, catering options, golf course partnership, hospitality plan and level of hosting grant/in-kind services being provided to support the MHL's project delivery.

Please forward this completed application form with the hosting plan file to:
commissioner@themhl.ca

All Applications must be received on or before Mon, Feb 9th at 5pm.

Host applicants are encouraged, but not required, to demonstrate an affiliated partnership with an MHL franchise. Neutral locations outside of MHL franchise communities will be strongly considered.



Proud Maritime Hockey League Partners:





MARITIME JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

