

# **Maritime Junior Hockey League**



## **CONSTITUTION**

**Articles, By-Laws & Regulations**

**Revised to June 19, 2026**

## MARITIME HOCKEY LEAGUE

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MARITIME JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE 1: NAME**

- 1.1 The organization shall be known as the "Maritime Junior Hockey League" hereinafter referred to as the 'League'.

**ARTICLE 2: OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 The objectives of the League are:
  - a. To foster, encourage and support the growth of Junior 'A' hockey throughout New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island;
  - b. To promote and encourage an environment of sportsmanship and respect among our players and team officials;
  - c. To assist in the promotion and development of hockey within our jurisdiction;
  - d. To support and collaborate with educational institutions to emphasize and enhance the student athlete experience for our players; and
  - e. To conduct competition within the League and declare a champion annually.

**ARTICLE 3: LOCALITY**

- 3.1 The League shall operate and be comprised of Junior 'A' Hockey Clubs within the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

**ARTICLE 4: AUTHORITY**

- 4.1 The League shall, prior to the commencement of the regular season, register as a member with either Hockey New Brunswick, Hockey Nova Scotia or Hockey Prince Edward Island.

**ARTICLE 5: MEMBERSHIP**

- 5.1 Each Member team shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at all meetings of League, in each case except as otherwise provided in these Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations.
- 5.2 Each Member team shall have a management group to be known as the 'Team Executive' consisting of not less than three (3) persons.
- 5.3 Each Member team shall appoint an individual to act as a Governor of the League and another to act as Alternate Governor. Any individual who acts as Coach or General Manager of the team shall not act as a team Governor or Alternate Governor unless the individual owns at least a twenty (20) percent share of the Member team.

- 5.4 Any appointment of a team Governor shall be filed in writing with the Commissioner of the League at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.5 Any Member may revoke its' Governor at any time and appoint a replacement Governor to represent the team by filing written notice to the Commissioner. Any replacement Governor must be submitted in writing to the League Commissioner within seventy-two (72) hours of revoking their Governor.
- 5.6 Each Member team shall be issued a 'Certificate of Membership' signed by the Commissioner and Chairman of the League, certifying membership in the League and holding a franchise from the League to operate a hockey team in the designated location.
- 5.7 All League teams shall retain a one hundred (100) kilometer protected area of operation for their team and no expansion, relocation or existing franchise can operate within this area without the expressed written permission of the affected Member team.

#### **ARTICLE 6: DISCLOSURE**

- 6.1 At the Annual General Meeting, each Member team shall provide the Commissioner with a Disclosure Statement, found at Appendix A, disclosing the exact nature of the ownership including parties' respective interests therein (whether shareholders or not) and the manner in which such interests are held. If the owner of an interest is other than a natural person, then it shall disclose who are the parties thereto (whether shareholders or otherwise) until it is fully disclosed who the natural persons ultimately in the ownership of such a team and the extent thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 7: CONDITION OF MEMBERSHIP**

- 7.1 As a condition of membership, each Member team shall comply fully with the provisions of these Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, and other rules as set out in Article 8.1. The members shall maintain professionalism at all times and operate their hockey teams in a manner that is held to the highest standard for the purpose of engaging in high quality competition during regular season, play-off, championship competition and all other activities as sanctioned by the League.

#### **ARTICLE 8: COMPLIANCE WITH BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

- 8.1 The operations of each Member team shall be carried on in a manner consistent with the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and other rules of each of the League, the governing Branch, the Canadian Junior Hockey League, and Hockey Canada, respectively, and each Member shall accept the rulings and decisions made in accordance with such Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and other rules.

#### **ARTICLE 9: MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

- 9.1 Each of the participating Member teams shall indicate in writing, to the Commissioner, by March 31<sup>st</sup> annually, whether such team intends to participate in the League the following season. In addition, any intention to request approval to alter the terms of the team's 'Certificate of Membership' including ownership and location, must be disclosed at this time.

## **ARTICLE 10: CHANGE TO FRANCHISE**

- 10.1 Any participating Member team may make written application to the Commissioner to alter any condition of their operation at any time, providing the alteration, if approved by the League, would not conflict with any of the provisions of the League's Constitution, By-Laws, or Regulations.
- 10.2 For this purpose, the following shall be deemed to be conditions of a team's operation:
- a. Change of team's name;
  - b. Change of team's colour(s); and
  - c. Change to the ef Team's Executive;
- 10.3 An affirmative vote of two-thirds of all Member teams of the League shall be required for any application to implement a change to the franchise.

## **ARTICLE 11: RELOCATION OF GAMES**

- 11.1 A Member may apply to the League to temporarily relocate their home games to another rink, within forty (40) kilometres, at any time prior to or during the schedule for reasons related to an unexpected loss of their home facility due to other extenuating circumstances. Such temporary relocation shall be approved by the Board of Governors by majority vote and shall only be authorized for the remainder of the season in which the request is made or a shorter period if specified in the application.

## **ARTICLE 12: RELOCATON OF FRANCHISE**

- 12.1 A Member may apply in writing, at any time, to the League to relocate its franchise permanently to another location. Any application to relocate permanently must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all members at the Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting, called specifically for that purpose, at which time the application shall be heard. Any application to permanently relocate to a location that is within another team's one hundred (100) kilometer protected area of operation, must be accompanied by that team's written permission as specified in Article 5.7 at the time of application.
- 12.2 For any application to relocate a franchise permanently, the applicant shall be required to make a presentation to the League that includes, but is not limited to, any changes to their organizational structure, ownership, operational plan, business plan, as well as disclosure of any new facility agreements.

## **ARTICLE 13: TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OR CONTROL**

- 13.1 No membership may be sold, assigned, or otherwise transferred except:
- a. With the consent of the League and not less than two-thirds of all League members which shall not be unreasonably withheld;
  - b. Upon the condition that the transferee will, at all times, be bound by and comply with all of the terms and provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and other rules of the League;

- c. Upon the further condition that the transferee shall assume or guarantee to pay all debts, liabilities and obligations owed to the Branch, League, or any of its' Member teams by the transferor Member existing at the date of the transfer; and
  - d. The League shall assess a Sale Transfer Fee that shall be paid in the amount of no less than two (2) % of the total sale of the franchise, or to a minimum of \$250,000.00, whichever is the greater. The Sale Transfer Fee is to be paid to the League by the transferee within thirty (30) days of receiving League approval of the sale.
- 13.2 Transfer of membership shall not release the transferor of any of its debts, liabilities or obligations existing at the date of transfer.
- 13.3 Upon the transfer of membership, any and all interests of the transferor in and to any and all funds and any other assets of the League shall be vested in the transferee.
- 13.4 The transfer of interest in Member teams including any shares, through any means including the death of a shareholder, by an owner in a Corporation which owns directly or indirectly any interest in a Member team shall be subject to approval of the Board of Governors.
- 13.5 No shareholder, partner or other person holding a controlling interest in a Member team, directly or indirectly, may transfer ownership of said interest, or ownership on any part of said interest, except with the consent of two-thirds of all League members.
- 13.6 The Board of Governors may refuse to accept a transfer of an interest in a Member team to any person seeking to become a shareholder, partner or other person holding an interest in a Member team, directly or indirectly should such person having direct or indirect ownership of an interest in any other Member team of the League or in any Member of any other hockey League or for any reason that the Board of Governors believes that the transfer would not be in the best interest of the League. Such decision must be communicated in writing to such person or organization.
- 13.7 The vote for admission of new membership or for the transfer of a membership or for transfer of an interest of a Member may be taken at any Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting of the Board of Governors of the League.
- 13.8 For any application to transfer ownership or control, the proposed recipients of any ownership transfer shall be required to make a presentation to the League that includes, but is not limited to, their ownership group, legal structure, organizational structure, operational plan, business plan, and facility agreements.

#### **ARTICLE 14: NEW MEMBERSHIP**

- 14.1 An individual, firm, corporation or non-profit society of good repute and financial responsibility, possessing the other requirements set forth herein, shall be eligible for membership in the League.
- 14.2 Applications for new membership must be filed no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of the application with franchise fees for any new Member team established at two hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000.00) dollars payable in the following manner:

- a. Ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars payable at the time of any application for membership;
  - b. Eighty thousand (\$80,000.00) dollars payable upon acceptance of the franchise application;
  - c. Eighty thousand (\$80,000.00) dollars payable on or before January 1<sup>st</sup> of the first season of membership; and
  - d. Eighty thousand (\$80,000.00) dollars payable on or before January 1<sup>st</sup> of the second season of membership.
- 14.3 Any fees due to the League shall be guaranteed by the new Member to the League in a manner deemed acceptable by the League
- 14.4 The League shall convene an in-person Special Meeting to consider any application for new membership. The applicant shall be required to make a presentation to the League that includes, but is not limited to, their ownership group, legal structure, organizational structure, operations plan, business plan, and facility agreements.
- 14.5 An affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the League shall be required for admission of a new Member;
- 14.6 In cases where the application is rejected, the initial ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars, less any reasonable expenses, shall be refunded to the applicant.
- 14.7 In the case of dissolution of the League prior to or during any playing season, any team which is operating within the League for the first year shall not have any share in any of the disbursements of the League's assets.

#### **ARTICLE 15: LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

- 15.1 A leave of absence may be granted by the Board of Governors to any Member team subject to the following conditions:
- a. The leave request must be applied for no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> of the current playing season;
  - b. The leave must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the active League members;
  - c. Any leave of absence will be in effect for a period of one (1) season and may not be renewed for a second season;
  - d. Any team that does not return from a leave of absence will be considered to be disbanded and shall forfeit its' franchise;
  - e. Notification to return to active status from any leave of absence must be received in writing by the League Commissioner no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> of the season of the leave of absence.
  - f. League assessments totaling seventy (70%) percent of team assessments must be submitted when assessments are due for the playing season for which a team is granted the leave of absence;
  - g. Upon being granted a leave of absence, a dispersal draft of the Member team's players will be held with the affected team claiming six (6) players from their current protected list who they may temporarily assign to other Member teams with no more than two (2) players being assigned to any one (1) team. These players must return to the affected team upon their return from the leave of absence to active status. No claims

or fees shall be assessed by any team involved in the transfer of or return of the six (6) assigned players. The remaining players on their protected and supplemental lists will be disbursed by means of a draft held prior to May 1st of the current season and shall be conducted in reverse order based upon the current season's standings. These players will no longer have any ties to the team being granted the leave of absence; and

- h. Any Member team granted a leave of absence shall forfeit its right to vote at any meeting of the League while on leave but will have the right to attend all League meetings and to receive copies of all minutes, notices and correspondence which may be distributed to League members.

#### **ARTICLE 16: MEMBERSHIP WITHDRAWAL**

- 16.1 Any Member team of the League may withdraw from membership with consent of two-thirds (2/3) of all the members of the League by tendering its written resignation to the Commissioner and surrendering its certificate of membership, making full payment of any and all dues or other debts owing to the League, and any and all debts owing to other members of the League and waiving, in writing, any claim to any and all funds and other assets of the League or its members. Should the withdrawing Member fail to comply with any of the above provisions, the League shall be entitled to retain as its sole property any and all fees, performance bonds, franchise fees, or other League funds to which the Member would otherwise be entitled.

#### **ARTICLE 17: SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION**

- 17.1 The membership of a Member team may be suspended or terminated by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the League if the Member, or its' officials, shall do or suffer any of the following:
  - a. Willfully violating the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and rules of the League;
  - b. Failing to comply with any directive or pay any dues or other indebtedness owing to the League within thirty (30) days after written notice from the League Commissioner;
  - c. Disbanding its' team during the playing season, disbanding its' team business organization, or ceasing its team business;
  - d. Failing to present its' team at the time and place that it is scheduled to play, provided that such game is duly scheduled in accordance with this Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations, unless such non-appearance is caused by unavoidable accident in travel or conditions beyond the control of the Member or its Officers;
  - e. Failing or refusing to fulfill its contractual obligations in such a way as to adversely affect the League;
  - f. Knowingly manipulating any promotion operated by the Member; or
  - g. Offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any game participated in by its team, or failing to suspend immediately any officer, player or other employee who has been found to have offered, agreed, conspired, or attempted to lose any such game or having an interest in any wager on any game in which a League team participates.
- 17.2 The membership of a Member team may be suspended or terminated on the occurrence of any of the events described in paragraph 17.1, hereof, by the following procedure:

- a. Any Governor of the League or the Commissioner may prefer charges that a Member team has violated a provision or provisions of paragraph 17.1. Said charges shall be made in writing and shall be filed with the League Commissioner who shall cause a copy thereof to be served by registered mail upon the Member against whom such charges have been made;
- b. The Member so charged shall, within ten (10) days after the receipt of such charges, shall file with the Commissioner, its' written response thereto. The Commissioner shall thereupon transmit such charges and responses, if any, to the League Governors;
- c. If a majority of the League Governors, after an investigation, favors a hearing upon the charges, they shall direct the Commissioner to call a Special League Meeting to hear the charges, to be held not more than twenty-one (21) days after the filing of the accused Member's response in the home city, town or community of the accused Member. If, within fifteen (15) days after such answer is filed, a majority of the League Governors have not directed the Commissioner to call a meeting of the Governors to hear the charges, the said charges shall be dismissed;
- d. The Chair of the Board shall preside at any such a hearing;
- e. At the hearing, the Member so charged shall have the right to appear in person and to be represented by Counsel. Strict rules of evidence, as practiced in the courts, shall not apply and any relevant testimony and documentary evidence other than hearsay testimony submitted at the hearing shall be received and considered. Either the complainant or the Member team charged shall be entitled to an adjournment of not more than seven (7) days to enable it to present rebuttal evidence regarding matters of which it was not aware prior to the hearing and which were presented at the hearing;
- f. After duly considering all the evidence and arguments presented, the Governors shall vote upon whether the charges have been proven in whole or in part. A Governors' resolution shall be required to prove the charges in whole or in part, provided the Governors representing the Member or Members who preferred the charges as well as the Member team charged are not entitled to vote;
- g. If the said charges are found to be sustained, the Governors shall then consider the penalty to be administered. The Governors may impose such a penalty as shall be considered commensurate with the offence and injury and, in addition, they may or its members; suspend the Member team for such period of time as they see fit or they may expel the Member from the League. The affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Governors shall be required for expulsion. Calculation of the two-thirds (2/3) majority for the purpose of this section shall be based on the entire membership including the Member charged; and
- h. The decisions of the Board of Governors, made in accordance with the foregoing procedure shall be final and binding.

#### **ARTICLE 18: AMENDMENTS**

- 18.1 The Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations may be amended at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special Meeting of the League called specifically for that purpose, and then only by two-thirds majority of the members present at the Annual or any Special Meeting called for that purpose.
- 18.2 No amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations shall be considered at the Annual General or Special Meeting unless such amendments shall have been submitted in writing to the League Commissioner at least three (3) weeks prior to the date of the Annual or Special Meeting, and it shall be the duty of the Commissioner to submit a copy of the proposed amendment(s) to each member of the Executive Committee and to each Member team at least one (1) week prior to the date of the Annual or Special Meeting.

18.3 Amendments may be proposed by Member teams in good standing as well as members of the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE 19: REGISTERED OFFICE**

19.1 The principal office of the League shall be located in the municipality where the Commissioner resides or in such place as he/she may designate.

**ARTICLE 20: DISSOLUTION**

20.1 The League may be dissolved at any time by the Board of Governors with the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of all League Members. Upon dissolution the League assets shall be equally divided among the members except in the case of the provisions of paragraph 20.2.

20.2 In the case of dissolution of the League prior to or during any playing season, any team which is operating within the League for the first year shall not have any share in any of the disbursements of the League's assets.

**ARTICLE 21: PARAMOUNTCY**

21.1 To the extent of any conflict or inconsistency between the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and any rule or other policy of the League or the Board, the Constitution and By-Laws will govern.

21.2 To the extent of any conflict or inconsistency between any two Regulations, rules or other policies (as the case may be) of the League or the Board, the more recently passed Regulation, rule or other policy (as the case may be) shall govern.

21.3 To the extent of any matter not addressed within the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations that is addressed within the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations of the governing Branch, the provisions of the governing Branch shall apply.

21.4 To the extent of any matter that arises that is not addressed in within the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations or those of the governing Branch, shall then be dealt with at any League meeting by a majority vote of the participating members of the teams present at such League meeting, provided such matter is not in conflict with the By-Laws and regulations of Hockey Canada.

# **BY-LAWS**

## **BY- LAW 1 - BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

- 1.1 The League shall be governed by a Board of Governors consisting of the Chair and the Governors of the Member teams who shall be responsible to establish and uphold the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations, as provided herein.
- 1.2 The Governor or his/her alternate Governor shall, by reason of his or her appointment, be vested with the full power to represent the Member team and to bind it by his/her vote.

## **BY - LAW 2 - DUTIES OF GOVERNORS**

- 2.1 The duties of the Board of Governors are:
  - a. To select the Chairman of the Board;
  - b. To select the members of the Management Committee as specified in By-Law 4;
  - c. To formulate, prescribe, alter, or amend the League's Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations;
  - d. To ensure that all Members comport themselves in a manner that avoids any conflict of interest;
  - e. To consider all applications for membership changes as outlined in the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations and to grant or refuse those applications based upon the merits of each;
  - f. To approve the league's divisional alignment, schedule and playoff format annually;
  - g. To consider financial proposals brought by the Commissioner at the Annual Meeting and approve the annual budget;
  - h. To hire a Commissioner and other contracted personnel or volunteers to serve on the League's Executive Committee as may be deemed necessary;
  - i. To appoint, at each annual meeting, an auditor or auditors to hold office until the next annual Meeting; and
  - j. To establish the terms of reference for the League's Standing Committees annually and appoint Committee members as outlined in By-Law 10.
- 2.2 In addition, the Board of Governors is responsible to appoint a committee of three (3) Governors to administer discipline against Member teams for violations of By-Law 14 and Appendix O (Player registration fees), Player Compensation (Appendix G) and any other matters that it deems necessary or are referred to it by the Commissioner. The members shall act on the committee for a term of one year.

## **BY- LAW 3 – CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

- 3.1 The Board of Governors shall select a Chair of the Board who shall serve for a term of two (2) years. In the event that a vote is required to determine who will act as the Chair, the successful candidate shall require a simple majority.
- 3.2 The Chair may only serve two (2) terms, which need not be consecutive, excluding any partial term where he/she was elected by the Board to serve as Chair.

- 3.3 No Governor shall be selected to act as the Chair of the Board unless the individual has previously served as a member of the Board of Governors for at least one (1) full year. In the event that no such Governor is ready, willing and able to serve in the position of Chair, the Board of Governors may extend the term of the current Chair should he/she be willing, or select another Governor from the Board.
- 3.4 A newly appointed Chair shall assume the office immediately after the meeting at which he/she is selected.
- 3.5 If the Chair resigns, he/she ceases to be eligible to serve as a Governor, or is otherwise removed without a replacement having been selected by the Board, or is otherwise required to take a leave of absence, notwithstanding 3.3, the Board may designate one (1) of the remaining Governors to serve as Chair for the remainder of the term or until such time as the Board selects a new Chair.
- 3.6 The Chair or his/her designate shall act as the chairperson at all Board meetings and shall serve as an ex-officio member of all League Committees.

#### **BY - LAW 4 - MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

- 4.1 The Board of Governors shall to appoint a Management Committee whose members shall be comprised of the Chair of the Board and two (2) other Members of the Board who shall serve as Vice-Chairs, one each from the South and North Divisions. In the event that no other member from the South or North Division is willing and able to sit on the Management Committee, the Board of Governors may appoint another member regardless of Division. In the event that a vote is required to determine who will act as a Vice-Chair, the successful candidate shall require a simple majority.
- 4.2 The appointed members of the Management Committee shall serve a term of two (2) years after which the Board of Governors shall appoint new members to serve on the Management Committee. The League Commissioner shall be a non-voting member of the committee. All meetings of the Management Committee shall be chaired by the League Chair. Minutes of all meetings shall be circulated to the remaining Board of Governors within fifteen (15) days upon the completion of any meeting of the Management Committee.
- 4.3 The long-term strategic objectives and any Board defined priorities and values of the League shall be vested in the Management Committee. In addition, the Management Committee shall be responsible to support and offer advice to the Executive Committee, through the Commissioner, and to report to the Governors as required.

#### **BY - LAW 5 - BOARD MEETINGS**

- 5.1 The Board of Governors shall meet in person at least once per quarter year for a minimum of four (4) times annually including the Annual General Meeting. The schedule for such meetings shall be finalized prior to July 1st each year.
- 5.2 At any and all meetings of members of the Board of Governors, unless otherwise stated, each Member team of the League shall be entitled to have two (2) representatives present.

- 5.3 In the event of a Member team's Governor or alternate Governor is unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Governors, the Member team may appoint an additional alternate to represent it at such a meeting with all the powers of Governor by requesting such in writing to the Chairman of the Board prior to the meeting. Approval of the additional alternate shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 5.4 Notice of such meetings shall be sent by e-mail to each Governor not less than seven (7) days prior to the date of the meeting is to take place.
- 5.5 A quorum for all meetings of the Board shall be two-thirds (2/3) of the Members of the League.
- 5.6 If within thirty (30) minutes from the time established for meeting to commence, a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a suitable date as soon as is possible. If at such time, the rescheduled meeting does not achieve a quorum within thirty (30) minutes from the time established for the rescheduled meeting to commence, the members present shall form a quorum.
- 5.7 At all meetings of the League Board, representation of each Member team by its Governor or Alternate Governor shall be compulsory. Failure to have representation, unless detained by car accident or inclement weather, shall result in the Member team being subject to a fine of one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars.
- 5.8 Except where otherwise stated, all decisions shall be determined by majority vote with each Member team having one (1) vote. In the case of an equality of votes the motion shall be defeated. All votes at any such meeting shall be taken in the usual manner by way of assent or dissent unless a secret ballot is requested by any Governor present. Abstention from voting by a member shall cause a fine of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars to be levied against the Member team. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted at any meeting of the Board of Governors or Committees.
- 5.9 The most recent Robert Rules of Order shall apply at all meetings of the League and its committees at which a jurisdictional dispute arises.

#### **BY- LAW 6: MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 The day-to-day operations of the League shall be vested in the Executive Committee consisting of the Commissioner; Executive Director; Director, Hockey Operations; Director, Communications; Director, Technology; Director, Discipline; Director, Finance and other Directors as required.
- 6.2 No member of a Member team's executive, coaching staff, management or support staff shall be eligible to serve on the Executive Committee.
- 6.3 The Protest Committee of the League shall consist of the Commissioner, Executive Director and Director, Hockey Operations. The Protest Committee may appoint an independent person, who is not a member of any team, as an alternate. The alternate may only participate in the event that a member of the committee is unable to participate.
- 6.4 The Appeals Committee shall consist of three (3) individuals as recommended by the Commissioner and approved by the Board of Governors. These individuals shall not be members of the Board, the Executive Committee, any Member team, and shall not hold any position in any capacity within the League.

## **BY- LAW 7 – DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 7.1 The Executive Committee shall have the sole jurisdiction in the following matters:
- a. Interpretation and enforcement of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations;
  - b. Assigning discipline as specified within the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations;
  - c. Administering protests and facilitating appeals;
  - d. Administrative support to team minor officials;
  - e. Game administration operations;
  - f. Communications and social media releases;
  - g. Scheduling;
  - h. Conduct of the Annual Entry and Supplemental drafts;
  - i. Player registration;
  - j. Player transactions; and
  - k. Other duties as required from time to time.

## **BY- LAW 8: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 8.1 The members of the Executive Committee shall be responsible for the following areas specific to each member. In addition, the Board of Governors shall establish work descriptions and/or agreements for each position that shall guide the specific day to day responsibilities associated with each position.
- 8.2 In the case of any absence of the Commissioner, when he/she is unable to perform the duties associated with the Commissioner's position, he/she may appoint, with the approval of the Board, another member of the Executive Committee to act in the Commissioner position on an interim basis until such time as he/she returns.
- 8.3 Commissioner:
- The Commissioner shall report to the Management Committee and shall be charged with the management and supervision of the affairs and operations of the League including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, when exercising this power, the Commissioner shall adhere to the amounts for fines, the lengths for suspensions, and any other specified penalties for infractions that are stated elsewhere in the League's Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations. In cases where an infraction is more egregious in severity, as determined by the Board of Governors, the Commissioner is empowered to impose additional penalties but not more than double the originally defined penalties. For infractions not addressed in the league's Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations, the Commissioner may fine the team or individual up to a maximum of ten thousand (\$ 10,000.00) and/or apply a one-year suspension.
- 8.4 The duties of the Commissioner include, but are not limited to, the following. The Commissioner shall:
- a. Lead, administer and maintain positive relations with the league's member teams;
  - b. Lead and facilitate positive relations and communications within the Board of Governors;
  - c. Manage and direct the function of the Director, Finance, in the administration of the day-to-day financial operations of the League;
  - d. Represent the League at the Canadian Junior Hockey League (CJHL) participating as a member of the CJHL Board of Directors and associated committees, attending meetings, and representing the Maritime Hockey League at the national level;

- e. Maintain positive relations and communication with external governing bodies, organizations, partners and key stakeholders including, but not limited to, the Quebec Maritimes Junior Hockey League, Head Check Health, and the Canadian Mental Health Association;
- f. Oversee the operations of the league and manage the league's human resources;
- g. Acquire sponsorship and advertising opportunities to generate additional revenue sources for the league;
- h. Lead and coordinate marketing, promotional initiatives, and League sanctioned events to increase awareness of the league's brand and improve the league's image;
- i. Lead, administer and coordinate the administrative and operational requirements and activities of the league including the Annual General Meeting and Entry Draft, player registration, and annual strategic planning;
- j. Liaise with Member teams for scheduling availability and specific requirements and coordinate the development of the final regular season schedule for publication;
- k. Act as arbitrator in any dispute as to the ownership of players between member teams or between a member team and a team of any other League that may become affiliated with the League. Arbitration shall take place at the request of any member or player and shall include a complete investigation of the situation by the arbitrator;
- l. Oversee the league's risk management initiatives and policy requirements ensuring adherence by all member teams and verifying that all related polices and regulations are current;
- m. Be responsible for responding to media requests and representation of the league;
- n. Enforce the adherence of the league's Articles, By-Laws, Regulations, policies, and related rules, ensuring that all teams and members are in compliance; and
- o. Exercise the power to fine, suspend or otherwise discipline any member, team, coach, player or other person prejudicial to the League participating in the League for unseemly conduct, or conduct off the ice, or for a breach of the League's Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, policies, and rules, subject always to the right of appeal as hereinafter provided.

## 8.5 Executive Director

The Executive Director, under the direction of the Commissioner, shall be responsible to:

- a. Draft proposals and revisions to the League's Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and policies, working in collaboration with the Commissioner and the Executive Committee, for approval by the Board of Governors;
- b. Be responsible for the approval of league player transactions in collaboration with the Director, Hockey Operations, communicating trades to teams and on the League's website, and initiating the invoicing process for player development fees arising from trades through the Director, Finance;
- c. Be responsible to chair the League's Entry and Supplemental Drafts, working in collaboration with the Executive Committee;
- d. Assist the Commissioner with the coordination of the annual player registration process by reviewing payments, updating teams on player registration status, and preparing reports to the Commissioner;
- e. Generate weekly reports on tracking accumulating penalties and communicating results with teams and the Director, Discipline;
- f. Assist the Commissioner with the development and distribution of bulletins and memos to Member teams on topics of general interest, as requested;
- g. Communicating with the Director, Discipline on suspensions and ensuring accurate information to the League's website;

- h. Support the Executive Committee on matters of the League, as requested by the Commissioner; and
- i. Serve on committees as required by the Chair of the Board or the Commissioner.

#### 8.6 Director, Communications

The Director, Communications, under the direction of the Commissioner, shall be responsible to:

- a. Prepare press releases and news bulletins related to league operations posting approved releases to all news media through the league's website and social media platforms, and coordinating final release with member teams when necessary;
- b. Liaise with team personnel on rescheduling of games and communicating any cancellations, postponements and changes to the media through the League's social media;
- c. Coordinate the submissions for the weekly and monthly awards, soliciting input from member teams and announcing selections through the League's social media;
- d. Administer the selection of league's annual award winners and scholarships recipients by collecting nominations from member teams, coordinating the selection process, and administering the acquisition and distribution of the final awards;
- e. Administer the league website, ensuring the accuracy of information and updating the site with new content as required;
- f. Create and produce graphic design requirements for the league website and social media platforms, liaising with Member teams' media personnel for content and providing guidance as required;
- g. Provide guidance, as directed by the Commissioner, prior to the start of the regular season to team media personnel on new approaches and overall league media processes and requirements; and
- h. Coordinate any broadcasts of league games by approved third-party broadcasting providers by liaising with teams and the provider's personnel to establish scheduling and special events/activities.

#### 8.7 Director, Technology

The Director, Technology, under the direction of the Commissioner, shall be responsible to:

- a. Review game reports submitted by member teams and verify all online scoring for accuracy and statistical purposes and notifying the Commissioner of any member team who fails to file reports as directed by the League;
- b. Manage administrative web access to LeagueStat and maintaining the player/coaches roster database;
- c. Manage the league website including the penalty tracking, official's database, and the online League player registration module;
- d. Assist with the orientation and support of official scorers and timekeepers of Member teams;
- e. Support the publication of the online game schedule;
- f. Serve on committees as required by the Chair of the Board or the Commissioner; and
- g. Advise the Commissioner of any action that, from the standpoint of statistics and technology, should be taken to improve the image of the League, its member teams, officers, managers, coaches, players, and the Board of Governors.

## 8.8 Director, Finance

The Director, Finance, under the direction of the Commissioner, shall be responsible to:

- a) Be responsible to support the Commissioner in the day-to-day financial activities including invoicing, initiating and recording payments, reconciling payments, issuing financial statements, and providing budgeting support to ensure the effective operation of the League;
- b) Maintain a proper set of books of for all League accounts;
- c) Provide an annual report of the unaudited results of the yearly operations to the Commissioner for presentation at the Annual General Meeting of the League;
- d) Provide other such financial reports and matters as may appear to be of interest to the League or that the Commissioner or Board of Governors may prescribe;
- e) Receive, in the name of the League, all monies which shall be deposited in one or more chartered banks of the League and pay out of the funds any costs, charges and expenses involved in the administration and operation of the League in accordance with the policies and guidelines as established from time to time;
- f) Support the League in the preparation of the required financial documentation to aid in the annual audit of all accounts by an auditor licensed pursuant to the Public Accountants Act, as may be appointed by the Board of Governors, as part of the cost of administration the League; and
- g) Serve on committees as required by the Chair of the Board or the Commissioner.

## 8.9 Senior Director, Hockey Operations & Development

The Director, Hockey Operations, under the direction of the Commissioner, shall be responsible to:

- h) Act as the prime contact for Member teams' General Managers for issues related to League's hockey operations;
- i) Lead and coordinate activities associated with the General Manager's committee, in consultation with the Commissioner, including publishing agenda items and minutes from all meetings and facilitating the submission of recommendations on behalf of the Committee, to the Board of Governors;
- j) Responsible for communications and agreements with the Maritime Branches and the Maritime Under 18 leagues related to hockey operations.
- k) Support the Commissioner with the development and distribution of league bulletins and memos related to the overall hockey operations;
- l) Work in collaboration with the Executive Director in the overall administration, tracking and communication of internal and external player transactions;
- m) Record and track all player transactions that include Player Development Fees to ensure that team spending is within the League mandated Trade Envelope and provide periodic reports to Member teams;
- n) Record the submission of tryout agreements from teams, providing periodic status reports, and resolving conflicts that may arise;
- o) Responsible for the oversight of Member team registration on the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) including rostered players and affiliates;
- p) Responsible for the tracking and maintenance of the Member teams' protected lists resulting from player transactions, player removals, and free agent additions;
- q) Responsible to draft proposals and revisions to the league's constitution, by-laws, regulations and policies, working in collaboration with the Commissioner and the Executive Committee, for approval by the Board of Governors;

- r) Working in collaborate with the Commissioner, initiate requests for special dispensation and exclusions from the governing Branch and Hockey Canada;
- s) Responsible to develop comprehensive player eligibility lists for the Annual Entry and Supplementary drafts and assist with the preparation, oversight and conduct of the drafts as well as maintenance of draft selection lists; and
- t) Assist the Commissioner and the Executive Committee with planning, promotion and operation of league events (e.g. combines, showcases, camps, etc.), as required; and
- u) Be responsible for stakeholder relationships and execution of support programs including Rinknet and HUDL InStat and administering changes and new user access requested by Member teams.

#### **BY-LAW 9 - GENERAL MANAGERS COMMITTEE**

- 9.1 The General Managers Committee shall consist of the Director, Hockey Operations, and the General Managers, or his/her designate, for each of the Member teams. The Director of Hockey Operations shall act as chair of the committee.
- 9.2 The duties of the General Managers Committee shall include the following:
- a. To uphold the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations, rules and polices of the League;
  - b. To make recommendations to the Board of Governors on the formulation and interpretation of the playing rules to be used in all league games;
  - c. To approve the league and play-off schedule in collaboration with the Executive Committee;
  - d. To submit recommendations to improve the overall league operation to the League Board of Governors for consideration annually; and
  - e. To assist in the identification, nomination and selection of the league award winners; and other duties as may be designated by the Board of Governors.
- 9.3 A quorum shall be two-thirds (2/3) of the General Managers of the League.
- 9.4 At all meetings of the committee, representation of each member by its General Manager or Alternate shall be compulsory. Failure to have representation, unless detained by car accident or inclement weather, shall result in the Member being subject to a fine of five hundred (\$500) dollars.
- 9.5 All motions shall be decided by majority of votes with each member team having one (1) vote. In the case of equality of votes the motion shall be defeated.

#### **BY- LAW 10 - OTHER COMMITTEES**

- 10.1 In addition to the Management, Executive, Protest, Appeals and General Managers' committees, the Board of Governors shall establish committees in the following areas:
- a. Finance and Audit;
  - b. Marketing and Events;
  - c. Best Practices; and
  - d. Risk Management.

- 10.2 The Board shall establish terms of reference for each committee that shall be set out at the Annual General Meeting and members of each committee shall be announced by the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Board of Governors meeting of the season.
- 10.3 Committee membership shall be limited to a term of one (1) year at which time the Board shall renew each committee.
- 10.4 Committee members may be selected from the Board of Governors, the Executives of the Member teams, or other individuals who possess experience in specific areas of expertise. All Committee members must be approved by the Board of Governors. Any member of the League's Executive Committee may participate in any committee in a resource capacity.
- 10.5 An individual may not act on more than one committee at the same time without the approval of the Board of Governors and the Chair of the Board shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- 10.6 Additional Ad Hoc Committees may be established by the Commissioner or the Board from time to time, as the need arises, to assist with advancing League initiatives.

#### **BY-LAW 11 - MEETINGS**

- 11.1 The League shall hold its Annual General Meeting prior to July 1st annually at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Governors.
- 11.2 The Commissioner shall, prior to November 1st annually, send out guidelines for hosting the Annual Meeting and Entry Draft requesting the Member teams to submit bids to act as host. The Board of Governors shall establish a selection committee to determine the successful bidder and notify all bidders of the results no later than January 15<sup>th</sup> annually.
- 11.3 The Chairman of the Board, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman, or a person appointed by the Board, shall preside over the Annual General Meeting.
- 11.4 Prior to July 1st annually, the Commissioner shall develop a schedule of meetings of the Board of Governors for the coming season.
- 11.5 The Commissioner or the Chairman of the Board may schedule conference call meetings of the Board of Governors as required. The minutes of conference call meetings shall be approved at the next meeting of the Board of Governors as the case may be.
- 11.6 Providing that each club is given seventy-two (72) hours notification of a League Meeting, failure to be represented by a member of the Team Executive may require the missing team to pay a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to the League.

#### **BY-LAW 12 - SPECIAL MEETINGS**

- 12.1 Special meetings of the Board of Governors may be called by the Chair of the Board at any time. A special meeting may also be called by an application to the Chair by a majority of the participating Member teams in writing, and when such application is received the Chair shall call a Special Meeting.

- 12.2 An application, by the Commissioner, for an emergency meeting must be approved by the majority of participating Member teams. In the event of an emergency, the League is empowered to conduct an e-mail vote of the participating Member teams provided that, in the sole discretion of the Executive Committee, the application is of an emergency nature. Any such e-mail vote must be confirmed and ratified at the first League meeting following and the taking of such a vote.

#### **BY-LAW 13 - VOTING**

- 13.1 Each participating Member team shall be entitled to one voting representative at any meeting of the League.
- 13.2 All motions put forth at any League meetings shall be carried by a majority vote of the voting representatives present unless otherwise stipulated by the Constitution, By - Laws and Regulations.
- 13.3 The Chair of the Board may call for an e-mail vote of the Member teams as is required and the matter to be voted on is if significant importance and time sensitive that would preclude awaiting a scheduled meeting or a special meeting. The Commissioner shall administer any such vote and report the results to the Board.

#### **BY-LAW 14 - LEAGUE FEES**

- 14.1 The annual membership fees in the League shall be determined annually by the Board of Governors at the Annual Meeting. The fees shall be payable at such time and in such manner as the Board of Governors determines each year.
- 14.2 Once the League has established the amount and schedule of payment for the League fees, any member not adhering to the established payment schedule shall be subject to the following sanctions that shall be applied following a seven (7) day period of grace upon notification of any delinquent payment:
- a. Immediate reduction of the Member team's protected list by five (5) players;
  - b. Loss of privilege of adding players including free agents as well as trading players;
  - c. Loss of the right to vote on any League matter as well as the privilege of speaking to any matter at a League meeting; and
  - d. Loss of the right of appeal on any League decision affecting their team.
- 14.3 Should payment of delinquent fees not be received in the League Office within thirty (30) days of due date, a meeting of the Management Committee will be convened by the Chair of the Board where further action will be discussed as outlined in Regulation 2.2.
- 14.4 Requests for deferment of payments must be made to the Commissioner prior to the due date of scheduled payment.
- 14.5 A member shall be considered to be 'not in good standing' unless it has paid the Annual Membership fees as determined by the Board.

### **BY- LAW 15 - PARTICIPANT FEES**

- 15.1 The League shall require player participants to pay a registration fee annually. The registration fee shall be an amount as established by the Board of Governors at the Annual General Meeting in conjunction with the approval of the League's operating budget.
- 15.2 If a team plays a player who has not paid the league registration fee by the required date, the following penalties shall apply:
  - a. The player shall be suspended until such time as the fees are paid in full; and
  - b. The team shall be fined one thousand (\$1,000) dollars.
- 15.3 Payment must be paid directly to the league by the player or player's family. Payment by teams will not be accepted.
- 15.4 Teams shall advise all players of the League's Player Registration Fee Policy as outlined at Appendix N, at the beginning of training camp.

### **BY- LAW 16 - PROTESTS**

- 16.1 Protests may be filed with the Executive Committee within twenty-four (24) hours of being notified on the decision in question. The protesting team shall be invoiced by the League in the amount of two hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollars.
- 16.2 The matter being protested shall be considered by the Protest Committee who shall hand down the decision after having investigated the protest in any manner that, in their sole discretion, will enable them to come to a proper decision.
- 16.3 Should the protest be upheld by the Executive Committee, then the protest fee of two hundred dollars and fifty (\$250.00) shall be returned to the protesting member team.
- 16.4 No appeal to the League shall be made from any decision handed down by the Protest Committee with respect to any protest filed pursuant to 17.1.

### **BY-LAW 17 - APPEALS**

- 17.1 An appeal of any decision issued by an Executive Committee member must be filed with the Commissioner within twenty-four (24) hours of the notification of the decision being appealed. The appealing team shall be invoiced by the League in the amount of shall be of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). Should the appealed decision be overturned, the appeals fee, less the cost of conducting the appeal hearing, shall be refunded.
- 17.2 All appeals filed by Member teams shall be adjudicated by the League's Appeals Committee.
- 17.3 An appeal to the Appeals Committee does not operate as a stay of the decision or ruling being appealed.

## **BY-LAW 18 - BANKING**

- 18.1 The Executive Committee shall arrange for the opening of a bank account in a recognized chartered bank, trust company or credit union in which funds of the League shall be deposited and withdrawn.
- 18.2 A trust fund, called an emergency fund, shall be established with a financial institution with deposit insurance.
- 18.3 The League shall establish a payment method of submitting league fees, fines, appeal and protest fees, trades and other payments as may be required from time to time.
- 18.4 The Commissioner shall be responsible for the payment of all accounts of the League and shall establish such financial regulations and policies as he/she deems necessary to deal with payment of regular current accounts.
- 18.5 The signing officers of the League shall consist of any two (2) of the following: the Commissioner, Chairman of the Board or one (1) other member of the Board of Governors as designated by the Board.
- 18.6 All expenses in conjunction with the operation of the League, not specifically dealt with in the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations, shall be paid for by the League provided they are approved for payment at a properly constituted League Meeting.

## **BY-LAW 19 - DISCIPLINE**

- 19.1 The League may, from time to time, adopt minimum suspensions or penalties to be imposed on an offending team's players and officials. If such a minimum suspension policy is in effect in the League, whether by adoption or through the governing branch, and then prior to the Director, Discipline imposing a suspension in excess of five (5) games, shall, if requested by the affected teams, hold a hearing to determine the appropriateness of the suspension.
- 19.2 The League's Director, Discipline shall conduct a hearing when the suspension is in excess of ten (10) games unless such suspension is due to a minimum suspension policy. At the hearing, two representatives from the teams involved in the incident may participate together with such other persons as may be deemed necessary by the Director, Discipline. The opposition team involved shall be entitled to make a submission, if desired. A hearing may be held by telephone conference call.
- 19.3 In exceptional circumstances, the Director, Discipline, may suspend a ~~team~~, player or official pending a suspension hearing, if he determines that such action is necessary to preserve the integrity of the League or for other good cause.
- 19.4 There shall be no hearing or appeal from minimum suspensions issued under a the minimum suspension policy established by the League.
- 19.5 Notwithstanding By-Law 19.4, a Member team may request ~~for~~ a video review of an incident and the Director, Discipline may alter the suspension should the video provide conclusive supporting evidence. Should the decision not be changed, the requesting team shall be fined two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars in addition to the forfeiture of the video review deposit.

- 19.6 An appeal of a suspension made by the Director of Discipline may be made to the Appeals Committee under the conditions set out in By-Law 17.1.
- 19.7 The Director, Discipline will review all major penalties that are called that are applied against accumulations that could result in supplemental discipline later in the season.
- 19.8 The League suspensions and discipline shall abide by those found in the Canadian Junior Hockey League's (CJHL) Minimum Suspension Guidelines and those outlined at Appendix Q.

#### **BY-LAW 20 - PLAYING RULES**

- 20.1 The League shall adopt the playing rules of the Maritime Hockey League's Aligned Rules Pilot in conjunction with Hockey Canada and the Quebec Maritime Junior Hockey League (QMJHL). In any case where the Aligned Rules do not address a specific situation, the League shall refer to the playing rules of Hockey Canada.

#### **BY- LAW 21 - SPONSORSHIP**

- 21.1 The League may, from time to time, enlist corporate partners or sponsors for the League and the League's events. The League may also enter into sponsorship agreements which may require that specific sponsor or corporate partner products or services be utilized by the League and its Member teams in order to comply with such agreements and to comply with League's policy mandating the use of such products and/or services.
- 21.2 Unless the Board of Governors approves a Member team's application to be exempt from a policy requiring the use of a Sponsor's product, a Member team shall be assessed a fine of five hundred (\$500) dollars for each game in which its team fails to use the Sponsor's product and/or service.
- 21.3 The League may also mandate the use of a sponsor's and/or corporate partner's name as part of any agreement that the League enters into. In such cases, once notified of this requirement by the League, any Member team who fails to make these public address announcements shall be fined five hundred (\$500) dollars per game.

#### **BY - LAW 22 - CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOUR**

- 22.1 The League expects all participants to hold themselves to a high standard of conduct and behavior in a manner that that reflects the high standards expected of our teams, players, coaches, staff, and volunteers. To assist in accomplishing these objectives, the League shall establish policies related to the overall conduct and behavior of all participants under the jurisdiction of the League and its teams. These include, but are not limited to, the following:
- a. League Code of Conduct;
  - b. League Billet Policy and Standards;
  - c. League Training Camp Policy and Standards; and
  - d. League Social Media Policy
- 22.2 Failure to adhere to these policies shall result to disciplinary action.

## **BY- LAW 23 - RECOURSE**

- 23.1 Any recourse to the courts of law made by any Member, Member Team, player, coach, other team employee or other individual governed by the League regarding the interpretation and administration of the Constitution, Articles, By-Laws, Regulations, policies, and other rules, before all rights and remedies of the Constitution, Articles, By-Laws, Regulations, policies, and other rules of the League have been availed of and exhausted, shall be deemed ungentlemanly and unsportsmanlike conduct within the meaning of the Rules and Regulations and such violation of the Rules and Regulations hereby entitles the Commissioner to suspend or terminate the membership of the said Member, or suspend the said Member Team, player, coach, other employee or other individual on the terms and for a duration that the Commissioner deems appropriate. If the legal action is initiated by the Owner, Governor, Executive Member, Coach, General Manager or any other recognized member of the Member team (e.g. staff member or volunteer), the individual shall be suspended for a period of one (1) year. In addition, the team shall be fined \$10,000.00 and shall lose its 1st and 2nd round draft selections (or equivalent) in the following two drafts, and shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the League as a result of the legal proceedings.
- 23.2 Any Member, team or team representative who seeks any recourse, ruling or appeal whatsoever from the governing Branch and/or Hockey Canada with respect to any actual or potential internal league dispute or any actual or potential decision or ruling made pursuant to the League's Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations or rules, shall be subject to a fine of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).

# REGULATIONS

## REGULATION 1 - TEAMS

- 1.1 Participating Member teams shall, during all scheduled games of the League, dress a minimum of fifteen (15) players, one of whom shall be a goaltender and a designated player who shall be, if necessary, the spare goaltender
- 1.2 Any team dressing less than fifteen (15) players, for any game, shall be fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each player under the minimum as therein before set out. The Executive Committee has the sole discretion to waive in the event of special circumstances.
- 1.3 Each participating member team shall be allowed to dress the maximum number of players as per the Hockey Canada Handbook.
- 1.4 Any team who plays an ineligible player shall automatically be deemed to have forfeited the game or games in which any ineligible player(s) has participated. As a result of the forfeiture, the team shall lose any points achieved during the game(s) in question and those points shall be awarded to their opponent and the team shall be fined one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars. In addition, any coach who plays an ineligible player will be suspended, pending a hearing by the League.
- 1.5 For all exhibition, regular scheduled games and League playoffs, the home club shall provide security in the form of police and/or security guards, with a minimum of one security individual per game. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a minimum fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and possible forfeiture of game. The League may, at their discretion, require the home team to increase security measures should the situation warrant such. All costs associated with any increase in security shall be borne by the host team.
- 1.6 Matching socks, sweaters with names on the back of the jersey, pants or shells, helmets and gloves must all be of the team's designated colours. Failure to meet any of the aforementioned requirements may result in a two hundred fifty dollar (\$250.00) fine for each game. The goaltenders will be exempted for helmets and gloves. This rule becomes effective at the beginning of the regular season.
- 1.7 All player affiliations shall be submitted in the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) for approval by the appropriate Branch and be approved for addition to the HCR roster prior to an affiliate player playing a game.
- 1.8 No team may use as an affiliated player, any player who is on the protected list of another Member team, unless the team has written consent from the team on whose protected list the player's name appears. Such consent must be filed with the League prior to the player participating in any League game.

- 1.9 In the event that a team is unable to dress one of its registered goalies due to an injury, sickness or other compassionate reasons, the team is required to call upon one of its registered affiliate goalies to fill the vacancy. In the event that the team's affiliate goalies are unable to participate due to scheduling conflicts or injury or sickness, the team may call upon a replacement goalie from a lower classification (e.g. Junior B, Junior C, Under 18, etc.) to find an emergency back-up goalie (EBUG). This EBUG may be from any of the three Maritime Branches and the goalie's team and goalie must agree to allow the participation in writing by utilizing the following steps:
- a. Step 1 - The League team shall secure written permission from the goalie and the goalie's team and shall submit to the MHL for approval; and
  - b. Step 2 - The League shall review and upon satisfaction, provide written approval to the team for the use of the EBUG with any specific conditions.

Once approved, the emergency back-up goalie may not participate in the game(s) unless the team's other registered goalie is also unable to play due to injury or suspension during the game. Once the team's originally registered back-up goalie is medically cleared to return to play, the use of the emergency back-up goalie is no longer authorized.

- 1.10 All Head Coaches must be certified in the National Coaches Certification Program (NCCP) at the High Performance Level 1. In addition, all team bench staff must meet all certification requirements as established annually between the League and the Maritime Branches as outlined at Appendix S. Failure to abide by these requirements shall result in a fine of two hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollars and possible removal of the staff member in violation.
- 1.11 Teams must abide by the terms and conditions set forth in the League's agreements with the Maritime Branches and the Maritime Under 18 Leagues for the signing, releasing and affiliating with Under 18 aged players. Teams that fail to abide by the agreements shall be fined two hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollars.

## **REGULATION 2 - TEAM COMPOSITION**

- 2.1 Each team in the League or its affiliate shall be limited to four (4) twenty (20) year old players who signed and/or played with a Major Junior Hockey team, a Canadian or American College or University team, or any professional team, since January 10th of the previous season. This does not apply to any Atlantic Canadian player who is on a Member team's player protected list.

Notwithstanding the above, any player registered on a League hockey team's card from the previous season can play for a university or college team up to and including December 15th and still return to his League team for the balance of the current season.

Each team of the League or its affiliate shall be limited to a maximum of two (2) new twenty (20) year old players, regardless of the level/division that they signed and/or played with since January 10th of the previous season from outside the region who have not previously played in the League or are not on a protected list of a Member team.

- 2.2 Each team will be allowed a maximum eight (8) players, on Junior A or affiliate cards, from outside the region, who have not played their Under 15 hockey within the region. If a player has not played Under 15 hockey in the region, they are deemed to be an out of region player until their Junior eligibility expires, unless they qualify as a non-regional player under 2.3 of this regulation.

Teams at the maximum of eight (8) carded out-of-region players who wish to register (card) an additional out-of-region player, must notify the league in advance and will be granted a temporary exception to exceed this limit, up to a total of nine (9) out of region players, for a maximum grace period of seven (7) days in order to facilitate the release of one of their carded players. When adding the additional out-of-region player, the team must identify one of the nine players who will not dress during the grace period. During this grace period, teams must adhere to the maximum of eight (8) out of regional players in any game. Failure to release the additional out of region player at the end of the grace period shall result in the sanctions specified in paragraph 2.5.

- 2.3 Any non-regional player who plays in the League for two consecutive seasons will no longer be considered a non-regional player. To qualify, a player must have played in the League for two consecutive seasons and been carded with a League on the January 10th deadline during both seasons. Players may have played for multiple teams within the League as long as they played within the League for the required period of time. Players who join the League and are subsequently traded outside the League only to return to the League will not qualify for this exemption. Once such a player enters his third consecutive season and is no longer considered a non-regional player, his team may replace him with another non-regional player. Teams with two (2) or more players who are no longer considered non-regional players under this exemption, cannot exceed a total of ten (10) non-regional players who are a combination of existing eight (8) non-regional players and two (2) players who were previously non-regional but are now exempted, at any one time.
- 2.4 Each member team will be allowed a maximum of eight (8) twenty year old players on Junior A or affiliate cards.
- 2.5 Teams are responsible to ensure that they adhere to these team composition requirements and any team found to be in violation of Regulation 2, paragraphs 2.1, 2.2, or 2.4 shall be fined one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars. A team shall be considered in violation if they card (HCR) a player who places the team over the specified maximum limits. In addition, the team shall forfeit all points in any games played while in violation of any of the maximum limits set in these paragraphs. As a result of the forfeiture, the team shall lose any points achieved during the game(s) in question and those points shall be awarded to their opponent. In addition, the player(s) in violation shall be suspended until such time that his/her team has taken corrective action to remedy the violation.
- 2.6 MHL teams may not sign any Under 18 carded sixteen (16) year old who is not on their fifty (55) player protected list to a Junior A card after December 1st.

### REGULATION 3 - PLAYOFFS

- 3.1 The League playoff format shall be established by the Member teams annually prior to the start of regular season play.
- 3.2 League standings shall be determined by an accumulation of points: two points shall be awarded for a win, one point for a tie, and one point for an overtime loss.
- 3.3 If two or more clubs are tied in points during the regular season, the standing of the clubs is determined in the following order:
  - a. The fewer number of games played (i.e. superior points percentage);
  - b. The greater number of games won, excluding games won in Overtime or by Shootout (i.e., 'Regulation Wins'). This figure is reflected in the RW column;
  - c. The greater number of games won, excluding games won by Shootout. This figure is reflected in the ROW column;
  - d. The greater number of games won by the Club in any manner (i.e. 'Total Wins'). This figure is reflected in the W column;
  - e. The greater number of points earned in games against each other among two or more tied clubs. For the purpose of determining standing for two or more Clubs that have not played an even number of games with one or more of the other tied Clubs, the first game played in the city that has the extra game (the 'odd game') shall not be included. When more than two Clubs are tied, the percentage of available points earned in games among each other (and not including any 'odd games') shall be used to determine standing;
  - f. The greater differential between goals for and against (including goals scored in Overtime or awarded for prevailing in Shootouts) for the entire regular season. This figure is reflected in the DIFF column; and
  - g. The greater number of goals scored (including goals scored in Overtime or awarded for prevailing in Shootouts) for the entire regular season. This figure is reflected in the GF column.

NOTE: In standings a victory in a shootout counts as one goal for, while a shootout loss counts as one goal against.

- 3.4 For split gates in playoffs where the higher placed (home team) loses the third (3rd), fifth (5th) or seventh (7th) game of a playoff series, and that game is the deciding game in the series, there shall be is no gate split or payment to the visiting team. If the lower place (visiting team) loses the third (3rd), fifth (5th) or seventh (7th) game of a playoff series and that game is the deciding game of the series, the home winning team will pay the visiting team one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) towards its expenses if the series ends in three or five games and fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) if the series ends in seven games; with such monies to be paid the night (or day) of the deciding game. In the League final the amounts of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) shall be increased with two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500) respectively. Should the monies not be paid within seven (7) days, the amount shall be doubled and the team shall be fined five hundred dollars (\$500).

- 3.5 The Commissioner of the League may appoint a person from time to time to represent the League at playoff games if deemed necessary.
- 3.6 The Commissioner shall establish playoff scheduling parameters for all series that include the format of each series as well as the timeline for completion of each series.
- 3.7 Teams participating in League playoff may arrange their own playoff dates provided they are completed by the date set by the Executive Committee. In the event that no agreement can be reached between the teams concerned, the Commissioner shall set the dates and location of all said games and confirm by e-mail or fax.
- 3.8 Teams cannot announce their schedule prior to League approval or announcement or a fine of two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars will be issued.

#### **REGULATION 4 - OFFICIALS**

- 4.1 All League games shall be officiated using the four (4) man system. Officials shall be assigned by the respective Branch(s) and referees shall be Level Five (5) or higher and linesmen shall be Level Three (3) or higher.

#### **REGULATION 5 - SCHEDULE**

- 5.1 The League shall solicit scheduling information from all Member teams annually requesting their respective preference of days and times for their home games to be submitted prior to May 23<sup>rd</sup> annually. The officer responsible for drafting the schedule shall follow these preferences as closely as is possible and equitable.
- 5.2 Each participating member team will be required to submit minimum of thirty (30) dates of availability to the League prior to May 15th.
- 5.3 The League schedule shall be subject to ratification by the majority of participating member teams of the League before it is designated as the regular schedule for the League in any season.
- 5.4 Upon verification of the League schedule, no games shall be re-scheduled except with the authorization of the Commissioner, or his designate.
- 5.5 Any game that is not played on the scheduled date must be re-scheduled within two (2) weeks of the originally scheduled game and approved by the League except for games in the last four (4) weeks of the regular schedule where the League shall coordinate and finalize rescheduled games with the teams involved. Teams rescheduling any game must notify the League's Director, Communications at [jfaulkner@themhl.ca](mailto:jfaulkner@themhl.ca) and the Director, Technology at [sean@themhl.ca](mailto:sean@themhl.ca) immediately. Teams are not to advertise any schedules changes until the league has announced any changes once approved. Failure to adhere to this process shall result in a fine five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars. Should teams fail to agree on a time for rescheduling the Commissioner shall set the time and place for the game(s).

- 5.6 If the provisions of paragraph 5.5 cannot be implemented and the team requesting the rescheduling is unable to play the game as scheduled, that team shall automatically forfeit that game and the game shall be recorded by the League Statistician as having been played, with a loss shown against the forfeiting team and a win credited to the other team. A team or teams which forfeit(s) a game shall be fined a minimum of five thousand (\$5,000) dollars and the franchise subject to suspension and/or expulsion.
- 5.7 In cases where a team is required to cancel a game(s) due to inclement such as a winter storm or poor driving conditions, the final decision on whether to play the game or not will rest with the travelling team and the hosting team shall accommodate any such request. The travelling team shall make every effort to notify the hosting team and League as soon as is possible in advance of the need to cancel a game and the teams shall notify the League of the date of the rescheduled game within twenty-four (24) hours of the cancellation.

### **REGULATION 6 - GAMES**

- 6.1 All League games will be comprised of three (3) twenty (20) minute periods. However, if in the discretion of the Executive Committee, justifiable circumstances do not permit this regulation to be complied with for an exhibition and regular season game, the Executive Committee may confirm that such game was been completed in accordance with this regulation. In all games, the ice shall be flooded prior to the warm-up and the start of game as well as between periods except prior to the first overtime period. All playoff games must be completed in their entirety.
- 6.2 In the event a game is tied at the completion of three (3) periods of play, a five (5) minute period of sudden death overtime followed by a shootout, if necessary, shall be played (as outlined in Appendix C). A team losing in overtime or a shootout will receive one point for the loss.
- 6.3 In the event that a game is tied during any playoff game, the process for overtime is found at Appendix T.
- 6.4 The practice of two teams lining up and shaking hands at the end of the game shall not be permitted in all exhibition, League and playoff games, except for the deciding game in any playoff series.
- 6.4 The League shall have a standard warm-up and between period procedure as outlined in Appendix B and Annex A.
- 6.5 Fines may be imposed by the Commissioner for any home team who submits an improperly completed game report. Properly completed game reports should include the names of all game officials and minor officials, completed list of players for both teams, including captain(s) and the back-up goaltender, all scoring and penalty statistics with times, shots on goal, attendance, etc. Failure to submit a properly completed game report shall result in a two hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollar fine.

- 6.6 Home teams shall wear light colored jerseys during all games prior to Christmas of the regular season and shall wear dark jerseys post-Christmas for the second half of the season. The Home team shall wear light jerseys for all play-off games.

#### **REGULATION 7 - BROADCASTING OF GAMES**

- 7.1 The home team at each game shall be responsible for broadcasting that game, whether it is an exhibition, regular season, special (e.g. all-star, prospects) or play-off game, in accordance with Appendix E.

#### **REGULATION 8 - SPECIAL GAMES**

- 8.1 For the purposes of this regulation, special games may include all-star games, showcase(s) and other events where the League assembles players from the Member teams to participate in selected competition, games or series, as representatives of the League.
- 8.2 An all-star game(s) may be played each season. The format of the game and composition of the team will be determined by the Board of Governors.
- 8.3 For any League sanctioned special game(s), the Commissioner shall solicit proposals from the Member teams to host the annual all-star game. Should no team be willing and able to host the game, the Commissioner may seek other venues and options.
- 8.4 The net profits from the special game, gate and promotional extras will be claimed by the League unless the League enters into a guaranteed bid arrangement with the Host team.
- 8.5 Within two (2) weeks of special game being played, the host team shall forward the League's share of the net gate, a copy of all expenditures incurred, along with a copy of the rink statement or a cheque for the agreed upon dollar amount of the guaranteed bid.
- 8.6 Any player selected to participate in any special game shall be required to participate in the stated game. Failure to participate for reasons other than medical or compassionate reasons, may be suspended for three (3) games and the team shall be fined \$500.00. Any withdrawals for medical must be supported by documentation from a recognized physician and accepted by the League

#### **REGULATION 9 - TRADES**

- 9.1 The League shall determine a process through which all player trades shall be processed and all Member teams must utilize the League's process at all times unless provided with special permission, by the Commissioner, to use an alternate process.
- 9.2 When teams decide on the details of any trade, the trade shall be submitted in writing and signed by the appropriate authorities of each team. Should the trade include future considerations the details of those future considerations must be included in the trade. However, the details of the future considerations shall not be made public.

- 9.3 Teams may include provisions to the terms of the trade should the player not report, however, this will not permit the player to continue to play for the team trading him.
- 9.4 All trades must be executed through the League approved trading platform. Teams shall not release details of the trade through social media or other means until the trade has been approved by the League. Teams that fail to adhere to this requirement shall be fined two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars.
- 9.5 Any team involved in a trade must ensure that they have sufficient room on their protected list to add any new player(s). Any draft pick(s) submitted as part of any trade, must be in the possession of the trading team to be considered.
- 9.6 The League shall establish an annual Trade Envelope that establishes a cap on the dollar amounts permitted to be spent in trades by a team in any one season. Any team who includes a Player Development Fees (PDF) as part of any trade must ensure that they have sufficient capacity in their Trade Envelope prior to initiating any trade. Teams are not permitted to offer PDF's as future considerations to a date beyond the conclusion of the current season.
- 9.7 Failure to ensure that the requirement set out in pars 9.2, 9.5 and 9.6 may result in the rejection of the trade by the League.
- 9.8 Any player named in any trade will be automatically removed from the protected list of his/her former team and placed on the protected list of the receiving team.
- 9.9 As part of any trade made between two teams, the teams shall be restricted to a Player Development Fee (PDF) to a maximum value of five thousand (\$5000) Dollars for any player. No team, or person on behalf of such team, may pay, offer to pay or promise to pay or receive, request or offer to accept, in the future, directly or indirectly in any manner whatsoever, an amount in respect of any player trade that exceeds the maximum limit on the cash component of any trade as stated in this regulation. Any team in violation of this provision shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$10,000 and other such sanctions as the Executive Committee may decide. In cases where the applicable taxes (e.g. GST, HST, etc.) are applied to a trade by a team outside the League, this amount must be shown as a separate amount from the trade value and must be clearly identified in the trade document.
- 9.10 When a Player Development Fee (PDF) is involved, the League shall invoice the appropriate team(s) and all fees are to be paid to the League by using the League approved payment method. In turn, the League shall rebate the PDF amount to the receiving team in a timely manner. Should the payment not be paid by the due date set by the League, the Commissioner shall notify the team. Once notified, if the invoice is not paid within five (5) days, of the following sanctions shall apply:
  - a. an immediate reduction of Protected List by two players for the remainder season;  
and

- b. the immediate loss of privilege adding players as well as trading or selling players until the monies have been paid.
- 9.11 Upon approval of any trade (internal or external to the League) the receiving League team will be required to register any transferred player(s) currently registered at the Junior A level to their team's HCR within 48 hours of trade approval.
- In addition, any player that a CJHL team holds title to, but is not in their current season's HCR, must be registered to the CJHL team's current season's HCR prior to the approval of an Intra-League or Inter-Branch Agreement involving the player. These requirements do not apply to the trading of prospects and previously drafted players who are currently rostered on another team not in the League (e.g. QMJHL, Junior B, Under 18, Prep School or other prospect team). Failure to comply is subject to a fine assessed by the CJHL.
- 9.12 Any player that a CJHL team holds title to, but is not in their current season's HCR, must be registered to the CJHL team's current season's HCR prior to the submission of an Intra-League or Inter-Branch Agreement involving the player. This does not apply to the trading of prospects and previously drafted players who are currently rostered on another team not in the League (e.g. QMJHL, Junior B, Under 18, Prep School or other prospect team). Failure to comply is subject to a fine assessed by the CJHL.
- 9.13 Once a trade in 13.7 has been approved registered, the League shall notify Member teams of the trade, including the terms of the deal. Any regional player traded to a team outside of the League for a Player Development Fee (PDF) shall be eligible to be claimed by a Member team for the dollar amount specified in the trade. The League shall advise all teams of such opportunities and teams will have twenty four (24) hours in which to claim the player by notifying the League. Prior to the start of the season, the claiming order shall be the reverse order of the previous year's standing. Once the season has commenced, the claiming order shall be in the reverse order of the current standings based on percentage. A claimed player shall be immediately added to the claiming teams protected list. Should no team lay claim to the player, the trade will be approved. A player may be claimed only once during a season. Any claim of a player in this regulation shall be treated as a trade and shall be governed by the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations. In addition, the financial amount shall be applied against the claiming team's trade envelope budget. The provisions of this regulation does not apply for any trades that take place after January 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 9.14 All trades between teams are absolute and shall not contain any provision restricting in any way the transferability of any player at any time in the future by the receiving team.
- 9.15 Teams may only trade a player once in any one season. Teams who have traded a player, who has been identified as future consideration in a trade and who will move to another team at a date in the future, may not trade that player again.

- 9.16 The League shall abide by the trade requirements as established by the Canadian Junior Hockey League (CJHL) as follows:
- a. No Member team may enter into, agree, submit or approve any trade, including with League teams as well as teams outside the League, between 6:00 p.m. EST on January 10 and 12:00 p.m. EST on June 1;
  - b. No Member team may enter into, agree, submit or approve any trade, including with League teams as well as teams outside the League, between 9:00 p.m. EDT on December 10 and 12:00 p.m. EST on January 1;
  - c. Any team in breach of these timelines shall be fined by the League an amount of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars. In addition, the team may be subject to an additional fine from the CJHL; and
  - d. Any CJHL member league whose team directly or indirectly offers the playing rights to a player (including by way of placing such player's name on the CJHL wire) for whom they do not hold the CJHL playing rights shall be subject to a \$2,500 fine.
- 9.17 In addition to the trade periods outlined at 9.15, the League may implement other trade periods and restrictions as required to assist in the effective operation of the League.
- 9.18 All trades for carded players must be completed prior to the time set by Hockey Canada for filing Jan 10th lists as outlined in Regulation 13.1. All trades must be signed off by both parties, through Rink Centre, prior to the deadline. Any trade not signed off by both parties by the deadline shall not be approved.
- 9.19 In accordance with League regulations, Teams may sign non-carded players until 10 p.m. on February 10. There shall be no trades or assignment of players between February 11<sup>th</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> inclusive as well from June 8<sup>th</sup> until the date of the draft.
- 9.18 Any trade that includes future considerations (e.g. draft picks or players) that will not become the property of the receiving team until after current the season has concluded, shall become the property of the receiving team on June 8th following the filing of the updated protected lists. Any futures trade will be announced by the League on that date.

#### **REGULATION 10 - TRADE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 A player 18 years old age or younger who is attending high school and who is registered on Junior A card, cannot be traded after October 15<sup>th</sup> without the written permission of his/her parents. Such documentation must be submitted to the League at the time of the trade and failure to do so will result in the rejection of the trade.
- 10.2 A player attending university or community college student, on a full-time basis, and who is registered on Junior A card, cannot be traded after January 6<sup>th</sup> without the player's written consent. Such documentation must be submitted to the League at the time of the trade and failure to do so will result in the rejection of the trade.

- 10.3 Any carded full-time university or community college student not included on his/her team's January 10 list submitted to the teams respective Branch, shall be removed from the team's protected list if requested by the player, and may sign with the team of his choice unless such player was dropped as the result of a trade. The signing team shall pay two thousand (\$2,000) dollars to the releasing team.
- 10.4 Any player traded during the season shall not be eligible to be traded back to the sending team, either directly or indirectly, at any point and for any reason until the conclusion of the following season.
- 10.5 Teams may trade players who are selected in either the Supplemental and or the Entry draft upon completion of the respective draft proceedings.
- 10.6 Teams cannot trade their territorial selections until August 15th following the draft in which they are selected.
- 10.7 Trades for draft picks in future years is permitted for the subsequent draft year only.
- 10.8 Failure to comply with the above regulation (a) would void any deal and all players or draft choices involved would become free from their clubs and they would refer to the League Office for disposition according to majority vote of League Members. In addition, any team that is found in non-compliance shall also be fined five hundred (\$500.00) dollars.

#### **REGULATION 11 - DRAFTING OF PLAYERS**

- 11.1 The League will conduct an annual Entry draft that will coincide with the ~~date~~ timing of the Annual General Meeting of the League. The draft shall be open to age eligible graduating Under 18, prep school and other players who are deemed eligible in accordance with the League's Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and rules.  
  
The League shall establish a player eligibility list that shall be circulated to teams in advance of the draft. Players not included on the approved list will not be eligible for the Entry draft.
- 11.2 The draft will be open to players that fall in the Under 18 age group during the previous season including those aged 15, 16 and 17 years old as defined by Hockey Canada birthdates and who are residents of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador, and Prince Edward Island.
- 11.3 At the draft, selections shall be made in the reverse order of finish in the last regular season's final standing. The draft shall consist of eight (8) rounds and two (2) territorial rounds for a total of ten (10) rounds. The selection process shall continue in that order of selection until all teams have passed or a maximum of ten (10) rounds have been completed.

- 11.4 A team must have room on their protected list to draft any player and no more than fifty-five (55) names protected at any one time. Only one (1) player at a time can be deleted from the list, and only at the time of the deleting team's turn in the draft.
- 11.5 Member teams are allowed three (3) minutes to make their selection in all rounds of the draft. Failure by a member team to make their selection within these time restraints shall result in the loss of that selection by that Member team. In addition, teams are permitted two (2) three (3) minute timeouts during the draft.
- 11.6 Each team is allowed to make two (2) territorial draft picks. These two (2) territorial picks must be submitted to the League no later than 12:00 p.m. ADT on the Monday prior to the date of the League Entry draft and may not be changed after that date.
- 11.7 Notwithstanding 11.6 above, teams may, in lieu of any submitted territorial picks, select both of these picks during the territorial rounds which shall be held after 2nd round of the draft. The order of selection shall be based on the order of finish from the previous season. Should a team only submit one territorial pick as outlined in 11.6, that team shall have retain one pick in lieu and shall select that pick with the latter of the two picks in the territorial round.
- 11.8 The areas of selection for the territorial picks shall be as follows:
- a. Amherst - Cumberland County;
  - b. Campbellton - Restigouche County;
  - c. Chaleur – Gloucester County;
  - d. Edmundston - Madawaska County except for that portion of Madawaska County that lies within the town limits of Grand Falls as well as the rural community of St Andre;
  - e. Grand Falls – Victoria County and that portion of Madawaska County that lies within the town limits of Grand Falls as well as the rural community of St Andre;
  - f. Miramichi – Northumberland County;
  - g. Pictou County - Pictou County;
  - h. West Kent– Kent County;
  - i. Summerside - Prince County;
  - j. Truro - Colchester County;
  - k. Valley - Kings County; and
  - l. Yarmouth – Yarmouth County
- 11.9 In the year of a territorial selection, the player's parent(s) must reside in the team's area of selection. Should the parents not live together, the place of residence will be determined by the location of the custodial parent. In the case of joint custody, the place of residence shall be determined by the school that the player normally attends and which parent resides in that area.
- 11.10 Any team selecting an ineligible player shall forfeit the selection in that round.
- 11.11 Should a dispute arise at the Draft Meeting regarding any player selected as to eligibility for selection, the Commissioner is empowered to make a ruling at the meeting which shall be final and non-appealable.

- 11.12 When the Draft is adjourned, and all players selected will be placed on the protected lists of the teams selecting them. No challenge regarding age of any selected will be considered or entertained.

### **REGULATION 12 - SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT**

- 12.1 The League shall establish a date for the Supplementary Protected List Draft by May 1st annually with the draft to be held prior to July 1st.
- 12.2 Players eligible for the Supplementary Protected List shall include any 17, 18 or 19 year old player signed to a Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) card and on his team's 25 player registered list on February 10th of the previous season except for those players who are on a League's team's regular or supplementary protected list.
- 12.3 The draft shall consist of a maximum of ten (10) rounds or until such time as all teams have passed. The order of selection shall be in the reverse order of finish in the previous League season. In an expansion year the expansion team(s) shall draw to determine their position in draft.
- 12.4 No team can select a player unless there is room on their supplemental list and any player selected in the draft shall be added to the selecting team's supplementary protected list.
- 12.5 The League shall distribute a Supplementary Draft Player Eligibility List in advance of the draft. Players not included in the list are not eligible for the draft. Once the League has identified a player to be eligible for the Supplementary draft and releases the final list to all teams, the player cannot be signed as a free agent prior to the actual draft. Should the player not be selected during the draft, he would then be considered a free agent.
- 12.6 Any player released by a QMJHL team after the draft and not on a supplementary protected list shall be a free agent subject to the Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations of the League.
- 12.7 Any player dropped from the Supplementary Protected list prior to or during the Supplementary Protected List draft shall be deemed as a free agent in the MHL.
- 12.8 Drafting positions in the Supplemental draft may not be exchanged or traded.

### **REGULATION 13 - SUPPLEMENTAL PROTECTED LIST**

- 13.1 Each team shall have, in addition to its regular protected list, a supplementary protected list of not more than ten (10) players.
- 13.2 Only players selected in the QMJHL Supplementary Protected List Draft shall be eligible to be on the supplementary protected list.

- 13.3 A player, who is on a team's supplementary protected list and signs as a free agent to a Junior A or affiliate card in the League must be removed from the team's supplementary protected list and added to the team's regular protected list. Teams are required to advise the League when signing a player from the supplemental protected list. Failure to notify the League shall result in a \$500.00 fine.
- 13.4 Any trades involving players on the supplementary protected lists must be reported to the League office immediately using the League approved trading process.

#### **REGULATION 14 - PROTECTED LISTS**

- 14.1 Each Member team shall have a protected list of not more than fifty-five (55) players at any given time, which includes goaltenders. Teams are solely responsible to ensure that their protected lists are maintained and updated to reflect any player additions or deletions.
- 14.2 When submitting a player to the league to be added to a team's protected list, the team shall provide the player's full name, year of birth, regional status, position and hometown to be accepted.
- 14.3 Any player added to a team through the Entry draft or a trade, shall be automatically added to the List by the League and teams do not have to request these additions.
- 14.4 A player registered in the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) to Junior 'A' must appear on his team's protected list prior to participating in a League game. In addition, a player must be registered in the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) in order to be added to the protected list. Any player registered in the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) to a Junior 'A' and not added to the team's protected list shall be deemed to be an ineligible player. If a team plays an ineligible player, the team shall be fined one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars per occurrence and have their fifty-five (55) Player Protected List reduced by two (2) players per occurrence for the remainder of the season until the draft commences at which point their list positions shall be reinstated.
- 14.5 Players Eligible to be on List include:
- a) Players registered with the Member team and on the team's February 10th list must appear on the team's list;
  - b) Any player previously selected or drafted in any past Entry draft regardless of where the player is playing, as long as the team has room on their protected list and the player has never been dropped from that team's list;
  - c) Any player secured from another team in trade, provided there is room on the protected list of the team or teams concerned;
  - d) Any player selected in the QMJHL re-entry draft must be added to the claiming team's protected list;
  - e) Any player claimed from another team through any dispersal draft, provided there is room on the protected list of the team or teams concerned;
  - f) Any player signed as a free agent during a season and not on the team's February 10<sup>th</sup> list in the year of signing shall be ineligible to remain on the list;

- g) Any player who is not eligible to be on a team's protected list shall be removed from the list; and
  - h) For all purposes, other than the draft, the region for the League shall be defined as the four Atlantic Provinces plus the Gaspé region of Quebec east of Route 185.
- 14.6 The protected list shall be reduced from fifty-five (55) to forty-five (45) excluding the two current territorial picks by each team and submitted to the League no later than 9:00 p.m. ADT on the Monday prior to the date of the League's Entry draft.
- 14.7 Teams are not permitted attempts to contact or tamper, as defined in the League's Tampering policy found at Appendix Q, with a player selected by another club or on another team's protected list. Any challenges or complaints filed by a member team shall be filed with the Commissioner in accordance with the Tampering policy.

### **REGULATION 15 - TRAINING CAMPS**

- 15.1 All Member teams shall maintain Training Camp Lists and adhere to the following:
- a. Team on-ice training camps will start no earlier than twelve (12) days prior to Labour Day each year;
  - b. All Member teams are required to submit their training camp attendee lists to the League prior to the start of their respective training camp. Failure to provide this list shall result in a fine of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars;
  - c. Teams may invite other players who are free agents to attend their respective training camps provided the players are not on another League team's protected or supplemental list. Any free agent player must be signed on the League's Tryout Agreement prior to participating in the training camp. Players signed to a League tryout agreement with one team shall not be permitted to attend the training camp with another team without the expressed permission from the team who he originally signed with. The standard League tryout agreement form shall be distributed to all Member teams by the League on April 15<sup>th</sup> annually;
  - d. All tryout agreements must be registered with the League and players names shall be added to the training camp list of each team;
  - e. The League shall distribute a list of free agents players signed to tryout agreements within the League on a regular basis until training camps end. In the event a player signs more than one tryout agreement in error, the team registering the agreement with the League first will have training camp tryout rights to the player;
  - f. Tryout agreements expire when the player is released by the Club or at the conclusion of the Club's training camp prior to the start of the League's regular season if not offered a Hockey Canada Player Registration Certificate at that time, whichever comes first; and
  - g. Teams who release a player signed to a League tryout agreement shall notify the League. Players who have signed a tryout agreement with a team and who are released shall become free for other teams to sign to tryout agreements. Players signed to tryout agreements cannot be traded.

## **REGULATION 16 - CAMPS & EVENTS**

- 16.1 The League's Member teams may conduct prospect camps on an annual basis. Such camps shall focus on promoting the team and the League in general and offer exposure and development opportunities to prospective players who are age eligible to participate at the Junior level.
- 16.2 Teams who are interested in conducting a prospects camp shall apply to the League to host their own respective camps by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Any camp may be held between the dates of May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> annually. Teams shall not be permitted to conduct any camps during the two (2) week period preceding and leading up to the Annual Entry draft from June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>. Any applications must include written sanctioning from the Branch in which the team resides, proof of insurance, and an operational plan. NOTE: Teams may not sign any player who is eligible for the upcoming Entry draft until after the draft has concluded should the player remain an undrafted free agent.
- 16.3 Teams that plan to hold other events including fund raising, team building, fan appreciation and other similar activities, throughout the season are required to adhere by the Hockey Canada Sanctioning Guidelines for any activity. In cases where any event does not meet the criteria established by Hockey Canada, the team shall seek appropriate sanctioning through their respective Branch before proceeding. For any activity where sanctioning cannot be attained, the team shall not proceed with the activity.

## **REGULATION 17 - SPECIAL DRAFT PROCEDURES**

- 17.1 In cases, where a Member team exercises their right to take a leave of absence or withdraws from their membership within the League, the League shall conduct a Special Draft to disburse the affected players.
- 17.2 For any request for a Leave of Absence, the dispersal draft process outlined in Article 15 shall apply. When a Member team withdraws its' membership during the season, a dispersal draft based upon the reverse order of the standings at the time of the withdrawal, shall be held at that time. All transactions completed thirty (30) days prior to a team folding are null and void and any players shall be returned to their original teams should that team have room on their protected list. When the original team does not have room or if there are extenuating circumstances where a player should not be returned to his/her original team, he/she shall remain with the team being dispersed.
- 17.3 In any expansion year, the expansion team shall pick first in each round. Where two or more teams are involved; the pick shall be determined by an official toss of a coin, conducted by the Commissioner, prior to the Entry and Supplemental drafts.

## **REGULATION 18 – STAFF QUALIFICATIONS**

- 18.1 Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Trainers, Equipment Managers, Team Managers, and any other bench staff must meet all certification and volunteer screening requirements as outlined at Appendix S.
- 18.2 Coaches, Assistant Coaches, other Team Staff, and any other support staff who participate in any on-ice practices or sessions must wear a certified hockey helmet at all times.

NOTE: Any violations of this policy may result in immediate suspension until their situation has been dealt with by a League disciplinary committee.

### **REGULATION 19 – DISCIPLINE**

- 19.1 The League shall apply all discipline and suspensions as specified in the Canadian Junior Hockey League's (CJHL) Minimum Suspension Guidelines.
- 19.2 In addition, for any infraction not found in the CJHL guidelines, the League shall refer to Appendix Q of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations. For any situation not covered in the CJHL Guidelines or Appendix Q, the League shall refer to the Hockey Canada Code of Discipline.

### **REGULATION 20 - FINES**

- 20.1 A levied fine not received by the League within five (5) business days will automatically be doubled, and if not paid within ten (10) business days, the Member team may be suspended and may lose its membership privileges until such time that the fine is paid in full. These privileges include, but are not limited to, loss of ability to make trades and loss of the right to vote on any League matter.

### **REGULATION 21 - WEBSITE POLICY**

- 21.1 Each member of the MHL shall maintain a website that is consistent with the League website policy found in Appendix N - Website & Media policy.

### **REGULATION 22 - AWARDS**

- 22.1 The Maritime Hockey League shall present the following awards annually at an appropriate time as determined by the League Executive:
  - a) First place overall - awarded to the team with the highest standing in the League at the conclusion of the regular season;
  - b) Divisional winners (playoffs) - awarded to the divisional playoff winners with one team from each of the Eastlink North and South divisions;
  - c) League champions (playoffs) - awarded to the overall League winner upon completion of all League playoff rounds;
  - d) All-star team - awarded annually to the players judged to have had the best season at their respective positions. All-Star teams shall be named for each of the Eastlink North and South divisions. Teams shall be comprised of three forwards, two defensemen, and one goaltender. Teams will nominate up to three (3) forwards and two (2) defensemen and one (1) goalie for each team;
  - e) Rookie all-star team - awarded annually to the players judged to have had the best season at their respective positions who meet the eligibility as rookies. To qualify as a rookie, eligible players must be 18 years old or younger, prior to the start of the season, and must not have played more than 10 games as a rostered player in any Junior A or higher league previously.

One Rookie All-Star team will be named each season, with players from all eligible players and shall be comprised of three forwards, two defensemen, and one goaltender. Teams will nominate up to three (3) forwards and two (2) defensemen and one (1) goalie;

- f) Player of the Year - awarded annually to the player who has demonstrated significant contributions through his on and off-ice performance, his leadership with his team, and his participation in the community throughout the season;
- g) Most valuable player (playoffs) - awarded annually to the player whose individual performance during the playoffs is judged to be the most valuable to his team among all players participating in the playoffs;
- h) Leading scorer (regular season) - awarded annually to the player(s) who leads the League in overall scoring points at the end of the regular season;
- i) Defenseman of the Year - awarded annually to the defenseman who demonstrates throughout the season the greatest all-round ability at the position;
- j) Goaltender of the Year - awarded annually to the goaltender judged to be the best at the position;
- k) Rookie of the Year - awarded annually to the player selected as the most proficient in their first year of competition. To qualify as a rookie, eligible players must be 18-years-old, or younger, prior to the start of the season, and must not have played more than 10 games as a rostered player in any Junior A, or higher league previously;
- l) Top goaltending award (team) - awarded annually to the goaltending duo for the team(s) with the fewest goals scored against;
- m) Character Player of the Year - awarded annually to the player who best exemplifies the qualities of perseverance, sportsmanship, and dedication to hockey;
- n) Coach of the Year - awarded annually to the coach judged to have contributed the most to their team's success;
- o) MHL Executive of the Year - awarded annually to the executive judged to have contributed the most to their team's success both on and off the ice;
- p) Community Spirit Award - awarded annually to the player or players from one team who has positively impacted their community, culture, or society through the game of hockey;
- q) Moe Bent Builders Award - awarded to a deserving member of the hockey community who, through their body of work, has made a significant contribution the League and/or one of its member teams for a period of no less than eight years;
- r) Scholastic Player of the Year - awarded annually to the player who demonstrates outstanding scholastic achievement combined with excellence on the ice; and
- s) Bob Boucher Hockey Assistance Fund Scholarship - awarded annually through the Bob Boucher Hockey Assistance Fund to a player who achieves exceptional scholastic achievement.

## 22.2 Award Nominations and Selections

- a) To be considered eligible for individual and all-star team awards, skaters must have appeared/dressed in a minimum of 50% of the league's scheduled games, while goaltenders must have played/participated in at least 33%.

- b) The following awards based upon personal player criteria shall be identified by the League Executive and based upon statistical accomplishments:
  - i. Leading scorer (regular season); and
  - ii. Top Goaltending award (team).
- c) The following awards based upon team success shall be identified by the League Executive based upon the team standings and success during the playoffs
  - i. First place overall;
  - ii. Divisional winners (playoffs); and
  - iii. League champions (playoffs).
- d) Approximately three (3) weeks prior to the end of the regular season, the Director of Communications will request nominees from each of the General Managers for the following awards:
  - i. Player of the Year;
  - ii. Defenseman of the Year;
  - iii. Goaltender of the Year;
  - iv. Rookie of the Year;
  - v. Character Player of the Year;
  - vi. Coach of the Year;
  - vii. All-Star Teams for each division; and
  - viii. Rookie All-Star team.
- d) Once all nominations have been submitted, the Director of Communications shall circulate a list of nominees for each award to the General Managers for voting. Teams are not permitted to vote for their own players. All votes will be due one (1) week prior to the end of the regular season. In the event of a tie for any award, the General Managers will be asked to cast a vote for a tie- breaker. Should a tie still exist, the League Executive will break the tie;
- e) The Director of Communications will seek nominees with supporting documents from all teams for the Scholastic Player of the Year and the Community Spirit Awards. A committee determined by the Commissioner will select the award winners;
- f) The League Executive will select the winners of the Executive of the Year and the Moe Bent Builders Awards. All of these awards will be announced at the League Entry Draft.
- g) The Most Valuable Player (playoffs) will be selected by the League Executive and presented by the League Commissioner to the recipient before the presentation of the League Trophy at the conclusion of the League playoffs;
- h) The awards will be announced within two weeks of the end of the regular season. The Top Goaltending Award (team) and Leading Scoring champion will also be announced during this time; and
- i) The League shall be responsible to identify nominees for the annual Canadian Junior Hockey League awards, which are to be provided when requested by the CJHL League award winners are to be named within two (2) weeks upon completion of the current season.

22.3 The League shall present awards on a weekly and monthly basis during the season as follows:

- a) Teams of the Week - General Managers will be asked to submit nominees from their teams on a weekly basis to the Director of Communications, who then selects three forwards, two defensemen, and a goaltender from each Division for the weekly awards' and
- b) Monthly Awards - General Managers are asked to submit nominees from their teams for the Top Forward, Top Defenseman, Top Goaltender, and Top Rookie for the month. The Director of Communications will select the winners and honorable mentions for each award.

22.4 All awards with the exception of the Playoff Most Valuable Player award will be distributed to teams at the Annual General Meeting.

22.5 Teams that are presented with a League trophy shall be responsible for the care and custody of the trophy until the trophy is returned to the League's custody. While in the custody of a team, that team shall be financially responsible for any damage or loss. The team shall ensure that the trophy is not displayed or utilized in any situation that would not be in the best interest of the League or any its sponsors. Failure to adhere to this regulation will result in a fine of five hundred (\$500.00) to the team in addition to any costs to replace or repair the trophy.

Appendix A

Member Team Disclosure Statement

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Owners: \_\_\_\_\_

If an owner listed above is other than a person, attach a copy of the Certificate of Registration; list all shareholders and the percentage of their shares as well as directors and officers.

Shareholders:	% Shares:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(If additional shareholder names are needed, please attach a separate sheet)

Team Executive:

Name	Title
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Registered mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Governor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Governor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signing Officers (2) for the purpose of releasing, approving trades and authorizing changes to the Team's Protected Lists:

Name	Title
_____	_____
_____	_____

On behalf of the member herein, I certify that I am the duly appointed Governor/Alternate Governor of the Member named herein and that all information is true and accurate in every detail:

Signature	Name (Print)	Position Title (Print)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

## APPENDIX B

### Game Day Responsibilities

B.1 All teams are required to adhere to all Game Day requirements and procedures as established herein. Failure to abide by these requirements and procedures shall result in fines of two hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollars per infraction as determined by the league.

B.2 The host team is shall be responsible to:

- a. Provide the visiting team with a dressing room of appropriate size to house a minimum of twenty (20) players complete with washroom and showering facilities no later than two (2) hours prior to the pre-game warm-up start time;
- b. Provide a private room (e.g. office, or additional dressing room) complete with two (2) tables and four (4) chairs for use by the visiting team's staff which is to be available no later than two (2) hours prior to the pre-game warm-up start time;
- c. Provide an area or room closely adjacent to the player's dressing room where electrical access is readily available complete with a minimum of two (2) tables and two (2) chairs for the visiting team's equipment staff;
- d. Provide full internet access to be available in the staff use room designated at (b) above. In cases were wireless connectivity is not suitable, the Host team shall provide hard line internet connectivity;
- e. Provide all necessary game equipment requirements including pucks for the warm-up and two (2) bags of crushed ice;
- f. Provide the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the Host facility to the visiting team training/medical staff prior to arrival and, at a minimum, upon arrival;
- g. In cases where host teams are planning pre-game ceremonies of any nature, such activities are to be planned in such a manner so as to limit any delays and minimize any disruption to the 'Game Start Procedures' and the published timing for game start. For teams planning activities between periods, these promotions should be limited to three (3) minutes in duration. In all cases, the visiting team's General Manager and/or Head Coach is to be made aware of any activities and potential delays prior to the game;
- h. All host teams are requested to ensure that all necessary equipment, connectivity and personnel are prepared in advance to ensure that Flo Hockey TV broadcasts are both professional and uninterrupted; and
- i. Ensure that the official scorer has the necessary equipment (Tablet, log in to League Stat, etc.) to load starting line-ups into the electronic game sheets based upon the submissions by the coaching staffs of both teams;

B.3 Both participating teams are responsible to:

- a. Provide their own bench towels, bath towels, soap, shampoo, water bottles, and other personal requirements necessary;

- b. Submit their intended game line-ups for publication on their respective social media (Twitter/X, Facebook, etc.) using the RinkNet Press Room application no later than 2:00 pm on game day;
  - c. Ensure that any player who will play in any game (including exhibition games) has been loaded into their roster information on LeagueStat prior to arrival at the rink to allow for ease of creating the online game report;
  - d. Submit their game rosters and sign the online game sheet. Visiting teams must complete this at least 60 minutes prior to the game time with home teams must submitting their roster at least 45 minutes prior to the game; and
  - e. Ensure that players are ready and prepared to go on ice early for any planned activities.
- B.4 All games shall abide by the League's Game Countdown Procedures for game start, warm-up and Intermissions. Any team, which has not presented itself for the face off at expiration of the fifteen (15) minutes, will be subject to a delay of game penalty;
- B.5 Should a team require extra time during an intermission due to a promotion the team may stop the clock for up to three (3) minutes. (This should take place with ten (10) minutes left on the clock).
- B.6 During any warm-up, players are not allowed to make contact with or cross the center red line at any time during the pre-game warm-up.
- B.7 All player are to have their chin straps securely fastened during warm-up; and
- B.8 In accordance with Hockey Canada rule 2.2 (a) - Players in Uniform, teams are only permitted to have twenty (20) players, including goaltenders, on the ice during warm-up.
- B.9 Participating teams or League officials present at the game who witness any infractions are required to report the specifics to the Executive Committee within twenty- four (24) hours of the completion of the game in question, requesting a review of the game video. Should the Executive Committee determine that a tam or member of a team is in violation of this requirements, the League shall impose a fine as outlined in B.1.

## APPENDIX C

### Overtime and Shootout Procedures

- C.1 During regular season games, if the game remains tied at the end of the five (5) minute overtime period, the teams will proceed to a shootout. The rules governing the shootout shall be as follows:
- a. The teams will not change ends for the shootout. The visiting team shall shoot first. The teams shall alternate shots;
  - b. Three (3) players from each team shall participate in the shootout and they shall proceed in such order as the coach selects. All players are eligible to participate in the shootout unless they are serving a ten-minute misconduct or have been assessed a game misconduct, gross misconduct, or match penalty;
  - c. Once the shootout begins, the goalkeeper cannot be replaced unless he is injured. No warm up shall be permitted for a substitute goalkeeper;
  - d. Each team will be given three shots, unless the outcome is determined earlier in the shootout. After each team has taken three shots, if the score remains tied, the shootout will proceed to a sudden death format. No player may shoot twice until everyone who is eligible has shot;
  - e. Regardless of the number of goals scored during the shootout portion of overtime, the final score recorded for the game will give the winning team one more goal than its opponent, based on the score at the end of overtime;
  - f. The losing goalkeeper will not be charged with the extra goal against. The player scoring the game winning goal in the shootout will not be credited with a goal scored in his personal statistics;
  - g. If a team declines to participate in the shootout procedure the game will be declared as a shootout loss for that team. If a team declines to take a shot it will be declared as no goal; and
  - h. There will be no timeouts called during the shootout.

When the numerical player strength at the end of the third (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) period is:	The numerical player strength at the beginning of the <u>overtime</u> period will be:
5 on 5	3 on 3
5 on 4	4 on 3
5 on 3	5 on 3 (NOTE: With the expiration of penalties, due to continuous play, player strength may get to 5-on-5 or 5-on-4. At the first stoppage of play, player strength must be adjusted to 3 on 3 or 4 on 3 as appropriate.
4 on 4 due to non-coincidental penalties	3 on 3 (NOTE: Players exit the penalty box as normal to 4 on 3 or 4 on 4. At the first stoppage of play, player strength must be adjusted to 3 on 3 or 4 on 3 as appropriate.
4 on 3	4 on 3 (NOTE: Players exit the penalty box as normal to 5 on 4 or 5 on 5. At the first stoppage of play, player strength must be adjusted to 3 on 3 or 4 on 3 as appropriate.
3 on 3	3 on 3 (NOTE: Players exit the penalty box as normal to 5 on 4 or 5-on-5. At the first stoppage of play, player strength must be adjusted to 3 on 3 or 4 on 3 as appropriate.

1. If a team receives a non-coincidental penalty in overtime the teams will play 4 on 3.
2. If a team receives a second non-coincidental penalty prior to the expiration of the first penalty the teams will play 5 on 3 with players exiting the penalty box as normal to 5 on 4 or 5 on 5. At the first stoppage of play, player strength must be adjusted to 3 on 3 or 4 on 3 as appropriate.

## APPENDIX D

### QMJHL Re-Entry Draft Policy

- D.1 Any player released by a Quebec Maritimes Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) team who has not been subject to the QMJHL Supplementary Draft and who plays more than five (5) games in the QMJHL after October 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season, will be subject to a Re-Entry Draft as outlined below:
- D.2 The players name may be placed on the Re-Entry list by the League as the result of a notification by a QMJHL team that the player has been cut; or, at the request of a League team, if should they be aware that the player has been released or will not be returning to his QMJHL team.
- D.3 Once a player has been identified and placed on the Re-Entry list, the following selection procedure shall apply:
- The League will e-mail notify all Member teams once a player has been placed on the list and will provide teams with all the information that is available regarding the player at that time if known. (e.g. phone number, address, etc.);
  - The League will advise the all teams regarding the establishment of a twenty-four ~~the~~ (24) hour deadline for responses to indicate an expression of interest;
  - Teams will notify the League by e-mail within the twenty-four (24) hour window if they wish to select the player should they have the opportunity to do so;
  - Should a team fails to respond within the twenty-four (24) hour window, it shall be deemed that they are not interested in the player;
  - After the expiration of the twenty-four (24) hour window, the League will award the player's rights to the team that selects first, as outlined in D.4, of the teams who have expressed interest in the player; and
  - Once If a team is awarded a player, his/her name shall be added to that team's protected list and the team shall retain his/her rights in the League regardless if the player signs or not.
- D.4 Prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season, the selection order shall be based on the reverse order of the teams overall finish in the regular schedule of the previous season. On December 1<sup>st</sup> and after, the selection order shall be based the reverse order of the teams overall standings based on percentages as of completion of the games on November 30. A team which has made a selection prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> which will maintain the same position in the selection order as it had prior to December 1<sup>st</sup>. Once a team has used its selection, the team shall move to last in the selection order. There shall be no trading of selecting positions in the Re-Entry drat order.
- D.5 In an expansion season the expansion team(s) shall draw to determine their position in the selection draft order.
- D.6 Any player whose name has been circulated and has not been selected, shall be deemed to be a free agent and shall not be subject to the re-entry draft again unless the player subsequently signs a player's card with another QMJHL team.
- D.7 Any player selected by a team which disbands or takes a leave of absence and who has not been selected in a dispersal draft must have his name circulated again before being eligible to play in the MHL.
- D.8 Teams who submit the name of a player who is not eligible for the draft by virtue of still playing in the QMJHL or a professional league or who is on the protected list of a League team shall be fined \$200 per player.

## **APPENDIX E**

### **Policy on Broadcasting Games**

- E.1 League MHL Teams shall video broadcast all home games on the League approved platform. The broadcast is to be accompanied by play by play.
- E.2 Failure to broadcast a game shall result in a five hundred (\$500.00) dollars unless such failure was the result of an equipment breakdown and/or loss of feed to the approved platform.
- E.3 Team's cameras must meet league specifications.
- E.4 If there was a breakdown in equipment during broadcasting of a game the team shall immediately notify the League Office and the Broadcaster.
- E.5 Teams shall ensure that their Camera operator is filming during all stoppages in play, and is diligent about filming all incidents during such stoppages.
- E.6 The entire warm-up shall be videotaped with the camera focused on the neutral zone and center red line. Failure to furnish the video of the warm-up when requested to do so by the League shall result in a fine of \$ 250.00.
- E.7 Teams may are permitted to sell advertising on the broadcast.
- E.8 All requests for radio broadcasting must be approved by the League Commissioner.
- E.9 No team shall permit a web streaming video broadcasting or cable TV broadcasting for any League game unless such broadcasting has been approved by the League Commissioner.
- E.10 Teams shall be fined for allowing non sanctioned broadcasting.

## APPENDIX F

### Video Review and Supplement Discipline Request Policy

- F.1 To ensure a safe environment for our participants, the Maritime Hockey League utilizes our Video Review and Supplemental Discipline Request Policy to augment the efforts of our dedicated officials and reinforce our commitment to player and staff safety during games. The league appreciates that our game officials play a critical role in overseeing the safety of our participants during all games while exercising sound judgement when making on-ice decisions. For this reason, the League will only intervene if there is evidence of a clear and obvious error by the on-ice officials.
- F.2 Any review undertaken by the league and subsequent decision shall be initiated for disciplinary reasons only and not to overturn any in-game call or any other aspect of the game in question. Any additional discipline assigned as a result of any review shall be officially noted at the 00:00 mark of the third (3rd) period of the game in question.
- F.3 The Director, Discipline, will review all non-fighting major and match penalties as well as any game misconducts that lead to an increased suspension as a result of accumulation. In addition, the League reserves the right to review any incident(s) in a game to ensure the safety of the participants and the integrity of the league.
- F.4 Teams may submit a request for a video review and/or supplemental discipline in the following situations:
- a. To review an incident that has led to a serious injury to a player where a penalty was not assessed by the officials or where there was a non-major called on the play and the requesting team asserts that the infraction warrants a major or match penalty.  
NOTE: The seriousness of any such injury must be documented in writing by a recognized physician or dentist as is appropriate, and submitted with the request within twenty-four (24) hours of the request;
  - b. To review an incident, that does not result in an injury, where an infraction was not called on the play or where there was a non-major called on the play and the requesting team asserts that the infraction warrants a major or match penalty;
  - c. To review situations where the requesting team asserts that a player on their team does not deserve the severity of penalty assessed by the officials during the game. Note: This only applies to major or match penalties that carry a suspension or lead to an increased suspension through accumulation. In addition, this must be submitted prior to the league issuing any suspensions to be accepted; or
  - d. To review an incident where the player has been assessed a penalty incorrectly and where the video provides clear evidence of the identity of the actual offending player. Note: This only applies to penalties that carry a suspension or lead to a suspension through accumulation.

Note: Upon acceptance of any request for a video review, the league may act on any other infractions identified in the video footage of any incident.

- F.6 Notification of any request must be made by 8:00 a.m. on the day immediately following the game and the requesting team shall submit all required documentation within twenty-four (24) hours of the completion of the game. In the case of a playoff game, the twenty-four (24) hours is replaced with 10:00 a.m. on the day immediately following the game.

F.7 Notification of any request for review must be sent to the following individuals to be considered valid:

- a) Commissioner at commissioner@themhl.ca;
  - b) Director, Discipline at jwmcisaac@hotmail.com; and
  - c) Senior Director, Hockey Operations & Development at kmitchell@themhl.ca; and
  - d) The General Manager of the opposing team (the team of the alleged offender).
- Note: This is not required for requests outlined paragraph F.4 (d).

Note: Failure to notify the General Manager of the opposing team (the team of the alleged offender) shall result if a fine of two-hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollars.

F.8 During the playoffs, if a team has two unsuccessful submissions for review, they will not be allowed to submit any additional requests from that point on until the conclusion of the playoffs in that season.

F.9 Any request must include the following to be considered valid:

- a. Game video that clearly shows the incident in question identifies the player and the infraction in question. The video must consist of a clip of the incident of sufficient length (15 seconds before and 15 seconds after the infraction). Any video must be taken from the League sanctioned broadcast on FloSports TV to be accepted;

Note: In extenuating circumstances, where the approved game video does not display the incident, the League, when requested to do so, may allow the use of video from other devices or platforms;

- b. In addition, the requesting team must provide a written definition of infraction quoted directly from the Maritime Hockey League Aligned Rules and the Maritime Hockey League Aligned Rules Minimum Suspension Guidelines. The write-up must provide the rationale for the request outlining why the requesting team believes that supplemental discipline should be applied. If an injury situation (F.4.a) exists, full medical documentation provided within twenty-four (24) hours. In cases when a minor infraction is called, rationale identifying why the infraction should be elevated to a major must be included.

Note: Failure to provide this information may result in the rejection of the request.

F.10 The decision to accept or allow a video review or not rests solely with the League and it shall be at the sole discretion of the League to determine what suspension, if any, shall be applied. Any decision of the League in this matter is non-appealable unless such decision is in contravention of this policy or the suspension exceeds the established minimum suspensions outlined in the Maritime Hockey League Aligned Rules Minimum Suspension Guidelines.

F.11 The fee for filing a request for a Video Review or Supplemental Discipline Request shall be five hundred (\$500.00) dollars. Should the League rule that the request is not supported, the team will be invoiced for the fee. Should the league rule that the request is supported, the team will not be invoiced. Note: The fee is increased to one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars during the playoffs.

F.12 There shall be no fee for requests that fall within paragraph F.4 (a) seriously injured player, and (d) incorrect player suspended.

F.13 For insurance purposes, as specified in paragraph F.4 (a), if a doctor's note is submitted to the League Office by a team for a player who has been seriously injured and if the said player is out of action for a number of games, a follow-up doctor's note must be submitted to the league office by the team clearing the player to resume play prior to the players actual return. If the player is included in the line-up through identification on a League game sheet

without a doctor's note clearing the player, the injured player's organization will be fined one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars, the coach suspended for five (5) games, and the player declared ineligible until the medical clearance is received.

## **APPENDIX G**

### **Player Compensation Policy**

- G.1 No team or person acting on behalf of such team, may provide, offer to provide, or promise to provide in the future (whether directly or indirectly in any manner whatsoever and whether by way of payment, salary, bonus, profit share, allowance, reduction in player fees or participation fees or registration fees, sham employment, or otherwise), any of its players more than actual and necessary expenses, incurred as a direct result of participation on the team.
- G.2 Any League team in violation of this provision shall be subject to the following sanctions and discipline:
- a) minimum \$100,000 fine payable to the League;
  - b) the Head Coach, if he is not the General Manager, of the team in violation shall receive a minimum twenty-five (25) game suspension and the General Manager shall receive a minimum suspension of one (1) year. Should the Head Coach also be the General Manager he shall receive a minimum suspension of one (1) year; and; and
  - c) the team will forfeit its' first draft pick in the next three (3) drafts; and
  - d) Any subsequent fees related to player movement collected by a sanctioned team shall be payable to the league.

### **Complaint Process**

- G.3 A team filing a complaint against another team regarding player compensation shall follow process:
- a. The team shall file a written complaint with the Commissioner (Template to be developed);
  - b. The team shall supply all documentation to the Commissioner during the submission process;
  - c. Documentation may be written, text messages, emails, voice recordings etc.;
  - d. A complaint without documentation shall be dismissed;
  - e. The complaint must be accompanied by a fee of fifteen hundred (\$1500) dollars; and
  - f. The team shall file a copy of the complaint with the other team.
- G.4 The Commissioner shall file the allegation with a pre-approved independent professional investigator outside of the league to review the complaint. The investigator shall be contacted by the Commissioner only and can investigate the complaint as he/she sees fit. Any request made by the Investigator through this process must be adhered to by any party involve. Failure to cooperate with the investigation, including providing financial records, emails or other documentation as requested by the investigator will be grounds for a ruling or dismissal recommendation from the investigator. At the conclusion of the investigation the independent investigator will provide a written decision back to the Commissioner of the League based upon the balance of probabilities. This Report will then be distributed to the Board of Governors of the MHL
- G.5 The Board of Governors, not including the two teams involved, will meet to apply the sanctions outlined in the Player Compensation Policy. An affirmative vote of 7 of the

10 members is required. (Policy Requirements)

- G.6 Should the Board vote in favor of applying sanctions the team shall also be fined the cost of the investigation. Should the board dismiss the sanctions, the team who filed it shall be responsible for the cost of the investigation.
- G.7 An appeal from the decision of the Board of Governors in this matter may be made to the Branch in which the League is registered. The appeal must be filed in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the governing Branch.
- G.8 Should a team make allegations in public about another team violating the player compensation policy that team shall be fined one thousand (\$1,000) dollars.

## **APPENDIX H**

### **Confidentiality Policy**

- H.1 The Executive Committee, Board of Governors, member teams and their employees, volunteers and players shall refrain from any action and avoid any public pronouncement that might reflect adversely upon the League, its teams, sponsors or players. Information that has not previously been made public shall not be communicated to any person by a member of the Executive Committee, member team or its' employees, Board of Governor or volunteer, except in the course of their regular duties or by authorization of the Commissioner and Chairman of the Board.
- H.2 All league meeting information and file matters are confidential. Written documents (e.g. Meeting Minutes) are to be held in confidence unless otherwise specified by the Commissioner and Chairman of the Board. All League Members must assume the highest degree of confidentiality and integrity in the best interest of the League, and shall adhere strictly to all policies that serve to protect the relationship of all member teams, sponsors, media and anyone associated with the League.
- H.3 Breach of confidentiality shall be considered a major infraction and is cause for further sanctioning determined by a committee appointed by the League Commissioner or his designate. Teams who fail to abide by this policy shall be subject to a fine of twenty five hundred (\$2500.00) dollars.

## **APPENDIX I**

### **Protest Policy**

- I.1 Protests may only be made in regard to interpretations of Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, rules of competition and other rules and policies, and not in regard to the decision of a referee or linesman.
- I.2 For any protest, a verbal protest must be made by the captain of the aggrieved team to the referee at the first reasonable opportunity after the action or decision complained of, and in all cases must be made within 5 minutes of the close of the period in which such action or decision was made and same must be noted immediately on the official game report.
- I.3 When a protest arises in a League game and the aggrieved team has complied with I.2, then within 24 hours of the completion of the game protested, an email or written protest, signed by the Governor or Alternate Governor of the protesting club, must be ~~in~~ submitted within 24 hours of the completion of the game protested.
- I.4 Where applicable, should a protest involve the opposition team in any game, the League shall notify that team immediately upon receiving such a protest and that team shall file its response within twenty-four (24) hours of being notified by the League's Commissioner. The Commissioner shall provide a copy of any response to the Governor or Alternate Governor of the protesting club within forty eight (48) hours after the completion of the game protested.
- I.5 The League Commissioner shall schedule a meeting of the League Executive to consider the protest. The League may request that each of the clubs interested have a person in attendance to present its case at the hearing of the protest.

## APPENDIX J

### League Branding Policy

- J.1 The League has grown significantly and in order for the league to grow and protect the brand, all member teams will be asked to adhere to the following:
- a. The League's official logo shall be mandatory for placement on all League and team apparel including, but ~~and~~ not limited to, game jerseys, and team apparel which shall include team track suits, jackets and other apparel issued to players and staff;
  - b. All League teams shall wear jerseys with the League's logo highly visible during all games during exhibition, regular season and playoffs. Teams shall be responsible to replace worn logos as required;
  - c. The League's logo along with a link to the League website shall be prominently located on each member team's official website;
  - d. The League shall hold the copyrights to the thirty (30) second time outs. Teams are not permitted to sell this property;
  - e. The League shall own shared rights, with the Member teams, to the mid-period timeouts held during each League game. The League shall provide teams with a statement on the League key sponsors;
  - f. The League's logo shall be displayed by all teams in any advertising or promotion of a team event that has been approved by the League; and
  - g. The League shall hold all branding rights for any special game, showcase, symposium, and other event that is sanctioned by the League.

## APPENDIX K

### Educational Policy

- K.1 As the League consists of twelve (12) teams throughout the Maritime Provinces, our annual player membership consists of approximately two hundred seventy (280) players ranging from sixteen (16) to twenty (20) years of age, many of whom are aiming for the heights of levels of hockey, while pursuing high school, university or community college education.
- K.2 The purpose of our Education Policy is to inform our players about their rights when studying and playing in the League as well as to make each aware of the expectations that the League has for our teams with regard to the support they provide to our players as they pursue their educational goals while playing the sport of hockey.
- K.3 All teams are responsible to:
- a. Assign a member(s) of the staff and/or volunteer base with the role of assisting their players with their education goals and efforts;
  - b. Organize player educational pathways and opportunities and to develop all necessary partnerships to create educational schooling options to enable players to pursue their studies successfully;
  - c. Ensure, during the process of recruiting a player through a draft, free agency, or through a trade, that it has access to all the necessary resources to allow him to continue his studies;
  - d. Place a priority on registering players for courses that occur in the typical classroom setting where an educational institution can accommodate such. Enrolment in distance learning, courses, while suitable, should only be considered as a secondary option when the classroom setting is not possible; and
  - e. Ensure follow-up with the player on the status of their studies throughout the school year.
- K.4 Taking into account the schooling environment in junior hockey, League teams shall develop and maintain partnerships that will:
- a. Increase access to distance learning, when necessary;
  - b. Make it easier for the harmonization of the organization and the operation of involved educational establishments;
  - c. Allow some flexibility for accommodation of special cases such as for the nineteen (19) and twenty (20) year olds who are more involved in their communities, if not taking a course; and
  - d. Minimize the impact upon schooling that arise in the case of a player being traded to another team.
- K.5 The League shall establish a monetary level both for individual players as well as an overall team threshold at which Member teams may support their players with offsetting related costs while in attendance at universities or community colleges, on an annual basis while participating in the League. These thresholds shall include the amount of support to a specific player in any one season, the total amount that any one player may receive over the course of his or her junior eligibility, and the amount that any team may provide to all of its players, collectively, in any one season. Such amounts shall be found in the League's Financial Procedures.

- K.6 Teams shall be required to disclose the details of any educational support provided to players when requested to do so by the League. In addition, teams may request, in writing, approval from the League to differ payment of educational support for a period of one (1) year to a player upon the expiration of a player's eligibility.
- K.7 Failure to adhere to this policy may result in a five hundred (\$500.00) dollar fine and loss of authority to provide educational support to any players for a period of one year.

## APPENDIX L

### Social Media Behavior Policy

- L.1 Cyberbullying is the use of any electronic communication device to convey a message in any form (text, image, audio or video) that defames, intimidates, harasses or is otherwise intended to harm, insult or humiliate another in a deliberate, repeated or hostile and unwanted manner under a person's true or false identity. In addition, any communication of this form that disputes or prevents a safe and positive environment may also be considered cyberbullying.
- L.2 This policy shall be enforced in conjunction with the Maritime Hockey League's Code of Conduct.
- L.3 The League expects the entire membership, who participate in social media and networking, to the same high standards as it does for all other forms of media including radio, television and print. The following guidelines are to be adhered to at all times:
- a. It should be recognized that social media comments are on the record and instantly published and available to the public and media. Everyone including team and/or team personnel, players, corporate partners and the media can review social media communications. Individuals are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate and professional manner at all times;
  - b. Comments or remarks of an inappropriate nature which are detrimental to the League, a team, a team's personnel, the Branches including officials, the Canadian Junior Hockey League members, or an individual will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action;
  - c. Refrain from divulging confidential information of a personal or team related nature;
  - d. Avoid revealing business or game strategy that could provide another team or individual at a disadvantage. Furthermore, do not discuss injury information about any player and only divulge information that is considered public;
  - e. Use best judgment at all times and pause before posting to social media. Once comments are posted they cannot be retracted. Ultimately, individuals are solely responsible for their comments that are published for the public record; and
  - f. If requested to participate in an online network, as a direct result of one's affiliation with or participation in the League, the League recommends that you request approval from your team or members.
- L.4 The following are examples of conduct through social media and networking mediums that are considered violations of the League Social Media Policy and may be subject to disciplinary action by the team, staff and/or League:
- a. Any statement deemed to be publicly critical of league's officials or detrimental to the welfare of a member of a team, league or individual;
  - b. Divulging confidential information that may include, is not permitted under any circumstance and includes but is not limited to the following:
    - i. Player injuries;
    - ii. Trades or other player movement prior to approval by the League;
    - iii. Game strategies;
    - iv. League schedule information (initial schedules or rescheduled dates prior to league approval);

- v. Any other matter of a sensitive nature to a member of a team, league or an individual.
- vi. Negative or derogatory comments about any team, league, League staff, volunteers, programs, stakeholder, players or any member.
- vii. Any form of bullying, harassment or threats against players or officials;
- viii. Photographs, video or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - Drug use;
  - Alcohol abuse;
  - Public intoxication;
  - Hazing; and/or
  - Sexual exploitation;
  - Online activity that contradicts the current policies of the Canadian Junior Hockey League, Hockey Canada, or the League;
  - Inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments of any kind, in keeping with Hockey Nova Scotia policies and regulations on these matters; and
  - Online activity that is meant to alarm other individuals or to misrepresent fact or truth.

L.5 When a complaint is filed that may be in violation of this social media policy and the related portions of the Maritime Hockey League's Code of Conduct, the League Discipline Committee will review and apply a team fine (minimum of one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars) and a suspension to the individual(s) involved.

## APPENDIX M

### Website & Media Policy

- M.1 The Maritime Hockey League prides itself on providing up to date information on the progress of our teams, players, staff members and competition. Providing current information and news updates ensures that our followers and supporters are able to remain current with League activities and, as a result, grow their interest in our overall product. In addition, we understand that this responsibility includes not only the League's social media resources but those of our member teams as well. To accomplish this, teams shall be required to adhere to the following requirements:
- a. Teams are required to assign qualified personnel to manage all of their social media accounts;
  - b. Teams are required to ensure that their website, Twitter and Facebook social media accounts, at a minimum, are maintained on a regular basis and reflect current information and activities with their team. Teams should make every effort to deliver consistent messaging across all of their social media platforms;
  - c. Teams shall ensure that their respective websites include the following information at a minimum:
    - i. News items related to both the team and the League;
    - ii. Team contact information (executive, hockey/ administrative personnel, etc.);
    - iii. New player acquisitions (trades, free agents, drafted players);
    - iv. Billet Program information
    - v. Ticket sales information;
    - vi. Links to the team's schedule and standings;
    - vii. Links to team's roster;
    - viii. FloSports Hockey TV information; and
    - ix. Linkage to Twitter, Facebook and other media accounts
  - d. Teams are also encouraged to include the following information on their websites:
    - i. Team apparel sales/merchandise sales;
    - ii. Education Policy;
    - iii. Team newsletter;
    - iv. Venue and parking information;
    - v. Alumni information;
    - vi. Community involvement;
    - vii. Sponsorship opportunities and fundraising initiatives;
    - viii. Fan zone;
    - ix. 50/50 draw;
    - x. Player of the week and other team awards; and
    - xi. Team history/vision and values.
- M.2 Teams are required to ensure that their team roster information is current at all times through the use of Hockey Tech's LeagueStat admin program. The roster information required includes:

- a. Ensuring all roster information for the player including hometown, height, weight, shot and date of birth must be completed. NOTE: Affiliate players on team rosters do not require photos but must include the roster information.
- b. Ensuring that any new player is added to the roster within 48 hours of acquiring the player; and
- c. Updating of player photos including when players are acquired from another team within the league. In these cases, the player's photo shall be updated to reflect the new team's sweater/logo.

M.3 Failure to meet these requirements will result in a fine of two hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollars to the offending team.

## APPENDIX N

### Player Registration & Fees Policy

- N.1 The League shall establish a registration process and fee structure annually that must be completed by any player participating in the League.
- N.2 The initial registration fee due date for all players registered in the Hockey Canada Registry on Member team rosters at that time shall be October 1st annually.
- N.3 All aspects of the player registration must be completed and all League Policies and directives contained therein, must be acknowledged by the player.
- N.4 Payment of the fee shall be conducted as follows:
- a. Teams are required to provide each player attending their training camp with a copy of the League's Player Registration Policy upon arrival at training camp;
  - b. 100% of the fees shall be payable by the date established by the League;
  - c. Should a player enter the League after his team's first regularly scheduled game, the registration fee, on a pro-rated basis, will be calculated in relation to the number of regular season games remaining for the League team;
  - d. All players shall register and pay fees using the League's established online registration process;
  - e. Fees are payable to the 'Maritime Junior Hockey League' and shall be paid in the form of a secured money instrument (e.g. credit card or e-transfer) as established by the League annually;
  - f. Payment by cash and any team cheque or other payment instrument are not acceptable for any player registration fees and any payment must be provided by the player and/or his/her family;
  - g. For fees required by the deadline of October 1st, the League shall circulate a list of fees received to teams on a regular basis with a final report on October 2<sup>nd</sup>; and
  - h. It shall be the team's responsibility to determine if a player's registration has been completed and his/her fee has been paid as required.
- N.5 For any players who join a member team after the October 1st deadline, the following process is established:
- a. Teams shall notify the League of any player (free agent) on their team who enters the league after the initial registration due date of October 1st prior to the player participating in any game.
  - b. Any such player shall pay his fees within forty-eight (48) hours of completing his first (1st) game; Players shall register and pay their fees as outlined in N.4; and
  - c. For fees required for players who enter the league after October 1st, the League shall circulate confirmation of fees received on the date of receipt.
- N.6) In cases, where a player is traded, released or resigns from a team, the following shall apply:
- a. Should a player be traded to another league team, the team that the player was registered with when the fee was paid shall be retain the full amount of the fee unless otherwise specified in the trade conditions;
  - b. Should the player be released or traded outside the League, the player will receive a

refund of the registration fee from his/her current team, on a pro-rated basis, calculated in relation to the number of regular season games remaining for the League team;

- c. Players who resign from a team or fail to report to his/her new team as a result of an approved trade, shall not be entitled to a refund.
- d. A player who incurs a season ending injury may apply to their team for a refund. In any such case, medical evidence of the season ending injury must be provided by a recognized medical authority prior to any refund; any approved refund shall be provided on a pro-rated basis, calculated in relation to the number of regular season games remaining for the specific team; Refunds in this case shall not be unreasonably withheld if substantiating medical documentation is provided. and
- e. Players who are traded or released, who have been previously refunded registration fees by the team to whom the registration was initially paid, and subsequently join another League team, shall be subject to new fees calculated in relation to the number of regular season games remaining for the new League team.

- N.7 Responsibility for payment of refunds rests solely with the applicable team and all teams are required to advise the League of all refunds promptly. The League is not responsible for refunds.
- N.8 It shall be the responsibility of the player's team to provide the refund to the player and such payment is to be made within seven (7) days of the trade or release as outlined in N.6.
- N.9 Should the refund not be paid by the team to the affected player within the required time period, the team shall be fined one thousand (\$1000) dollars.
- N.10 Failure by players and teams to adhere to the requirements in this policy by registering and paying the required fees within the timelines established will result in the player being deemed suspended. Any team playing a player suspended under this section shall forfeit all points earned in those games and shall be fined one thousand (\$1000) dollars.

## **APPENDIX O**

### **Confederation Bridge Policy**

- O.1 Should the Confederation Bridge connecting New Brunswick to Prince Edward Island be closed to high sided vehicles due to high winds and inclement weather impeding a team's travel to any League game held in Summerside, the Summerside Western Capitals will coordinate transport by shuttle service for the travelling team.
- O.2 In any such case, the Summerside Western Capitals and the travelling team that is affected shall split the cost of the shuttle service to a maximum of three hundred (\$300) dollars per team.
- O.3 In cases when the bridge is closed and the game is on the mainland, the Summerside Western Capitals will make every attempt to arrange transportation to the game. In situations where Summerside is required to utilize a shuttle service across the bridge to a waiting bus on the mainland, the home team will cover half of the expense up to a maximum of three hundred (\$300) dollars.

## APPENDIX P

### League Discipline Policy

P.1 The League shall review existing discipline guidelines and regulations annually to ensure that any rules changes or other matters are addressed in a timely manner. For guidance and consistency in suspensions, all league teams shall abide by the Maritime Hockey League's Aligned Rules Minimum Suspension Guidelines for suspensions. In addition, teams are reminded that as these are the minimum suspensions, the League may impose additional suspensions as well as to increase a suspension level should the conditions and circumstances warrant such.

P.2 The following infractions not addressed in the Maritime Hockey League's Aligned Rules Minimum Suspension Guidelines shall be categorized as an attempt to injure or deliberate injury and shall be assessed a match penalty as follows:

Type	Rule	Penalty	Suspension
Match	HC 7.1 (c)	Hair Pulling	3 games
Match	HC 7.1 (c)	Grabbing Face Masks/Visor	3 games

P.3 For suspensions and discipline not outlined in the Maritime Hockey League's Aligned Rules Minimum Suspension Guidelines, the League shall impose specific disciplinary guidelines as follows:

- a. A suspended player may be released provided it is authorized by the League/Branch and that the player will serve his suspension with the new team/Branch. In addition to the above, if players are traded to a team in another province the accumulation totals for all suspend-able offenses follow with the player to his new team; and
- b. When a suspension occurs in a regular season or playoff game, the player/official is suspended from all league competition and cannot participate in any games (league or playoff) until the suspension has been served. If the player's team does not have sufficient regular season or playoff games remaining to fulfil the length of the suspension, the suspension shall carry over into the following regular season. The player/official may, however, participate in approved league pre-season exhibition games leading up to the following regular season. A player/official suspended during approved league pre-season exhibition games will serve the suspension in any remaining approved pre-season exhibition games. If the suspension is not fully served during the approved pre-season exhibition games, the remainder of the suspension will carry over into the regular season. A player who is serving a league suspension may participate in any feature league games including all-star, showcase and/or challenge games. If it is a suspension under Hockey Canada regulations, the player must sit out, but the all-star game shall count as a game towards the suspension.

P.4 For any infraction and suspension not included in the Maritime Hockey League's Aligned Rules Minimum Suspension Guidelines, or found in this Appendix, the League shall refer to the Hockey Canada's Code of Discipline

P.5 During any exhibition games, each team will be permitted to have three (3) fighting majors per game. Should a team accumulate more than three (3) fighting majors in any game the following suspensions shall apply:

- a. Fourth fighting major - Head Coach suspended for the first (1) regular season game;
- b. Fifth fighting major - Head Coach suspended for the first two (2) regular season games;
- c. Sixth fighting major - Head Coach suspended for the first three (3) regular season games;  
and
- d. Seventh fighting major - Head Coach suspended indefinitely and must appear before the League Disciplinary Committee.

Note: Should these suspensions have to be applied as the result of incidents in more than one game the suspensions shall be served consecutively rather than concurrently. (e.g. two games with eight fights the coach will be suspended for the first six (6) regular season games.)

- P.6 All players must wear game jerseys that have a tie-down strap attached. Players failing to do so will receive a fine of fifty (\$50) dollars in addition to any additional penalties that may be warranted.
- P.7 It is the responsibility of each Team's Head Coach to ensure that his players sit out their appropriate suspensions, including any minimum suspensions. When in doubt as to the relevant suspensions, contact the League's Director, Discipline.
- P.8 All coaches or team officials under suspension for any reason shall not be allowed in the dressing room or player's bench area from fifteen (15) minutes before game time until fifteen (15) minutes after the conclusion of the game and shall be seated in the area of the arena furthest from his team's bench while under suspension. Any violation will result in an additional suspension to the coach and the team shall be fined one thousand (\$1000) dollars. The "Coach" shall mean the Head Coach or his/her designate should the Head Coach not be present.

## APPENDIX Q

### Tampering Policy

- Q.1 The Maritime Hockey League believes that the integrity of our Member teams is critical to ensuring balanced competition. As such, teams should have an expectation that their rosters and personnel, achieved through their trading, free agency signings, drafting and hiring, should be protected and that they should expect that the integrity of their team should be respected without fear of illegal tampering. This policy outlines how the league shall address any cases of tampering.
- Q.2 No team or any team representative may communicate (whether orally or otherwise and whether in person or otherwise) with a player that is registered with another team under Hockey Canada regulations or a player who is on another team's protected list, for the purpose of offering, proposing, negotiating, enticing or persuading such player to leave (either presently or prospectively) the team with which he or she is currently registered under Hockey Canada regulations in order to participate (either presently or prospectively and either absolutely or contingently) with any other team, without the prior written consent of such individual's current team's official representative (e.g. Governor, Owner or General Manager).
- Q.3 In addition, no team or any team representative may communicate (whether orally or otherwise and whether in person or otherwise) with a coach, manager, scout, trainer or other representative currently employed by, connected to or associated with another team for the purpose of offering, proposing, negotiating, enticing or persuading such coach, manager, scout, trainer or other representative to leave (either presently or prospectively) his or her current team (either presently or prospectively and either absolutely or contingently), without the prior written consent of such individual's current team's official representative (e.g. Governor, Owner or General Manager).
- Q.4 For the purposes of this policy, team representatives include, but are not limited to coaches, managers, players, trainers, scouts, recruiters, specialty coaches (including skill, goalie, etc.), athletic therapists, equipment managers, team executives, team boosters, team committee members, billets, sponsors, investors, fund raisers, and game night volunteers.
- Q.5 Players may be sanctioned for tampering if it is determined that they were 'active' participants in the tampering process. For the purposes of this policy, 'active' participation shall be defined as providing proprietary team information to another player in an effort to tamper. Proprietary information shall be defined as information that a player would not normally be aware of or have access to without direct involvement of his/her own team. In addition, a player or individual, who is being tampered with may also be sanctioned if it is determined that the player or individual was an 'active participant' in any tampering by soliciting interest from other teams while registered with another team or colluding with another team to gain a trade from his/her own team.
- Q.6 Any member team wishing to bring forth a charge of tampering against another member or team must do so in writing and put forth the evidence in support of their claim in accordance with the following process:
- a) The team shall file a written complaint with the Commissioner complete with all related documentation (including but not limited to e-mails, text messages, other written correspondence, voice recordings, witness statements, and other evidence);

- b) Any complaint without documentation shall be dismissed; and
- c) Any complaint must be accompanied by a fee of one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars payable to the League.

NOTE: The League, upon receiving an allegation based on confidential evidence submitted by third-party sources, may launch an investigation into the matter following all steps as defined in this policy.

- Q.7 Once the Commissioner verifies that all necessary documentation is present to support any allegation, he/she shall file the complaint and all related documentation with an independent third party investigator who has been selected by the Commissioner and approved by the League's Board of Governors. In addition, the Commissioner shall notify the team and/or member against whom the allegation has been laid, within forty-eight (48) hours, of the pending investigation. The Commissioner shall solicit a written response from the accused member that must be filed with the Commissioner within forty-eight (48) hours of the request.
- Q.8 Once the investigator takes ownership of the complaint file, the Commissioner is the only individual permitted to communicate with him/her. Any attempt by any other party to communicate directly or indirectly with the investigator will result in a one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars fine to the offending team. The investigator will be permitted to investigate the allegation as he/she deems necessary using recognized investigative practices and ensuring that all parties to any complaint are engaged during the investigation process. Any request for information to support his/her investigation including, but not limited to, team records, correspondence of any nature, or other documentation or information that may assist the investigator, must be furnished upon request by the party being investigated. Failure to comply with any request from the investigator may form grounds for a ruling by the investigator of a finding of tampering or dismissal of the complaint. The investigator shall submit his/her report within thirty (30) days of the complaint filing.
- Q.9 Upon completion of any investigation, the third party investigator shall provide a written report of his findings to the Commissioner including his/her recommendations based upon balance of probability and evidence collected. The Commissioner shall distribute the final report, in confidence, to the Chairman of the Board who will be responsible to report to the Management Committee and Board members on its findings.
- Q.10 The Board of Governors, excluding the two teams involved, will meet to apply the sanctions as outlined in this policy. An affirmative vote of seven (7) of the ten (10) members is required to issue any sanction in accordance with this policy. Should the Board vote in favor of applying sanctions, the accused team shall also be responsible for the cost of the investigation. Should the board dismiss the complaint, the team who filed the complaint shall be responsible for any costs of the investigation over and above the amount of the fee initially submitted with the complaint. Any funds remaining from the initial submission fee, after investigator expenses are covered, will be refunded.
- Q.11 An appeal of any decision of the Board of Governors in this matter may be made to the Branch in which the League is registered. The appeal must be filed in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the governing Branch.
- Q.12 Should a team or any team member, representative or volunteer make allegations in public about another team violating the tampering policy or comments related to an ongoing investigation, that team shall be fined one thousand (\$1,000) dollars.

Q.13 Tampering infractions and applicable sanctions shall be categorized as follows:

- a. Minor Tampering – is defined as cases where a claim of tampering is founded but there was no material impact on the team being tampered with. This is defined as when the team is not forced to trade or release the player, the player who was tampered does not withdraw from his/her team for a period of time, and the player does not cease his/her membership with the team or league. The sanction(s) in a Minor Tampering finding shall fall within the following range of responses. Sanctions may include fines up to \$5,000.00 or loss of draft picks, and possible loss of protected list positions, and possible suspensions up to one year for team members involved in any finding. The final sanction(s) shall be determined by presiding Governors based upon the overall evidence and the severity of the tampering attempt.
- b. Major Tampering – is defined as cases where a claim of tampering is founded which has an immediate and negative impact upon the team being tampered with. This is defined as the team being forced to trade or release the player to another team; the player who was tampered with decides withdraw from his/her team for a period of time; or the player resigns from his/her membership with the team or league. The sanction in a Major Tampering shall fall within the following range of responses. Sanctions may include fines up to \$10,000.00, loss of 1st round draft pick(s) or equivalent pick(s) if the team does not possess 1st round draft pick(s), possible loss of protected list positions, and suspensions of one year for team members involved in any finding. In addition, the offending team may be suspended from entering trade agreements for a period of time of not more than 30 days. The final sanction(s) shall be determined by presiding Governors based upon the overall evidence and the severity of the tampering attempt.

## Appendix R

### League Certification Requirements

Title		
Head Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Performance 1</li> <li>• Safety HU (Online) **</li> <li>• Respect in Sport (Online)</li> <li>• CRC/VSC (Background checks)</li> </ul>	Contact your provincial Branch (HNS, HNB or HPEI) for details on the upcoming course schedule. Your provincial Branch will also have specific processes for the Respect in Sport Course and how to acquire your CRC/VSC Background checks. <i>(Safety HU not required in HNB and HPEI if another of Bench staff has the course.)</i>
Assistant Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCCP Development 1</li> <li>• Safety HU (Online) **</li> <li>• Respect in Sport (Online)</li> <li>• CRC/VSC (Background Checks)</li> </ul>	Contact your provincial Branch (HNS, HNB or HPEI) for details on the upcoming course schedule. Your provincial Branch will also have specific processes for the Respect in Sport Course and how to acquire your CRC/VSC Background checks. <i>(Safety HU not required in HNB and HPEI if another of Bench staff has the course.)</i>
Trainers/Athletic Therapists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Safety Person Level II</li> <li>• Respect in Sport (Online)</li> <li>• CRC/VSC (Background Checks)</li> </ul>	<p>NOTE: <i>HCSP Level II is available to individuals who hold current certification in First Aid and CPR from a recognized agency. HCSP Level II is provided once an individual provides proof of certification. There is no training clinic for this certification.</i></p> <p>Contact your provincial Branch (HNS, HNB or HPEI) for details on the upcoming course schedule. Your provincial Branch will also have specific processes for the Respect in Sport Course and how to acquire your CRC/VSC Background checks.</p>
Managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect in Sport (Online)</li> <li>• CRC/VSC (Background Checks)</li> </ul>	Contact your provincial Branch (HNS, HNB or HPEI) for details on the upcoming course schedule. Your provincial Branch will also have specific processes for the Respect in Sport Course and how to acquire your CRC/VSC Background checks.
Other Staff	<p>Other staff must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect in Sport (Online)</li> <li>• CRC/VSC (Background Checks)</li> </ul>	Contact your provincial Branch (HNS, HNB or HPEI) for details on the upcoming course schedule. Your provincial Branch will also have specific processes for the Respect in Sport Course and how to acquire your CRC/VSC Background checks.

ALL CERTIFICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>

## Appendix S

### Overtime in Playoffs

- S.1 A game is considered tied if, at the end of the here regulation periods, both teams have scored the equal number of goals.
- S.2 Overtime periods during the playoffs will always be sudden-victory, meaning that the game will end as soon as a goal is scored.
- S.3 If a playoff game is tied, the following is to occur:
- a. At the end of regulation play, there will be a three (3) minute break followed by a ten (10) minute sudden death overtime period. The teams shall not change ends after the conclusion of the regulation game and shall remain in the same net for the first overtime period;
  - b. If the game is still tied at the end of the ten (10) minute sudden death overtime period, the ice will be resurfaced followed by a twenty (20) minute sudden death overtime period;
  - c. If the game is still tied, the ice shall be resurfaced and followed by twenty (20) minute sudden death overtime periods until a winner is decided;
  - d. The ice shall be resurfaced after each twenty (20) minute sudden death overtime period;
  - e. Teams will play five (5) on five (5) throughout any overtime periods;
  - f. Any overtime period will be considered as part of the overall game and all unexpired penalties shall remain in effect and be served as required;
  - g. If either team declines to play in the necessary overtime period(s), the Referee shall follow rule 10.8 – Refusing to start play, and report the matter to the Commissioner of the League; and
  - h. If a game is suspended under rule 10.8 - Refusing to Star Play, the League shall declare the game as a loss to the offending team.

Annex A

## Game Countdown Protocol

All games are to adhere to the following guidelines. Teams are encouraged to post this bulletin in their respective dressing room.

GAME START PROCEDURES		
Time	Clock	Activity
-35:00		Timer sounds horn 5 minutes prior to warm-up to alert teams to prepare to start of warm-up.
-30:00	15:00	Horn sounds and pre-game warm-up count-down on the clock begins. Both teams are on the ice for their pre-game warm-up.
-17:00	02:00	Horn sounds and all players exit the ice surface with the exception of two (2) players assigned per team who are responsible to retrieve team pucks.
-16:00	01:00	Horn sounds again and all players must have vacated with the exception of the players assigned to retrieve pucks.
-15:00	0:00	Horn sounds to end the pre-game warm-up and all players assigned to retrieve pucks must have exited the playing surface.
-15:00	15:00	Timer resets clock at 15 minutes prior to game start time and ice resurfacing commences.
-03:00	03:00	Horn sounds to alert both teams to prepare to return to the playing surface.
-03:00	03:00	Game officials enter ice surface.
-02:00	02:00	Players enter ice surface and benches for start of the game. NOTE: Only starting line-up players permitted on the ice.
00:00	00:00	Puck drop. <b>TEAMS MUST BE READY FOR FACE-OFF.</b>
INTERMISSION PROCEDURES		
-15:00	15:00	At end of preceding period, Timer resets clock at 15 minutes prior to next period start time and ice resurfacing commences.
-3:00	3:00	Horn sounds to alert both teams to prepare to return to the playing surface.
-3:00	3:00	Game officials enter ice surface.
-2:00	2:00	Players enter ice surface and benches for start of the game. NOTE: Only starting line-up players permitted on the ice.
00:00	00:00	Puck drop. <b>TEAMS MUST BE READY FOR FACE-OFF.</b>