



CONSTITUTION

BY-LAWS

REGULATIONS

PROTECTED LISTS
AND
DRAFT RULES AND REGULATIONS

CODE OF DISCIPLINE

(Amended September 14, 2024)

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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: LOCALITY

- 2.1 The League shall be comprised of Junior 'A' Hockey Clubs with the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

ARTICLE 3: AUTHORITY

- 3.1 The League shall operate within the jurisdictions and under the authority of Hockey New Brunswick, Hockey Nova Scotia and Hockey Prince Edward Island.
- 3.2 The League shall, prior to the commencement of the regular season, register with either Hockey New Brunswick, Hockey Nova Scotia or Hockey Prince Edward Island.

ARTICLE 4: OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 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 minor and junior 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 5: MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 The League shall be comprised of duly registered teams within the boundaries of Hockey New Brunswick, Hockey Nova Scotia and Hockey Prince Edward Island.

NAME OF MEMBER	TEAM NAME
3267389 Nova Scotia Ltd	Valley Junior "A" Wildcats
Amherst Junior "A" Hockey Club 1997	Amherst Jr. "A" Ramblers
3260405 Nova Scotia Limited	West Kent Jr A Steamers
Yarmouth Junior A Mariners Limited	Yarmouth Junior A Mariners
Miramichi Junior Hockey Club Inc.	Miramichi Timberwolves
Club de Hockey le Blizzard Inc.	The Edmundston Blizzard
3325821 Nova Scotia Limited	Pictou County Weeks Crushers Junior A Hockey Club
Tigres du restigouche Tigers Inc	Campbellton Junior A Tigers
PEISE Inc.	Summerside Western Capitals
Grand Falls Junior A Hockey Team Inc.	Grand Falls Rapids
Truro Junior "A" Bearcats Hockey Club	Truro Junior "A" Bearcats
Global Center Ice Inc	Fredericton Junior Red Wings

- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 Each participating member team shall have an executive to be known as the team eexecutive consisting of not less than three (3) persons.
- 5.4 Each member team shall appoint an individual to act as a Governor of the League and one alternate. Any individual who acts as Coach or General Manager may not act as a team Governor or alternate unless the individual owns at least fifty (50) percent share of the member team.
- 5.5 Any appointment of a team Governor shall be submitted in writing by the member with a true copy filed with the President of the League.
- 5.6 Any member may revoke its' Governor in writing at any time and appoint a replacement Governor to represent the team in accordance with paragraphs 5.4 and 5.5.

- 5.7 The members shall maintain professionalism at all times and operate their hockey teams to the highest standard for the purpose of engaging in high calibre competition during regular season, play-off and championship competition.
- 5.8 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.
- 5.9 At the Annual General Meeting each member shall provide the President with a disclosure statement, in the form annexed hereto as Appendix A, disclosing the exact nature of the ownership of such team 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.
- 5.10 The affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the League shall be required for admission of a new member;
- 5.11 Applications for new membership must be filed no later than January 1st 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 1st of the first season of membership;
 - d) Eighty thousand (\$80,000.00) dollars payable on or before January 1st of the second season of membership;
 - e) In cases where the application is rejected, the initial ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars shall be refunded less any reasonable expenses shall be refunded to the applicant;
 - f) Any fees due to the league shall be guaranteed to the League in a manner deemed acceptable by the League;
- 5.12 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.
- 5.13 Each member shall be issued a 'Certificate of Membership signed by the President and Chairman of the League, certifying that the member is a member of the League and holds a franchise from the League to operate a hockey team in a designated location.

- 5.14 Any participating member teams may make written application to the President to alter any conditions of their operation at any time, providing the alteration, if approved by the League in writing, would not conflict with any of the provisions of the League's Constitution, By-laws or Regulations.
- 5.15 For the purpose of Article 5.14, the following shall be deemed to be conditions of the team's operation:
- a) Change of team's name;
 - b) Change of team's colors(s);
 - c) Change of team's executive; and
 - d) Change of location of home rink.
- 5.16 A member may apply to the League to move its franchise permanently to another rink for home games under Section 5.14 at any time prior to, or during, the schedule. If the distance of such a move would be a distance of forty (40) kilometers or more, such move shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all members at the Annual or Special Meeting called by the Executive Committee at which time the application is heard. If the distance of such a move would be a distance of less than forty (40) kilometers, such move shall be approved by the Board of Governors as stated in the By-Laws.
- 5.17 Each of the participating member teams shall indicate, in writing, to the President by March 31st, prior to the Annual Meeting whether such team intends to participate in the League the following season. In addition, any intent to relocate a franchise to a location over 40 kilometers from the team's current location must be provided to the League by March 31st. The President is to contact any club not heard from by the deadline.
- 5.18 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 articles, by-laws, rules and regulations of the League; and
 - 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' members by the transferor member existing at the date of the transfer.
 - d) A transfer or sale fee is paid to the league no less than two (2)% of the total sale of the franchise is paid by the purchaser.
- 5.19 Transfer of membership shall not release the transferor of any of its debts, liabilities or obligations to the League existing at the date of transfer.

- 5.20 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.
- 5.21 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.
- 5.22 No shareholder, partner or other person holding a controlling interest in a member, 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.
- 5.23 The Board of Governors may refuse to accept a transfer of an interest in a member to any person seeking to become a stockholder, partner or other person holding an interest in a member, directly or indirectly should such person having direct or indirect ownership of an interest in any other member of the League or in any member of any other hockey league or for any reason that the Board of Governors feels would be in the best interest of the League. Such decision must be communicated in writing to such person or organization.
- 5.24 The vote for admission of new members or for the transfer of a membership or for transfer of an interest of a member may be taken at any annual or special meeting of the Board of Governors of the League.
- 5.25 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 31st 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 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 President no later than March 31st 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 team's players will be held with the affected team claiming six (6) players from their current protected list who they may 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 return from the leave of absence to active status. The remaining players on their protected list 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 previous season's standings. These players will no longer have any ties to the team being granted the leave of absence; and
 - h) Any member 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.
- 5.26 Any member of the League may withdraw from membership with consent of two-thirds (2/3) of all the members of the League either (a) by assigning its' membership upon terms and conditions of Section 5.15 or (b) by tendering its written resignation to the President 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.
- 5.27 The membership of a member 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 these articles, by-laws, rules and regulations 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 President;
 - 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, 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 or its members;

- 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.

5.28 The membership of a Member may be suspended or terminated on the occurrence of any of the events described in paragraph 5.26, hereof, by the following procedure:

- a) Any Governor of the League or the President may prefer charges that a member has violated a provision or provisions of paragraph 5.26. Said charges shall be made in writing and shall be filed with the League President 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, file with the President its' written response thereto. The President 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 President 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 President to call a meeting of the Governors to hear the charges, the said charges shall be dismissed;
- d) The Chairman 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 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 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

suspend the Member 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 6: AMENDMENTS

- 6.1 The constitution, by-laws and regulations may be amended at the Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting of the League, and then only by two-thirds majority of the members present at the Annual or any Special Meeting called for that purpose.
- 6.2 No amendments to the constitution, by-laws or regulations shall be considered at the Annual or Special Meeting unless such amendments shall have been submitted in writing to the Secretary of the League at least three (3) weeks prior to the date of the Annual or Special Meeting, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to submit a copy of the proposed amendment(s) to each member of the Executive and to each member team at least one (1) week prior to the date of the Annual or Special Meeting.
- 6.3 Amendments may be proposed by member teams in good standing as well as ~~and~~ members of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 7: REGISTERED OFFICE

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

ARTICLE 8: DISSOLUTION

- 8.1 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 8.2.
- 8.2 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 9: MISCELLANEOUS

- 9.1 Where any matter is not addressed within the League's constitution, by-laws or regulations but is addressed within the constitution, by-laws or regulations of the governing branch, the provisions of the governing branch shall apply. Any matter that arises that is not addressed in either the constitution, by-laws or regulations of the league, the governing branch or in the Hockey Canada regulations, 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(s) is not in conflict with the Constitution By-laws and Regulations of Hockey Canada, Hockey Nova Scotia, Hockey New Brunswick and Hockey Prince Edward Island.

Maritime Junior Hockey League

By-Laws

BY-LAW 1 - GOVERNORS

1.1 Board of Governors

The League shall be governed by a Board of Governors who will establish the policies of the League and uphold the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations, as provided herein. The Board of Governors shall consist of the Chair and Governors of the member teams.

1.2 Meetings of Board of Governors

- a) The Board of Governors shall meet at least once per quarter year. The schedule for such meetings shall be finalized prior to July 1st each year.
- b) Notice of such meetings shall be sent by e-mail to each Governor not less than seven (7) days before the meeting is to take place.
- c) At any and all meetings of members of the Board of Governors, unless otherwise stated, each member of the League shall be entitled to have two (2) representatives present.
- d) In the event of a team member's Governor or alternate being unable to attend a meeting, 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.
- e) The Governor or his alternate shall, by reason of his appointment, be vested with the full power to represent the member team and to bind it by his vote.
- f) A quorum for all meetings of the League shall be two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the League.
- g) If within thirty (30) minutes from the time established for meeting to commence, a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned for a period of seven days on the same day of the following week at the same time and place. If at such a rescheduled adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within thirty (30) minutes from the time established for the meeting to commence, the members present shall form a quorum.
- h) At all meetings of the league, representation of each member team by its Governor or Alternate 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 five hundred (\$500.00) dollars.

- i) Except where otherwise stated, all decisions shall be determined by majority vote with each member team having one (1) vote. In the case of equality of votes the motion shall be defeated.
- j) All votes at any such meeting shall be taken by in the usual manner way by assent or dissent unless a secret ballot is requested by any Governor present.
- k) Abstention from voting by a member shall cause a fine of one hundred (\$100) dollars to be levied against the member team.
- l) Voting by proxy shall not be permitted at any meeting of the Board of Governors or Committees.
- m) The most recent Robert Rules of Order shall apply at all meetings of the League and its committees at which a jurisdictional dispute arises.

1.3 Duties of the Governors

The duties of the Board of Governors are:

- a) To elect the Chairman of the Board on an annual basis;
- b) To approve and amend the League's constitution, by-laws and regulations;
- c) To approve league expansion for the admission of new team(s) and to set the applicable franchise fee(s) to new team(s) entering the League;
- d) To approve the league's divisional alignment, schedule and playoff format annually;
- e) To approve the expulsion of any team from the league and to establish any conditions, penalties or disciplinary action against such team or team(s) so expelled from the League;
- f) To hire a President and other employees as may be deemed necessary;
- g) To approve the League's Supplemental Code of Discipline and to propose recommendations to the Branches for changes to the Branch Codes of Discipline as they relate to Junior "A" hockey. Proposed amendment procedure would be filing amendment(s) with the MHL President outlining details and endorsed by team signing authorities, with a copy sent to all team members two weeks previous to the annual meeting or special meeting called for that purpose;
- h) To appoint a of three (3) Governors to administer discipline against member teams for violations of By-Law 7.6 (Player registration fees), Player Compensation (Appendix H) and any other matters that it deems necessary or are referred to it by the President;

- i) To designate an Executive Member to administer the League's disciplinary matters for the operation of member teams as well as the conduct of team officials, players and personnel during the year;
- j) To appoint a Director of Finance;
- k) A member team may request, in writing, that the Chairman of the Board of Governors establish a special committee to investigate player movements, tampering violations, recommended release procedures (where appropriate) and the amount of compensation and/or fine to be levied to the Board of Governors for its approval;
- l) To establish other committees as may, from time to time, be deemed necessary;
- m) To appoint an executive member to act as the Secretary for meetings of the Board of Governors;
- n) To appoint, at each annual meeting, an auditor or auditors to hold office until the next annual Meeting; and
- o) To appoint a Management Committee whose members shall be comprised of, the Chairman of the Board or his designate and two (2) other members of the Board.. The term of the Management Committee shall be two (2) years. The league President will sit as a non-voting member. The Management Committee shall report to the Governors only, and shall formulate and recommend policy and procedures to the Governors for approval. All meetings of the Management Committee shall be chaired by the Chairman.

BY-LAW 2: MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 The day to day operations of the League shall be vested in the Executive Committee consisting of the President, Vice-President and the appointed Directors.
- 2.2 No member of the team executives, coaches, managers or trainers of any of the participating member teams shall be eligible to serve on the Executive Committee.
- 2.3 The Protest Committee of the League shall consist of the President, Vice President and Director of Hockey Operations. The committee may appoint an independent person as an alternate. The alternate may only participate in the event that a member of the committee is unable to participate.
- 2.4 The Appeals Committee shall consist of three (3) individuals as recommended by the President and approved by the Board of Governors. These individuals shall not be members of the Board or the Executive Committee.
- 2.5 The League Audit Committee shall consist of three (3) people, two shall be members of the Board of Governors. The members of the Audit Committee shall be appointed the Annual Meeting.

- 2.6 The report of the Nominating Committee will be read at the Annual Meeting and will include the names of persons offering for each elected Officer (e.g. Chairman or Vice-Chairman) position. More than one (1) name for each Officer position is recommended if suitable candidates are available. The nominating committee is not to recommend any certain individual in the event more than one person is nominated. After the nomination report is read, nominations for elections to office will be called from the floor by the chairman of the nominating committee if he himself is not running for an Officer position (e.g. Chairman or Vice-Chairman). In the event the chairman of the nominating committee is seeking an Officer position of the League, the President of the League will then select a chairman for the election of officers.
- 2.7 The Executive Committee shall have the sole jurisdiction in the following matters:
- a) Discipline;
 - b) Interpretation of the constitution, by-laws and regulations;
 - c) Minor officials;
 - d) The calling of League meetings as established by the by-laws;
 - e) The League schedule and re-scheduling of regular League games;
 - f) Playoff games;
 - g) The conduct of all League meetings;
 - h) The conduct of the annual draft; and
 - i) Any other areas which may from time to time be designated by the participating teams.
- 2.8 The General Managers Committee shall consist of the Director of 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.
- a) The duties of the General Managers Committee shall include the following:
 - i) To uphold the polices of the League;
 - ii) To make recommendations to the Board of Governors on the formulation and interpretation of the playing rules to be used in all league games;
 - iii) To approve the league and play-off schedule in collaboration with the Executive Committee;

- iv) To submit recommendations that would improve the overall league operation to the League Board of Governors for consideration annually.
 - v) To decide the league award winners; and other duties as may be designated by the Board of Governors.
- b) A quorum shall be two-thirds (2/3) of the General Managers of the League.
- c) 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.
- d) 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 3: DUTIES

3.1 Duties of the President

- a) The President 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, the President: When exercising this power, the President 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 far more egregious in severity, as determined by the Board of Governors, the President is empowered to impose additional penalties but not more than double the originally stated penalties. For infractions not addressed in the league's constitution, by-laws and regulations, the President may fine the team or individual up to a maximum of ten thousand (\$ 10,000.00) and/or a one-year suspension.
- a) 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 policies, rules and regulations, subject always to the right of Appeal as hereinafter provided;
- b) 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;
- c) Serve as a delegate of the League to the annual meetings of Hockey Nova Scotia or Hockey Canada or any meeting of either organization, or the meetings of committees or councils of either organization, or meetings of any other leagues or organizations which may be deemed to be of importance to the operation of the League and shall be entitled to remuneration for expenses incurred in the exercise of such duties;

- d) Participate as a member of the Canadian Junior Hockey League (CJHL) Board of Directors and associated committees, attend meetings and represent the Maritime Hockey League at the national level.
- e) Be responsible for day-to-day financial operations of the MHL including banking and working with Director of Finance to manage accounts payable and receivable. Additional financial functions shall include:
 - i. maintain care and custody of the League corporate funds or securities;
 - ii. disburse the League funds as may be ordered by the Board taking proper vouchers for such disbursements;
 - iii. render a report of his receipts and disbursements at each meeting of the Board, along with the Director of Finance;
 - iv. Upon the expiration of his term of office, account for and deliver to the Board all monies, books, papers and property received by him by virtue of his office and not previously turned over to him;
 - v. render an annual report of his disbursements as audited by the League appointed auditor along with the Director of Finance to the Members; and
 - vi. submit a proposed budget for the forthcoming fiscal year, along with the Director of Finance, to the Management Committee which shall be delivered to the Members along with notice of the Annual Meeting.
- f) Be responsible for all key stakeholder relationships and execution of programs including but not limited to the following:
 - i. Headcheck Health;
 - ii. The Coaches Site;
 - iii. College Hockey Inc; and;
 - iv. Quebec Major Junior Hockey League;
- g) Be responsible for all marketing and growth initiatives as well the planning, execution and delivery of sponsorship programs including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. Hockey TV;
 - ii. Eastlink Community TV;
 - iii. Metalfab; and
 - iv. Bauer
- ;
- h. Be responsible for the sharing of all league documentation and ensuring access to those required
- i. Be responsible for strategic planning and budgeting for league;

- j. Liaise with team personnel for scheduling availability and specific requirements and develop the final regular season schedule for publication;
- k) be responsible for development and execution of league branded events including Showcases, Combine or All-Star games;
- l) Co-ordination of all MHL Governors activities including meetings and AGM;
- m) Be responsible for the promotion of the League and its' players to the NCAA and USports; and
- n) Be responsible for media requests and representation of the league

3.2 Duties of the Vice-President

The Vice President shall:

- a) Act for the President under the terms of his office, as and when required;
- b) Perform duties as directed by the President or the Board of Governors; and
- c) Be responsible to the President and the League as a whole for the carrying out of all rules and regulations and the enforcement of any decisions by the President and the Board of Governors.
- d) Be responsible to draft proposals and revisions to the league's constitution, by-laws, regulations and policies, working in collaboration with the President and the Executive Committee, for approval by the Board of Governors;
- e) Be responsible for the administration of league player transactions including approvals, communicating trades to teams and on the League's website, and initiating the invoicing process for player development fees arising from trades;
- f) Be responsible to lead and conduct the League's Entry and Supplemental Drafts, working in collaboration with the Executive Committee,
- g) Coordinate the annual player registration process by tabulating payments, calculating rebates, updating teams on registration status, and preparing reports to the President; and
- h) Working in collaboration with the Executive Committee, generate weekly reports on accumulating penalties and communicating results with teams,

3.3 Duties of the Director of Communications

The Director of Communications, under the direction of the President, 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 for scheduling availability and specific requirements and developing the final regular season schedule for publication;
- c) Coordinate the submissions for the weekly and monthly awards, soliciting input from member teams;
- d) Administer the league's annual awards and scholarships by collecting nominations from member teams, coordinating the selection process, and coordinating 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 league website and social media platforms, liaising with team media personnel for content and providing guidance as required;
- g) Conduct a workshop, as directed by the President, prior to the start of the regular season to provide updates and guidance to team media personnel on new approaches and overall league media processes and requirements; and
- h) Coordinate any broadcast of league games by approved third-party broadcasting providers by liaising with teams and provider personnel to establish scheduling and special events/activities.

3.4 Director of Technology

The Director of Technology, under the general supervision of the President, shall:

- a) Review game reports submitted by member teams and verify all online scoring for statistical purposes and notifying the President of any member team who fails to file reports as directed by the League;
- b) Manage Admin web access to LeagueStat and administering the player/coaches roster database;
- c) Manage the league website including the penalty tracking, official's database, and the online MHL player registration module;
- d) Support the development of the online game schedule; and
- e) Advise the President of any action that, from the standpoint of statistics, should be taken to improve the image of the League, its member teams, officers, managers, coaches, players, and the Board of Governors

3.5 Duties of the Director of Finance

The Director of Finance, shall report directly to the President shall:

- a) Act as a member of the Finance Committee;
- b) Be responsible for all aspects of financial matters including invoicing, payments, issuing financial statements, and providing budgeting support payment to ensure the effective operation of the League
- c) Maintain proper books of accounts;
- d) Present an annual report of the unaudited results of the yearly operation including an annual budget to the Annual General Meeting and/or the Semi-Annual Meeting of the League;
- e) Present such other financial reports and matters as may appear to be of interest to the League or that the Board of Governors may prescribe, including an annual budget;
- f) 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;
- g) 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;
- h) Serve on committees as required by the Chairman of the Board or the President; and
- i) Perform other duties as assigned by the Management Committee or President.

3.6 Duties of the Director of Hockey Operations

The Director of Hockey Operations, under the general supervision of the President, shall:

- a) Act as the prime contact for club personnel (General Managers) for issues related to league hockey operations;
- b) In consultations with the President, lead and coordinate activities associated with the General Manager's committee including agenda items and minutes from all meetings and facilitate the submission of recommendations to the Board of Governors;
- c) Responsible for communications and agreements with the Maritime Branches and the

Maritime Under 18 leagues specifically for officiating (RICs) and hockey operations;

- d) Support the President with the development and distribution of league operational bulletins and memos;
- e) Assist with administration and communication of internal and external player transactions;
- f) Record the submission of tryout forms from teams and resolving conflicts that may arise.
- g) Responsible for the oversight of club registration on the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR);
- h) Responsible for the maintenance of the club protected lists working in collaboration with the Vice President on updates resulting from trades and free agent additions;
- i) Responsible to draft proposals and revisions to the league's constitution, by-laws, regulations and policies, working in collaboration with the President and the Executive Committee, for approval by the Board of Governors;
- j) Responsible to develop comprehensive player lists for the annual U18 entry draft and supplementary drafts and assist with the oversight and conduct of the drafts as well as maintenance of draft selection lists; and
- k) Assist the President with planning, promotion and operation of league events (e.g. combines, showcases, camps, etc.).
- l) Be responsible for stakeholder relationships and execution of the following programs:
 - i. Canadian Mental Health Association;
 - ii. Atlantic U18 Leagues;
 - iii. Rinknet; and
 - iv. HUDL Instat

BY-LAW 4 - MEETINGS

- 4.1 The League shall hold its Annual Meeting prior to July 1st at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Governors.
- 4.2 The President shall, prior to January 15th annually send out guidelines requesting the member clubs to submit bids to host the following year's Annual Meeting and Draft.
- 4.3 Bid presentations to host the following year's Annual General Meeting shall be made at the current year's Annual General Meeting with a decision announced in August.

- 4.4 The Chairman of the Board, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman or a person appointed by the Board, shall preside over the Annual Meeting.
- 4.5 Prior to July 1st annually, the President shall develop a schedule of meetings of the General Managers Committee to deal with matters such as scheduling, playoffs, draft, and other matters as deemed appropriate.
- 4.6 Prior to the start of the regular schedule, all coaches must attend a meeting to be scheduled by the President to update all member teams on with changes to rules and regulations.
- 4.7 The President or the Chairman of the Board may schedule conference call meetings of the General Managers Committee or the Board of Governors respectively. The minutes of conference call meetings shall be approved at the next meeting of the General Managers Committee or the Board of Governors as the case may be.
- 4.8 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 five hundred dollars (\$500.00) to the League.

BY-LAW 5 - SPECIAL MEETINGS

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

BY-LAW 6 - VOTING

- 6.1 Each participating member team shall be entitled to one voting representative at any meeting of the League.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 An application for a special meeting made under the by-laws and regulations must be approved by the majority of participating member teams present at any League meeting or in the event of an emergency, the Secretary is hereby empowered to make a telephone 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 telephone vote must be confirmed and ratified at the first League meeting following and taking of such telephone vote.

BY-LAW 7 - FEES

- 7.1 The annual dues for membership in the League shall be determined annually by the Board at the Annual Meeting. The dues so determined shall be payable at such time and in such manner as the Board determines each year.
- 7.2 Once the League has established the amount and schedule of payment for the League fees, any members not adhering to the established payment schedule shall be subject to the following sanctions that shall applied following a seven (7) day period of grace upon notification of any delinquent payment:
 - a) Immediate reduction of Protected List by five (5) players;
 - b) Loss of privilege of adding players, as well as trading or selling 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.
- 7.3 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 Chairman of the Board of Governors in which further action will be discussed.
- 7.4 Requests for deferment of payments must be made to the Management Committee prior to the due date of scheduled payment
- 7.5 A member shall not be in good standing unless it has paid the Annual Membership Dues as determined by the Board pursuant to Article 7.1.
- 7.6. The League shall require player participants to pay a registration fee. The registration fee shall be an amount as established by the League annually and submitted to the Board of Governors at the Annual General Meeting for approval in conjunction with the approval of the League's operating budget.
 - a) If a team plays a player who has not paid the league registration fee by the required date, the following penalties shall apply:
 - i. The player shall be suspended until such time as the fees are paid in full; and
 - ii. The team shall be fined one thousand (\$1,000) dollars.
 - b) Payment must be paid directly to the league by the player's family. Payment by teams will not be accepted.
 - c) Twenty (20) year old players shall be exempted from paying the player registration fees.
 - d) Teams shall advise all players of this policy at the beginning of training camp.
 - e) Player Registration Fee policy operation guidelines are outlined at Appendix N.

BY-LAW 8 - PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- 8.1 Protests may be filed with the Executive Committee and shall be accompanied by a certified cheque for two hundred (\$200.00). Protests must be filed in accordance with the Hockey Canada or governing branch regulations (see appendix C). Under these regulations, the protest must be filed with the President, or his designate. The matter being protested shall be considered by the Protest Committee who shall hand down the decision after having investigated the protest thoroughly either by calling in witnesses or by requesting affidavit evidence or deal with the protest in any other manner that in their sole discretion will enable them to come to a proper decision.
- 8.2 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 8.1.
- 8.3 Should the protest be upheld by the Executive Committee, then the protest fee of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) shall be returned to the protesting member team.
- 8.4 An appeal of a decision must be filed with the President within twenty-four (24) hours of the notification of the decision being appealed. The appeal must be accompanied by an appeal fee 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.
- 8.5 An appeal of a fine issued by an Executive Member may be appealed to the Appeals Committee under the conditions set out in By-Law 8.4.
- 8.6 Except where otherwise prohibited, an appeal of a decision made by an Executive member regarding trades, protected lists, or the draft may be appealed to the Appeals Committee under the conditions set out in By-Law 8.4.
- 8.7 An appeal from a decision of the Protest Committee, Appeals Committee or Executive not covered above 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.
- 8.8 An appeal to the Appeals Committee or the Branch does not operate as a stay of the decision or ruling being appealed.

BY-LAW 9 - BANKING

- 9.1 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 withdrawals made by the Director of Finance and one of the elected officers, to be recognized as the signing officers of the League.
- 9.2 A trust fund, called an emergency fund, shall be set up with a financial institution with deposit insurance.

- 9.3 The League shall establish a wire transfer method of paying for league fees, fines, appeals, protests, trades and other payments as may from time to time be required. Electronic Transfers should also be accepted when less than 24 hours are provided from the league for payments on any league matters.
- 9.4 The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the payment of all accounts of the League and shall establish such regulations as it deems necessary to deal with payment of regular current accounts.
- 9.5 The signing officers of the League shall consist of any two (2) of the following: the President, the Director of Finance, Chairman of the Board or two (2) other persons as appointed by the Board of Governors.
- 9.6 All expenses in conjunction with the operation of the League, not specifically dealt with in these By-Laws or Regulations, shall be paid for from the League treasury provided they are approved for payment at a properly constituted League Meeting.

BY-LAW 10 - DISCIPLINE

- 10.1 The League may, from time to time, adopt minimum suspensions or penalties to be imposed on offending team 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 of Discipline imposing a penalty in excess of four (4) games, the League Disciplinarian shall, if requested by the teams, hold a hearing to determine the appropriate penalty. The League Disciplinarian shall conduct a hearing when the suspension is in excess of seven (7) games unless such suspension is due to a minimum suspension policy. At the hearing, two representatives from each of the teams involved in the incident may attend, together with such other persons as may be deemed necessary by the League Disciplinarian. Each team involved shall be entitled to make a submission, if desired, and the submission should be without interruption. Other parties to the hearing may ask questions, through the presiding Officer, once the submission is completed. Hearings should be held as soon as practicable following the incident. If requested by the team(s) involved, and with the agreement of the Chairman of the hearing, a hearing may be held by telephone conference call. The expenses for a teleconference will be the responsibility of the team(s) involved.
- 10.2 In exceptional circumstances, the Director of 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.
- 10.3 There shall be no hearing or appeal from minimum suspensions issued under a minimum suspension policy.
- 10.4 Notwithstanding By-Law 10.3, a team may ask for a video review of an incident as outlined in By-Law 8.4 and the President or his designate may alter the suspension should the video provide conclusive supporting evidence. Should the decision not be changed, the team shall be fined two fifty hundred (\$250) dollars in addition to the forfeiture of the appeal deposit.

- 10.5 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 8.4.
- 10.6 An appeal from the decision of the League Disciplinary Committee may be made to the Appeals Committee set up by the Branch(s) under the conditions set out in By-Law 8.4.
- 10.7 The Director of Discipline will review all penalties that are called that go against accumulations that could result in supplemental discipline later in the season.

BY-LAW 11 - PLAYING RULES

- 11.1 The League shall adopt the playing rules of Hockey Canada with the exception of five (5) minute overtime and shootout, if necessary, in regular season play.
- 11.2 The League will abide by the by-laws, rules and regulations of the governing Branch of Hockey Canada.
- 11.3 In exceptional cases the League may apply to its governing branch to make changes to the rules and regulations.

BY-LAW 12 - SPONSORSHIP

- 12.1 The League may, from time to time, enlist corporate partners or sponsors for the League and League events. The League may also enter into sponsorship agreements which may require that specific sponsor or corporate partner products or services be comply in accordance with League policy mandating the use of such products and/or services.
- 12.2 Unless the Board of Governors approves a Member's application to be exempt from a policy requiring the use of a Sponsor's Product, a Member shall be assessed a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each game in which its team fails to use the Sponsor's Product.
- 12.3 Any member which fails to make public address announcements as required by a league sponsorship contract shall be fined five hundred dollars (\$500) per game.

BY-LAW 13 - RECOURSE

- 13.1 Any recourse to the courts of law made by any Member, Hockey Team, Player, Coach, other Employee or other individual governed by the League regarding the interpretation and administration of the Articles, Policies, Rules and Regulations before all rights and remedies of the Articles 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 President to suspend or terminate the membership of the said Member, or suspend the said Hockey Team, Player, Coach, other Employee or other individual on the terms and for a duration that the President deems appropriate. If the legal action is initiated by the Owner, Governor, Executive Member, Coach, General Manager or any other recognized member of the 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.

Maritime Junior Hockey League

Regulations

REGULATION 1 - TEAMS

- 1.1 Participating member teams shall, during all scheduled games of the League, dress a minimum of fourteen (14) 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 fourteen (14) 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 and the team shall be fined \$1000.00. In addition, any coach who plays an ineligible player will be suspended, pending a hearing by the League and/or the governing branch.
- 1.5 Each participating member team shall indicate to the President in writing on or before the 15th day of July in each year, the names and addresses of the Team Executive as provided for in Article 5.3 of the constitution and such Team Executive, when recorded with the President, shall be deemed to be the Team Executive referred to in the Franchise Certificate and shall continue to be that Team's Executive until such time as any changes might be made in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations of the League.
- 1.6 Each proposed Team Executive forwarded to the President shall be scrutinized and approved by the Executive Committee before they are recorded with the President.
- 1.7 If the Executive Committee should decide that any proposed Team Executive or any proposed member of the Team Executive does not meet the requirements of Article 5 of the constitution, the Executive Committee shall meet with the representatives of the team in question before making any final decisions or rejection. The said representative shall have the opportunity to question the grounds for any proposed rejection and should any explanation in relation to the said grounds not be acceptable, the Team Executive shall be given the opportunity to submit further proposed Executives.
- 1.8 For all regular scheduled games and League playoffs the home club shall provide security in the form of police, security guards, or RCMP with a minimum of one individual per regular League game, and at the discretion of the Executive

Committee in League playoffs. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a minimum fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and possible forfeiture of game, and repeated violations, possible suspension of franchise.

- 1.9 Matching socks, sweaters with names on the back, pants, 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 exempt for socks, helmets and gloves. This rule becomes effective at the beginning of the regular season.
- 1.10 Team on-ice training camps will start no earlier than twelve (12) days prior to Labour Day.
- 1.11 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
- 1.12 No team may use as an affiliated player, any player who is on the protected list of another 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 the MHL.
- 1.13 Emergency Back-Up Goalie - 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, U18, 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.

Once the goalie and the goalie's team have agreed in writing, the team shall request approval from League as well as the Branch in which the goalie's team is playing in at the time. The specific Branch shall consider the request and notify the team as well as the League of its decision. Given the player safety implications associated with such requests combined with the difficulty associated with player affiliation, approvals shall not be unreasonably denied. 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 Junior A 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.

- 1.14 All head coaches must be certified in the National Coaches Certification Program (NCCP) at the High Performance Level 1.
- 1.15 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 Under 18 Aged Players in the Maritime Hockey League. These agreements will

be reviewed and renewed annually. Teams that fail to abide by the agreements related to the signing, releasing and affiliating with players shall be fined \$250.

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 semi-pro team since January 10th of the previous season. This rule does not apply to any Atlantic Canadian player who is on a League 50 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.

- 2.2 Each team will be allowed a maximum of two (2) new twenty year olds, on a Junior A or affiliate card, from outside the region who have not previously played in the League or is not on a fifty (50) man protected list of a team in the League.
- 2.3 Each team will be allowed a maximum eight (8) players, on Junior A or affiliate cards, (HCR), from outside the region, as defined in Regulation 17.5, at the time of the player being carded in the HCR. A player's residence is defined by Hockey Canada Regulation C (Players - Residential Qualifications). 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 eh January 10th deadline during both seasons. Players may have played for multiple teams within the league so 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 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 Any team found to be in violation of Regulation 2, paragraphs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 or 2.4 shall be fined One Thousand (\$1,000) 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 games played while in violation of any of the maximum limits set in these paragraphs
- 2.6 MHL teams may not sign an Under 18 carded sixteen (16) year old who is not on their 50 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 teams are tied in points after the regular season's schedule is completed, then the standings will be determined in accordance with the following system:
 - a) Most overall regular season wins, excluding games won in a shootout;
 - b) Season record between the two tied teams against each other; and
 - c) Goal differential - number of goals against is subtracted from the number of goals for with the difference as the goal differential.
- 3.4 If three or more teams are tied in points after the regular season's schedule is completed, then the standings will be determined in accordance with the following:
 - a) Most overall regular season wins, excluding games won in a shootout;
 - b) The higher percentage of available points earned in games among those clubs. If the teams have not played the same number of games against each other, the first game(s) played between the teams that had the extra game(s) shall not be included; and
 - c) Goal differential - number of goals against is subtracted from the number of goals for with the difference is the goal differential.
- 3.5 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 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).
- 3.6 The President of the League may appoint a person from time to time to represent the League at playoff games if deemed necessary.
- 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 President shall set the dates and location of all said games and confirm by e-mail or fax.

Teams cannot announce their schedule prior to league approval or announcement or a fine of \$250 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), referees shall be Level Five (5) or higher and linesmen shall be Level Three (3) or higher.

REGULATION 5 - SCHEDULE

- 5.1 Each participating member team shall indicate their preference of days and times for their home games prior to April 15th 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 President, or his designate.
- 5.5 Any game that is not played on the scheduled date must be re-scheduled within two weeks of the originally scheduled game and approved by the President, except for the last four (4) weeks of the regular schedule when the President shall coordinate and finalize rescheduled games with the teams involved and notify the Executive Committee of the changes. Should teams fail to agree on a time for rescheduling the President 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.

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, the Executive Committee may confirm that such game was played 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.

- 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 D). A team losing in overtime or a shootout will receive one point for the loss.
- 6.3 Notwithstanding Section 6.2 above, any team pulling its goaltender in overtime when teams are playing at even strength and loses the game shall not receive a point for the overtime loss.
- 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.
- 6.5 The League shall have a standard warm-up and between period procedure as outlined in Appendix B.
- 6.6 Fines may be assessed by the President for improperly completed game reports. Properly completed game reports should include all game officials and minor officials names, completed list of players, including captain and back-up goaltender, all scoring and penalty statistics with times, shots on goals, attendance etc. Failure to submit a properly completed game report shall result in a two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250.00) fine.

REGULATION 7 - AWARDS

- 7.1 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 teams - 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 be considered a rookie, eligible players must be 18-years-old or younger at the start of the season, must not have played 25 or more games of Major Junior during the past two seasons, and must not have played more than 25 regular season games in the MHL or another Junior "A" League. One Rookie All-Star team will be named, with players from all members eligible 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 be considered a rookie, eligible players must be 18-years-old or younger at the start of the season, must not have played 25 or more games of Major Junior during the past two seasons, and must not have played more than 25 regular season games in the MHL or another Junior "A" League;
- 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.

7.2 Award Nominations and Selections

- a) 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).
- b) 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).
- c) 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 President 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 President to the recipient before the presentation of the League Trophy at the conclusion of the League.
 - 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.
 - 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.
- 7.3 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 honourable mentions for each award.
- 7.4 All awards with the exception of the Playoff Most Valuable Player award will be distributed to teams at the Annual General Meeting.

REGULATION 8 - REMUNERATION

- 8.1 Honorariums will be paid to designated members of the Executive Committee. The determination and amounts of the honorariums will be made at the Annual Meeting by the Board of Governors.

REGULATION 9 - FINES

- 9.1 A levied fine not receive by the League within five (5) business days will automatically be doubled, and if not paid within ten (10) business days, the franchise may be suspended.

REGULATION 10 - SPECIAL GAMES

- 10.1 For the purposes of this regulation, special games may include all-star, showcase(s) and challenges where the League assembles players from our teams to participate in select competition games or series as representatives of the League.
- 10.2 An all-star game(s) may be played each season. The format of the game and composition of the team will be determined at a Special Meeting of the Board of Governors.
- 10.3 The President will call for proposals to host the annual all-star game.
- 10.4 The net profit from the all-star game, gate and promotional extras will be claimed by the league unless the League enters into a guaranteed bid arrangement with the Host team.
- 10.5 Within two (2) weeks of the all-star 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.
- 10.6 Any player who fails to show for any feature game or event, after having originally given intent to play, may be suspended for the next three (3) regularly scheduled League games.

REGULATION 11 - BROADCASTING OF GAMES

- 11.1 The home team at each game shall be responsible for broadcasting that game, whether it is a regular season, all-star/prospects or play-off game, in accordance with Appendix F.

REGULATION 12 - WEBSITE POLICY

- 12.1 Each member of the MHL shall maintain a website that is consistent with the League website policy found in Appendix M (Social Media policy)

- 12.2 The League shall maintain a policy for the updating of player information on the League website.

REGULATION 13 - TRADES

- 13.1 When teams decide on the details of a trade, the trade shall be put 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 considerations shall not be made public.
- 13.2 Teams may include provisions to the terms of the trade should the player not report, however, this will not permit the player to play for the team trading him.
- 13.3 All trades must be executed through the League approved trading platform. Teams are not to release details of the trade through social media or other means until the trade has been approved by the league..
- 13.4 A player named in the trade will be automatically removed from the protected list of his former team and place on the protected list of the receiving team. Should the receiving team not have room on its protected list it shall immediately drop a player.
- 13.5 As part of any trade made between two MHL member teams, the teams shall be restricted 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.
- 13.6 When financial remuneration is involved, league shall invoice the team(s) and all money is to be paid to the league by the league approved method. The league shall rebate such remuneration to the other team in a timely manner. Should the payment not be paid by the due date the President shall notify the team. If the invoice is not paid within five (5) days of the following sanctions shall apply an immediate reduction of Protected List by two players for the remainder season and the loss of privilege adding players as well as trading or selling players until the monies have been paid.
- 13.7 All trades involving regional players between a MHL member team and a team outside of the MHL shall be signed by both parties and registered with the league for approval.
- 13.8 Once a trade in 13.7 has been registered, the League shall notify member teams of the trade, including the terms of the deal. Any regional player traded outside of the league for cash may be claimed by a member team for the dollar amount of the trade (which shall not exceed the amount specified in 13.5). Teams will have twenty four (24) hours in which to claim the player. Prior to the start of the season claiming order shall be reverse order of the previous year's standing. During the season the claiming order shall be the reverse order of the current standing

- based on percentage. A claimed player shall be added to the claiming teams 50 protected list and may not be traded outside of the league for a period of thirty (30) days. Should no team lay claim to the player the trade will be approved. A player may be claimed only once during a season.
- 13.9 When a trade has been approved, the sending team shall immediately notify the player(s) of the trade.
 - 13.10 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.
 - 13.11 The provisions of regulation 13.8 do not apply for trades which take place after January 8th in any given year.
 - 13.12 A team trading a player outside the League must remove his name from the team's 50 player Protected List.
 - 13.13 All trades are to be released by the league immediately upon approval.
 - 13.14 A player traded to a MHL team may not be released to a team outside of the MHL.
 - 13.15 There shall be no trades between December 11th and January 1st inclusive.
 - 13.16 All trades for carded players must be completed by 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, either by e-mail or fax prior to the deadline. Any trade not signed off by both parties by the deadline shall not be approved.
 - 13.17 There may be trades for non-carded players until 10 pm Feb 10th.
 - 13.18 There shall be no trades or assignment of players during February 11th to May 31st inclusive as well from June 8th until the date of the draft.
 - 13.19 A player 18 years old age or younger who is a high school student and on Junior A card cannot be traded after October 15 without permission of his parents.
 - 13.20 A full time university or community college student on a playing card with a MHL team may not be traded without his consent after January 6th of the current season.
 - 13.21 Any carded full time university or community college student not included on a January 10th Branch List may sign with the team of his choice unless such player was dropped as the result of a trade. The signing team shall pay \$2,000 to the releasing team.
 - 13.22 Any player traded during the season and on the Hockey Canada February 10 list of the receiving team shall not be traded back to the sending team either directly or indirectly until after December 1st of the following season.

- 13.23 Teams can trade players selected in both the supplemental and Under 18 drafts. Draft positions may only be exchanged in the Under 18 draft.
- 13.24 Teams cannot trade their territorial selections until August 15th following the draft in which they are selected.
- 13.25 Trades for draft picks in future years is permitted for the subsequent draft year only. Trading of future year territorial picks is not permitted as outlined in 13.24.
- 13.26 The President shall fine teams for violations of this regulation.
- 13.27 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 in non-compliance shall also be fined \$500.00.
- 13.28 The MHL shall establish an annual net cap on the dollar amounts involved in all trades.

REGULATION 14 - DRAFTING OF PLAYERS

- 14.1 The League will conduct an annual draft of graduating Under 18 players, high school players, and others as determined by the League's Regular Protected List and draft rules and Regulations.
- 14.2 The date of the draft will coincide with the date of the annual meeting of the League. Teams will be alerted to this date, by bulletin from the President, approximately three (3) months in advance. The President shall co-ordinate all draft procedures.
- 14.3 The draft is for players of Under 18 age during the past season. An under aged player may be chosen in any round as well as any territorial pick or a pick in lieu of a territorial pick. An under aged player is a player who was fifteen years old as defined by Hockey Canada birthdates as established in the past season.
- 14.4 Any player eligible to play in the League according to Hockey Canada and governing Branch rules and regulations whether registered in any previous season or not, who qualifies by age, and resides in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, or Newfoundland shall be eligible for the draft.
- 14.5 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.
- 14.6 A team must have room on the Protected List and no more than fifty (50) names protected. 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.

- 14.7 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 a loss of that selection by that member team.
- 14.8 Teams are permitted two three (3) minute timeouts during the draft.
- 14.9 Each team is allowed to make two (2) territorial draft picks. These two (2) territorial picks must be turned into the League no later than the Monday prior to the date of the League Under 18 draft and may not be changed after that date.
- 14.10 Notwithstanding 14.9 above, teams may in lieu of their territorial picks, select both of these picks at the end of the 2nd round of the draft based on the order of finish from the previous season. Should a team select one territorial pick, the team shall have one pick in lieu that will be the latter of the two picks after the second round
- 14.11 The area of selection for the territorial picks shall be as follows:
- Amherst - Cumberland County
 - Campbellton – Restigouche County
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - Miramichi – Northumberland County
 - Pictou County - Pictou County
 - West Kent– Kent County
 - Fredericton – City of Fredericton
 - Summerside - Prince County
 - Truro- Colchester County
 - Valley – Kings County
 - Yarmouth – Yarmouth County
- 14.12 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.
- 14.13 A selected player must be invited to the selecting team's training camp by prescribed form by mail or personal delivery, prior to the end of July, following the selection unless such invitation is prohibited by Branch rules. Failure to do so will result in the player becoming a free agent.
- 14.14 Any team selecting an ineligible player shall forfeit the selection in that round.
- 14.15 Teams are not permitted to select a player unless they have room on their protected list. Teams are permitted to drop players from their protected list to make room to draft a player at the Under 18 draft.

- 14.16 Should a dispute arise at the Draft Meeting regarding any player selected as to eligibility for selection, the President is empowered to make a ruling at the meeting which shall be final and non-appealable.
- 14.17 When the Draft Meeting is adjourned, and all players selected will be placed on the lists of the teams selecting them. No challenge regarding age of any selected will be considered or entertained.

REGULATION 15 - SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 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.
- 15.3 The draft shall consist of a maximum of ten rounds or until such time as all teams have passed.
- 15.4 The order of selection shall be in the reverse order of finish in the previous League season.
- 15.5 In an expansion year the expansion team(s) shall draw to determine their position in draft.
- 15.6 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.
- 15.7 Any team selecting an ineligible player shall forfeit the selection in that round.
- 15.8 The League shall, circulate a list of all currently eligible QMJHL above at least two weeks prior to the supplementary protected list draft.
- 15.9 Any player dropped from a supplementary protected list on May 1 shall be eligible for the current draft.
- 15.10 Any player released by a QMJHL team after the draft and not on a supplementary protected list shall be a free agent in the MHL.
- 15.11 Any player dropped from the Supplementary Protected list during the Supplementary Protected List draft shall be deemed as a free agent in the MHL.

REGULATION 16 - SUPPLEMENTAL PROTECTED LIST

- 16.1 Each team shall have, in addition to its regular protected list, a supplementary protected list of not more than ten (10) players.

- 16.2 Only players selected in the QMJHL Supplementary Protected List Draft shall be eligible to be on the supplementary protected list.
- 16.3 A player signed to a Junior A or affiliate card in the MHL must be removed from the team's supplementary protected list and added to the team's regular protected list.
- 16.4 Any trades involving players on the supplementary protected lists must be reported to the League office immediately.
- 16.5 There shall be no trades for positions in the draft.
- 16.6 Once the League has identifies a player to be eligible for the Supplemental 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.

REGULATION 17 - PROTECTED LISTS

- 17.1 Each member team shall have a protected list of not more than fifty (50) players at any given time, which includes goaltenders.
- 17.2 Teams shall file with the Executive member responsible up-to-date copies of their protected lists prior to the team's first league game, on June 8th and other times as requested by the League.
- 17.3 The player's full name, year of birth, regional status, position and hometown must be provided when filing a protected list with the league otherwise the list will not be accepted.
- 17.4 When a team has failed to file its protected list on the required date(s) a fine of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200) shall be assessed. Failure to file the protected list within five (5) days of the required date shall result in an additional fine of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2000) being assessed.
- 17.5 Players Eligible to be on List
 - a) Players registered with the member team and on the team's February 10th list must appear on the team's list.
 - b) A player signed to a Junior 'A' card must appear on his team's protected list prior to participating in a league game. Any player signed to a Junior A card and not added to the teams protected list shall be deemed as an ineligible player and, if he plays, the team shall be fined five hundred (500) dollars and have their 50 Player Protected List reduced by two (2) players per occurrence for the remainder of the season.
 - c) Any player previously selected or protected in any past Under 18 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.

- d) A previously drafted player.
 - e) Any player secured from another team in a deal or trade, provided there is room on the protected list of the team or teams concerned.
 - f) Any player selected in the QMJHL re-entry draft must be added to the claiming team's protected list.
 - g) Any player claimed from another team.
 - h) Any player signed as a free agent and not on the team's Feb 10 list in the year of signing shall be ineligible to remain on the list.
 - i) Any player who is not eligible to be on a team's protected list shall be removed from the list.
 - j) For all purposes other than the draft the region for the league shall be define as the four Atlantic provinces plus the Gaspé region of Quebec east of Route 185.
- 17.6 The protected list shall be reduced to forty (40) excluding the two current territorial picks, prepared by each team and registered with the President by June 8th. The President shall distribute copies of the list to all teams.

17.7 Training Camp Lists

- a) Teams may invite other players who are free agents to attend their respective training camps. 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.
- b) The standard League tryout agreement form shall be available to all teams.
- c) All tryout agreements must be registered with the League and players names be added to the training camp list of each team.
- d) 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.
- e) 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.

- f) Teams who release a player signed to the 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.
- g) Players signed to tryout agreements cannot be traded.

17.7 Violations

- a) It would be a violation if any club attempted to sign or tamper with a player selected by another club or on another team's protected list.
- b) Any challenges or complaints by member clubs will not be considered unless they are in writing and registered with the President's office, to be dealt with by the League's Executive Committee. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall decide the disposition of any charges or complaints.

REGULATION 18 - PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS

- 18.1 A majority vote by the Executive Committee shall decide the amount of penalty to be imposed for any proven violation.
- 18.2 It is agreed by League Members that any proven violation will result in a fine or fines of no less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) and no more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) being registered against the club or clubs involved, with any and all money to go into the administrative account.
- 18.3 For violations of tampering, the penalties shall be as specified at APPENDIX Q – Tampering Policy.

REGULATION 19 - AMENDMENTS

- 19.1 Proposed amendment procedure would be filing amendment with the President, outlining details and endorsed by team signing authorities, with a copy to be sent to all team members one week previous to the Annual Meeting or Special Meeting called for that purpose.
- 19.2 These rules and regulations as outlined in Protective List agreement and Draft will remain in force until amended or changed by two-thirds majority vote.

REGULATION 20 - SPECIAL DRAFT PROCEDURES

- 20.1 If a franchise in the MHL folds during the season, a dispersal draft, in the form of a lottery, will be held at that time. All transactions completed 30 days prior to a team folding are null and void.
- 20.2 In an 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 President, immediately prior to the commencement of the Selection process.



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:

Directors/Officers:

Registered mailing address for the next (12) months: _____

Fax Number for receiving information for the next 12 months: _____

E-mail address for receiving information for the next 12 months: _____

Name and contact information for Team Governor: _____

Name and contact information for Team Alternate Governor: _____

List cheque signing officers:

Signing Officers for the purpose of releasing players (minimum two):

Person(s) empowered to make trades or changes to the Protected Lists:

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 - Warm-up and Game Start Procedure

All teams are required to adhere to all Game Day requirements and procedures as established below. Failure to abide by these requirements and procedures may result in fines up to \$250.00 per infraction as determined by the league.

1. The host team is 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, office, or additional dressing room complete with two (2) tables and four (4) chairs for the visiting team's staff use 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 where wireless connectivity is not suitable, the Host team shall provide hard line internet connectivity.
 - e) Provide all necessary game equipment requirements including pucks for warm-up and two (2) bags of crushed ice.
 - f) Provide the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the Host building to the visiting team training/medical staff prior to arrival and, at a minimum, upon arrival.
 - g) In cases where host teams are planning to hold pre-game ceremonies of any nature, such activities are to be planned in such a manner 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.
 - 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.
2. 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. Teams shall be required to post their line-ups 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.

3. Game Start Procedures:

- a) Thirty (30) minutes before game time warm-up begins on a clean sheet of ice with fifteen (15) minutes set on the clock;
- b) Players are not allowed to make contact with or cross the center red line at any time during the pre-game warm-up. Teams who have players crossing the red line during warm-ups shall receive a warning from the league;
- c) With two (2) minutes left in warm-up a warning buzzer will be sounded;
- d) All players are to be off the ice at the expiration of the fifteen (15) minutes;
- e) Three (3) minutes prior to the start of the game the on ice officials will come on the ice with a warning given to the teams;
- f) All players are to be on the ice or bench two (2) minutes prior to game time for the playing of the National Anthem; During the playing of the national anthem the starting line-up only for each team, shall be at its blue line with helmets removed facing the Canadian flag;
- g) A player is to have his chin strap securely fastened during warm-up; and
- h) 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.

4. Between Period Procedures:

- a) When the players have left the ice there will be fifteen (15) minutes put on the clock for the intermission and the clock started immediately;
- b) With three (3) minutes left on the clock there will be a warning buzzer at which time all players are to proceed to the ice and their benches. The starting lineups are to take their positions for the face-off;
- c) 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; and
- d) 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).

NOTE: 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.

Appendix C - Hockey Nova Scotia Protest Regulation 13

PROTESTS:

13.7. Protests may only be made in regard to interpretations of Rules, By-laws, Regulations, Rules of Competition and Constitutional matters, not in regard to the decision of a referee or linesman.

13.8. 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.

13.9. Written Process and Protest Procedure.

1) When a protest arises in a League game and the protesting club has complied with Regulation 13.8, then within 24 hours of the completion of the game protested, a fax or written protest, signed by the President or Secretary of the protesting club, must be in the hands of the Secretary of the League and must be accompanied by the required fee per Regulation 13.3. A copy of such fax or written protest must also be served upon the protested club within 24 hours of the completion of the game protested.

2) The club protested against shall, within 48 hours after the completion of the game protested, file its defense with the Secretary of the League and a copy of such defense shall also be served on the President or Secretary of the protesting club within 48 hours after the completion of the game protested.

3) The League President shall fix a time and place for the meeting of the League Executive to consider the protest. Each of the clubs interested may have a person to present its case at the hearing of the protest.

4) An appeal shall be allowed from the decision of the League Executive to the HNS President in accordance with Regulation 13.9 - 3.

Appendix D - Overtime and Shoot-out Procedure

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 the same as those listed under the penalty shot rule.

1. The teams will not change ends for the shootout. The visiting team shall shoot first. The teams shall alternate shots.
2. 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.
3. Once the shootout begins, the goalkeeper cannot be replaced unless he is injured. No warm up shall be permitted for a substitute goalkeeper.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. There will be no timeouts called during the shootout.

Maritime Junior Hockey League

Appendix D (Cont'd) - Overtime and Shoot-out Procedure

When the numerical player strength at the end of the <u>third period</u> 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 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 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 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 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 E - QMJHL RE-ENTRY DRAFT POLICY

Any player released by a Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) team who has not been subject to the QMJHL Supplementary draft and who plays more than five games in the QMJHL after October 1 of the current season, will be subject to a Re-Entry Draft as outlined below:

- a) Placing a player's name on the list:
 - A player's name may be placed on the list by the League as the result of notification by a QMJHL team that the player has been cut; or
 - At the request of a League team, if they know that the player has been released or will not be returning to his QMJHL team.
- b) Selection Procedure:
 - The League will e-mail all teams once a player has been placed on the list.
 - The League will provide teams with all the information that is available regarding the player (e.g. phone number, address, etc.).
 - The League will advise the teams regarding the expiry of the 24 hour deadline for responses to indicate an expression of interest.
 - Teams will notify the League by e-mail or fax 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 fail to respond within the 24 hour window, it shall be deemed that they are not interested in the player.
 - After the expiration of the 24 hour window the Registrar will award the player to the highest place team that has expressed interest in the player.
 - If a team is awarded a player, his rights in the MHL shall belong to that team even if they are unable to sign the player and his name shall be placed on the team's 50 player protected list.
- c) Prior to December 1st 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 1st 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 30th. A team which has made a selection prior to December 1 which will maintain the same position in the selection order as it had prior to December 1st.
- d) In an expansion season the expansion team(s) shall draw to determine their position in the selection draft order.

- e) Once a team has used its selection the team shall be placed last in the selection order.
- f) 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 a QMJHL team.
- g) 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.
- h) There shall be no trades involving positions in the draft order.
- i) 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 F - Policy on Broadcasting Games within the League

1. MHL Teams shall video broadcast all home games on the League approved platform. The broadcast is to be accompanied by play by play.
2. Failure to broadcast a game shall result in a five hundred (\$500) dollars unless such failure was the result of an equipment breakdown, loss of feed to the approved platform.
3. If there was a breakdown in equipment during broadcasting of a game the team shall immediately notify the League Office and the Broadcaster.
4. Teams shall ensure that their Camera operator is filming during all stoppages in play, and is diligent about filming all incidents during such stoppages.
5. 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
6. Teams may sell advertising on the broadcast.
7. Team's cameras must meet league specifications.
8. All requests for radio broadcasting must be approved by the League President.
9. No team shall permit a web streaming video broadcasting or cable TV broadcasting unless such broadcasting has been approved by the League President.
10. Teams shall be fined for allowing non sanctioned broadcasting.

Appendix G - Video Review and Supplement Discipline Request Policy

1. Teams may request a video review by the league in the following circumstances:
 - a) To review an incident which led to a serious injury to a player and such injury has been documented in writing by a medical doctor;
 - b) To review an incident where there was an infraction that was not called on the play or where there was a non-major called on the play and where there is no medically documented injury provided by the team; and
 - c) To review situations where errors (by game officials have been allegedly been made.
2. Notification of request must be made to the President or his designate by 8:00 am on the day following the game with full documentation submitted within 48 hours of the completion of the game. In the case of a playoff game the 48 hours is replaced with 12:00 pm on the day after the day of the game.
3. The game video must clearly show the incident and the player must be clearly identifiable. Video must be provided by the filing team by the deadline outlined in 2 above and will consist of the following:
 - a) A clip of the incident of sufficient length (15 seconds before and 15 seconds after) to see prior and after the incident. Video must be from the Hockey TV broadcast to be accepted.
 - b) If required, the League may allow the use of video from other devices to review incidents that are not available in the Hockey TV broadcast.
 - c) The definition of the assumed infraction or identified infraction directly from the Hockey Canada Rule Book or Junior A Supplement will be outlined; and
 - d) A detailed rationale of why supplementary discipline should be issued including the key technical points outlining why the Member believes Supplemental Discipline should be issued will be outlined. In the case of when a minor infraction is called, rationale identifying why the infraction should be elevated to a Major must be included. In every request, a minimum of three key points will be provided.
4. It shall be at the sole discretion of the League to determine what suspension, if any, shall be issued.
5. The decision of the league to not do a video review is non-appealable unless such decision is against its' video review policy.
6. Should the league issue a suspension as the result of a request from a team the suspended player's team may appeal the decision as outlined in By-Law 10.4
7. The fee for filing a Supplemental Discipline Request with respect to non-calls is \$125.00 which is non-refundable. Should the League rule that supplemental

discipline is not required, the requesting team shall be invoiced an additional \$250.00.

8. The fee for filing a review with respect to an official's call is \$125.00 which is non-refundable. Should the League rule that call on the ice stands, the requesting team shall be invoiced an additional \$250.00.
9. Should the League rule that supplemental discipline is required, or if the game video is inconclusive, the team shall not be invoiced the additional \$250.00.
10. There shall be no fee for filing a Supplementary Discipline Request with respect where medical documentation has been provided. However, should the League rule that supplemental discipline is not required, the requesting team shall be invoiced \$250.00.
11. The League shall review any incident where a non-fighting major penalty has been issued, incidents where multiple fights occur or incidents which it shall deem necessary for player safety or to preserve the integrity of the league.

For insurance purposes, if a doctor's note is submitted to the League Office by a team for an injured player and if the said player is out of action for an indefinite period or a stated time period, another doctor's note must be submitted to the league office by the team giving the player a clearance to play prior to his 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 \$500, the coach suspended, and the player declared ineligible until the medical clearance is received.

Appendix H - Player Compensation Policy

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.

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.
- d) Any subsequent fees related to player movement collected by a sanctioned team shall be payable to the league.

COMPLAINT PROCESS

A team filing a complaint against another team regarding player compensation shall follow process:

- The team shall file a written complaint with the President (Template to be developed)
- The team shall supply all documentation to the President during the submission process
- Documentation may be written, text messages, emails, voice recordings etc.
- A complaint without documentation shall be dismissed
- The complaint must be accompanied by a fee of \$1500
- The team shall file a copy of the complaint with the other team

The President 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 President 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 President of the League based upon the balance of probabilities. This Report will then be distributed to the Board of Governors of the MHL

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)

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.

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.

Should a team make allegations in public about another team violating the player compensation policy that team shall be fined \$1,000.

Appendix I - Confidentiality Policy

The Executive Committee, Board of Governors, member teams and their employees, volunteers and athletes 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 President and Chairman of the Board.

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 President 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.

Breach of confidentiality shall be considered a major infraction and is cause for further sanctioning determined by a committee appointed by the League President or his designate. Teams who fail to abide by this policy shall be subject to a fine of \$2500.00.

Appendix J - Chemical Abuse Policy

FIRST OFFENSE:

1. The team(s) in question must submit a complete and detailed report of the offense to the league office as soon as possible following discovery of the offense.
2. The individual(s) involved must submit to an alcohol/drug assessment through their Provincial Addiction Services or a private agency. A written copy of the assessment must be submitted to the League Office.
3. The team(s) involved must provide an opportunity for the individual(s) involved to receive appropriate counseling and/or therapy as indicated by the assessment. Indication of same plus copies of any written reports are to be submitted to the League Office.
4. A minimum suspension of one month will be assessed the individual(s) involved, effective from the date until the League has completed its investigation of the reported incident or the date of voluntary admittance of guilt. However, if the counselor feels the player should not be allowed to return after the suspension is terminated, said counselor's recommendation as to when it would be appropriate for the player to return will be accepted.
5. The team(s) must continue to provide support for the individual(s) involved when the player(s) returns to active playing status. The individual must continue any and all after-care treatment as is recommended by the chemical abuse counselor. Should this not occur, the individual(s) involved will face immediate suspension until such a time the League Office is completely satisfied said individual(s) is following the prescribed follow-up treatments or counseling.

Support as is deemed necessary in succeeding seasons will continue for the balance of his playing career in the League.

SECOND OFFENSE

1. The team(s) in question must submit a complete, detailed report of the offense to the League Office as soon as possible following discovery of the offense.
2. The individual(s) involved will forfeit their privilege on a permanent basis to participate in the League.

TRAFFICKING

1. Should an individual be found to have drugs in his possession for the purpose of trafficking, that person will forfeit their privilege on a permanent basis to participate in the League.

VOLUNTARY ADMITTANCE

1. Should an individual(s) approach any team or league official on his own volition and admit to a chemical abuse problem, the league shall support such an individual (s) in attaining treatment or counseling for said problem.
2. The individual(s) shall not be suspended from participation within the league as long as:
 - a) The individual(s) is willing to submit to a drug/alcohol assessment and follow the sub sequent recommendation from a said assessment.
 - b) It is evident such individual(s) came forward requesting help on their own and not as a result of a related incident

APPLICABILITY

1. The Chemical Abuse Policy is to include the use/abuse of drugs and alcohol. This policy is to apply to all registered personnel, Governors, Alternate Governors, League Officers and employees, referees, and linesmen.
2. No officer or official of any member franchise may in any way make a statement or comment in public, or to any member of the press, until after the League Office has received official notice of such incident. The penalty for violation of this shall be a minimum fine of \$5,000.00.
3. Confidentiality shall be maintained in all cases being handled within the jurisdiction of this policy.

NOTE: This policy will be in effect during the period commencing with the start of fall training camps until ten (10) following a team's last regular season or play-off game whichever occurs last.

Appendix K - League Branding Policy

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:

The League Logo will be mandatory on all team apparel including and not limited to game jerseys, and team apparel (e.g. track suits, jackets);

1. League teams will wear jerseys with the League's logo at all times during the season. Teams shall be responsible to replace worn logos as required;
2. The League logo along with a link to the league website shall be located on each member team's official website;
3. The League Sponsorship and Branding shall hold the copyrights to the thirty (30) second time outs. Teams are not permitted to sell this property;
4. All player profiles including pictures and up to date roster information is mandatory for all League and team websites; and
5. League games will be broadcasted on Fast Hockey (all games) and Eastlink TV only. (See Broadcasting Policy)

Appendix L - Educational Policy

The League consists of twelve (12) teams throughout the Maritime Provinces. The League consist of approximately two hundred seventy (280) players ranging from sixteen (16) to twenty (20) years of age, aiming for the heights of levels of hockey, while pursuing high school, university or community college education.

An Education Policy informs the players about their rights and obligations when studying and playing in the MHL. The parents are also made aware by teams that their sons need their support while they further their education.

1. All teams are responsible to:
 - a) Organize player educational pathways and opportunities and developing all necessary partnerships to create, educational schooling options to enable players to pursue their studies successfully;
 - b) Ensure, before recruiting a player through a draft or a trade, that it has all the necessary resources to allow him to continue his studies;
 - c) Place a priority on to registering players for courses in the typical classroom setting, where a local educational institution can accommodate them. Enrolment in distance learning courses should only be considered as a secondary option when they are the only ones available, with the exception of special circumstances;
 - d) Ensure follow-up with the player until the end of the school year.
 - e) Taking into account the special schooling context in junior hockey, League teams shall develop and maintain partnerships that will:
 - i) Increase access to distance learning, when necessary;
 - ii) Make it easier for the harmonization of the organization and the operation of involved educational establishments;
 - iii) Allow some flexibility for accommodation of special cases (e.g. nineteen (19) and twenty (20) year olds who are more involved in their communities, f not taking a course); and
 - iv) Minimize the schooling problems that are inherent in the case of a player being traded to another team.

Appendix M - Social Media Policy

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 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:

- 1) Teams are required to assign qualified personnel to manage all of their social media accounts;
- 2) 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;
- 3) Teams shall ensure that their respective websites include the following information at a minimum.
 - a) News items related to both the team and the League;
 - b) Team contact information (executive, hockey/ administrative personnel, etc.);
 - c) New player acquisitions (trades, free agents, drafted players);
 - d) Billet information;
 - e) Ticket sales;
 - f) Schedule;
 - g) Standings;
 - h) Roster;
 - i) Hockey TV information; and
 - j) Linkage to Twitter and Facebook accounts.
- 4) Teams are also encouraged to include the following information on their websites:
 - a) Team apparel sales/merchandise sales;
 - b) Education Policy;
 - c) Team newsletter;
 - d) Venue and parking information;
 - e) Alumni;
 - f) Community involvement;
 - g) Sponsorship opportunities and fundraising initiatives;
 - h) Fan zone;
 - i) 50/50 draw;
 - j) Player of the week and other team awards; and
 - k) Team history/vision and values.
- 5) 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. This includes adding

any new player within 48 hours of adding the player to the team roster including the 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. In addition, all roster information for the player including hometown, height, weight, shot and date of birth must be completed. Affiliate players on team rosters do not require photos but must include the roster information.

- 6) Team Twitter and Facebook accounts are required to post information that is consistent with the information being posted to their websites their websites and twitter accounts; and
- 7) Failure to meet these requirements will result in a fine of \$ 250.00 to the offending team.

Social Media Behavior

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.

Social Media Guidelines

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:

- 1) 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.
- 2) 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;
- 3) Refrain from divulging confidential information of a personal or team related nature. 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.
- 4) 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.

- 5) 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.

Social Media Violations

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.

- 1) 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.
- 2) 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); or
 - V. Any other matter of a sensitive nature to a member of a team, league or an individual.
- 3) Negative or derogatory comments about any team, league, League staff, volunteers, programs, stakeholder, players or any member.
- 4) Any form of bullying, harassment or threats against players or officials.
- 5) Photographs, video or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior, including but not limited to:
 - I. Drug use;
 - II. Alcohol abuse;
 - III. Public intoxication;
 - IV. Hazing;
 - V. Sexual exploitation; etc.
- 6) Online activity that contradicts the current policies of the Canadian Junior Hockey League, Hockey Canada, or the League.
- 7) Inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments of any kind, in keeping with Hockey Nova Scotia policies and regulations on these matters.
- 8) Online activity that is meant to alarm other individuals or to misrepresent fact or truth.

Disciplinary Action

When a complaint is filed that may be in violation of this social media policy, 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 N - Player Registration Fees

1. The initial registration fee due date shall be October 1st annually for players on team rosters at that time.
2. Payment of the fee shall be as follows:
 - a) 100% of the fees shall be payable by the date established by the league;
 - b) Fees are payable to the Maritime Junior Hockey League and shall be paid in the form of a secured money instrument (e.g. certified cheque, money order, bank draft, credit card, Pay Pal, etc.) as established by the league;
 - c) Cash and team cheques are not acceptable for registration fees.
3. All players shall register using the League's established online process.
4. 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 2nd.
5. Teams shall notify the League of any player on their team who enters the league after the initial registration due date (October 1st). Any such player shall pay his fees within forty eight (48) hours from the date of playing his first game. Failure to do so 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. It shall be the team's responsibility to determine if a player's registration fee has been paid.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. Should the player be released or traded outside the League, the player will receive a refund of the registration fee, on a pro-rated basis, calculated in relation to the number of regular season games remaining for the League team.
12. Should the player resign from the team, the player will receive a refund of the registration fee, on a pro-rated basis, calculated in relation to the date the player is released on the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) from the League team.

13. Players who resign from the team after the January 10th shall not be entitled to a refund, unless such resignation is the result of season ending injury. In any case where the resignation results from injury, medical evidence of the season ending injury shall be provided by a recognized medical authority prior to any refund.
14. Players who are traded or released, who have been refunded registration fees by the team to whom the registration was 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.
15. Responsibility for payment of refunds rests solely with the applicable team and teams are required to advise the League of all refunds promptly. The League is not responsible for refunds.
16. It shall be the responsibility of the player's team to provide the refund to the player's parent(s) and such payment is to be made within seven (7) days of the trade or release. Should the refund not be paid within the required time period, the team shall be fined \$1000.00.

Appendix O –Confederation Bridge Closure

Should the Confederation Bridge be closed to high sided vehicles due to high winds and not inclement weather, Summerside will coordinate shuttle service for the travelling team with both teams splitting the cost to a maximum of \$300 per team (when the game is scheduled in Summerside). When the game is on the mainland and the bridge is closed Summerside will make every attempt to arrange transportation to the game. In situations where Summerside is required to shuttle across the bridge to a waiting bus on the mainland the home team will cover half of the expense up to a maximum of \$300.

Appendix P – Discipline

1. All league teams shall abide by the Canadian Junior Hockey League's (CJHL) Minimum Suspension Guidelines. NOTE: Additional suspensions may be imposed wherever conditions and circumstances warrant.
2. It is the responsibility of each Team Manager and/or Coach to ensure that his players sit out their appropriate suspensions. When in doubt as to the relevant suspensions, contact the League Disciplinary Officer, or his delegate.
3. In addition to the CJHL's Minimum Suspensions Guidelines, the league shall impose specific disciplinary guidelines as specified in paragraphs 4 and 5.
4. Any of the following infractions 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	49	Hair Pulling	3 games
Match	49	Grabbing Face Masks/Visor	3 games
Match	49	Spearing	3 games
Match	49	Butt Ending	3 games
Match	49	Kicking	3 games
Match	49	Head Butting	3 games
Match	49	Deliberate attempt to injure not covered above	3 games

5. The suspensions for other match penalties not mentioned above shall be:

Type	Rule	Penalty	Suspension
Match	79 (d)	Slashing	3 games
Match	62 (c)	High Sticking	3 games
Match	54 (d)	Cross Checking	3 games

Note: When an injury occurs in any Match Penalty situation the player receiving the penalty shall be suspended indefinitely pending a review by the League Disciplinary Committee.

6. Any player or team official receiving a Gross Misconduct for Discrimination under Rule 11.4 shall be suspended indefinitely pending a hearing with a minimum 5 game suspension.
7. 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.

8. 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.
9. 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 as follows:
 - 1) Fourth fighting major - Coach suspended for the first (1) regular season game;
 - 2) Fifth fighting major - Coach suspended for the first two (2) regular season games;
 - 3) Sixth fighting major - Coach suspended for the first three (3) regular season games; and
 - 4) Seventh fighting major - 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.)

10. Any Coach, Player or Team Official who makes derogatory remarks in public or through the media regarding the Branch, League or Officials may be fined two hundred (\$200) dollars.
11. All players must wear game jerseys that have a tie-down strap attached. Players failing to do so will receive a fine of \$50.00 in addition to any additional penalties that may be warranted. This fine also applies to a player who deliberately removes his elbow pads when engaging in a fight.
12. All coaches or team officials under suspension for any reason shall not be allowed in the dressing room or players 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 corner of the arena furthest from his teams bench until the suspension is served. Any violation will result in an additional suspension to the coach and the team shall be fined \$1000.00. "Coach" means Head Coach or his designate - If the

Head Coach is under suspension or not present. All fines, with the possible exception of that for derogatory remarks, shall be payable to the League.

13. The Maritime Junior Hockey League has banned the use of all tobacco products (including chewing tobacco) at all MHL events. This includes all practices, game situations and travel to and from games.

Appendix Q – Tampering Policy

- 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.
- 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).
- 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).
- 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.
- 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.

- 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 President 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;
 - c) Any complaint must be accompanied by a fee of \$1000.00 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.

- 7) Once the President 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 President and approved by the League's Board of Governors. In addition, the President shall notify the team and/or member against whom the allegation has been laid, within forty-eight (48) hours, of the pending investigation. The President shall solicit a written response from the accused member that must be filed with the President within forty-eight (48) hours of the request.
- 8) Once the investigator takes ownership of the complaint file, the President 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 \$1000.00 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.
- 9) Upon completion of any investigation, the third party investigator shall provide a written report of his findings to the President including his/her recommendations based upon balance of probability and evidence collected. The President 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 \$1,000.00.
- 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.