

Annapolis Valley Minor Hockey League

CONSTITUTION

REGULATIONS

RULES OF COMPETITION

Revised: March 2008

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

MEMORANDAM OF ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1: NAME

This Organization shall be called the “**Annapolis Valley Minor Hockey League**”, and shall be referred to herein as the “**League**”.

ARTICLE 2: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of the League shall be:

1. To conduct, foster, promote, organize and initiate actions for the provision of Minor Hockey in the community.
2. To provide an organized healthy recreational program for all youth of minor age of The Annapolis Valley with youth of their own calibre.
3. To conduct play-offs whenever feasible to determine championship teams in each of the divisions under the jurisdiction of the League.
4. To cooperate with other Minor Hockey Associations to organize a program of competitive play.
5. To comply with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of Hockey Nova Scotia in conjunction with the Local Associations and the Canadian Hockey Association.
6. To provide a league for recreational teams from Western Valley Minor Hockey Association, Acadia Minor Hockey Association, and West Hants Minor Hockey Association and others agreed by majority vote at the beginning of each season.

ARTICLE 3: EXECUTIVE

- a) The league shall include equal representation from each association, consisting of a minimum of one representative for each association. Each representative will be a Director of the League.
- b) The directors shall elect a President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Ice Chairman each year.
- c) Meetings. The executive will endeavour to hold monthly meetings during the hockey season with additional meetings as deemed necessary. The President will chair each meeting, or in his or her absence, another director may chair the meeting as agreed by the members present.
- c) Voting: All decisions will be decided by a majority vote. Each director including the President will have one vote with the meeting chairman holding one additional vote for tie breaking.

There shall be a Division Coordinator for each level of teams (ie Atom, Peewee, etc.). The Division Coordinators shall oversee teams from Kingston to the west, and the Eastern Conference Coordinator shall oversee teams east of Kingston

- d) All members of the executive report to their Association President.
- e) All Association executive members, coaches or representatives of the Association Officials can attend any meeting of the league.
- f) Association Presidents can, at the request of their association board of directors, have their league representative removed from the league and find a suitable replacement as soon as possible.
- g) A constitutional change must be a unanimous vote by the executive.
- h) A bank account will be maintained for the League's finances. Three signing officers for the bank account will be appointed, consisting of the President, Treasurer and one other Director. At least two signatures will be required on all cheques or any withdrawals on the bank account.
- i) The Treasurer will submit an interim statement of the League's finances at each meeting.

ARTICLE 4: TEAMS

The league is open to all recreational minor hockey teams that play non-contact hockey and are registered in the member Associations, providing there are a minimum of 4 teams in the each division.

ARTICLE 5: TEAM COMPETITIVENESS

- a) If there is more than one team per division per local area, every effort shall be made by the Associations to ensure that the teams are of equal calibre. There will be no team stacking.
- b) The league executive can request that teams be re-evaluated during the year if they feel teams are not equal.

ARTICLE 6: INITIATION OF FAIR PLAY PROGRAMS

All teams in the league are recreational and during the regular season there should be no shortening of the bench. Only in a playoff situation with the game on the line will there be any special lines permitted.

ARTICLE 7: TEAM REGISTRATION

- a) All teams must pay a per child registration fee to enter the league. The executive will determine the registration fee at the beginning of each season.
- b) Every effort will be made to secure sponsors to keep registration costs down.

ARTICLE 8: SCHEDULING

- 1. All associations involved with the league shall provide one game time per team per week.
- 2. The league shall use the ice for league games, or permit teams to use it outside the league or for practice ice.
- 3. All games will be scheduled by the league executive and the league may substitute ice times for different divisions or teams.
- 4. The league will provide all associations with the league schedule.

5. The Ice Chairman may use the ice time as necessary to schedule any league game, for any level (ie. Atom, Pee wee, Bantam, etc.) It will be understood that in some cases, levels may have to trade or give up their ice time to make the schedules work.

ARTICLE 9: RULES OF PLAY

1. The league shall follow the rules of Hockey Nova Scotia and the Canadian Hockey Association with the following additions:
 1. Any player that has been assessed three (3) penalties of any kind in a game shall be ejected for the remainder of the game.
 2. Each game will have a two (2) minute warm-up and a minimum of 3, 15 minute run time periods. If the game is called due to lack of ice time the score will remain as it was at the end of the game.
 3. If a game cannot be played due to lack of referees, time keepers or any other reason that is the responsibility and under the control of the home team, the game will be declared a forfeit, with the visiting team declared the winner by a score of 5-0.
 4. If either team does not show up with a minimum of 7 skaters and a goalie, the game will be declared a forfeit with the offending team declared the loser and the score recorded as 5-0.
 5. If a game cannot be played due to any other reason that is beyond the control of either team, it will be cancelled and recorded as not being played.
 6. Teams may try to reschedule cancelled or forfeited games, but it will be their responsibility to find available ice time and both teams must agree to play the rescheduled game. If a forfeited game is replayed, the score of the game that was played will be recorded as the result.
 7. A team will be awarded two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie and no points for a loss.
 8. There is no overtime in the regular season.
 9. The team in each division with the highest number of points at the end of the regular season will be awarded the AVMHL championship banner for their level.

ARTICLE 10: PLAYOFFS

1. Playoffs will commence no later than the last Saturday of January and will follow a simple round robin format.
2. In all playoff games, if there is a 2 goal differential or less, the last 2 minutes of regulation time will be stop time.
3. Each team in the conference will play each other once. If there is only one conference in any level, the top four teams will be eligible to move on and playoff for the championship. Two points will be awarded for a win, one point to each team for a tie, and no points for a loss.

4. In the event of a tie in the round robin standings, the following tie-breaking rules will apply:
 - a. Winner of the game between the two tied teams;
 - b. Plus/minus – goals for minus goals against in all games played;
 - c. Most goals for during the round robin;
 - d. Fewest goals against during round robin;
 - e. Flip of a coin.
5. At end of round-robin, the team with the highest number of points will play a best two out of three series against the second place team for gold and silver, and #3 will play a best two out of three series against #4 for the bronze. If there are 2 divisions, the top team in each division will play against each for the gold medal, and #2 plays against #2 for the bronze medal.
6. All conference playoffs must be completed by March 15.
7. **In the Final Medal Rounds only**, If a game is tied at the end of three periods of play the teams will remain on the ice in the same ends for a five (5) minute sudden death, overtime period.
8. If the score is still tied when the overtime is completed, teams will do a three (3) person shoot out. If the score remains tied after the shootout it will go to a one (1) person shootout until a winner is determined.
9. The team winning the best two out of three gold medal series will be presented with AVMHL gold medals and the losing team will be presented AVMHL silver medals. In addition, the gold medal winning team will be presented the AVMHL championship trophy for their level. The team name will be engraved on the trophy and they will have the trophy for display in their home arena for a period of one year. The trophy must then be returned to the league executive to be awarded in the following season.
10. The team winning the best two out of three bronze medal series will be presented AVMHL bronze medals.

ARTICLE 11: VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR.

The executive will call for nominations each year for candidates to be considered for the Volunteer of the Year award. The executive will review information submitted regarding each candidate and vote to choose the recipient of this award. The Volunteer of the Year trophy will be engraved with the successful candidate's name and presented at a year end party or other appropriate time. The winner of this award will hold the trophy for display for a period of one year, at which time it is to be returned to the League to be awarded in the next season.

ARTICLE 12: FISCAL YEAR END.

The Fiscal Year of the League shall end on April 30th of each year.

The Treasurer shall make a written report to the Associations at their respective Annual General Meetings. This report will advise the membership on the financial status of the League as of April 30th and the results of Operations for the year then ended. The report will include a balance sheet and statement of Revenues and Expenditures.

REGULATIONS

1. Eligibility of Players

To be eligible a player must:

- a) Be a resident of the designated area of the Association or eligibility to be approved according to CHA and NSMHC rules.
- b) Be registered with the Association and has paid the annual registration fees.

2. Travel and Game sheets

- a) Teams do not need a travel permit to play league games.
- b) One or both of the Association's directors will collect game results each week and submit them as soon as possible to the person in charge of statistics for the League.
- c) Teams must, at the request of the League, provide copies of their game sheets to the President or other director appointed by the Executive.

3. Playing Rules

NSMHC Rules shall govern play in hockey.

4. Infractions

Suspensions will be in accordance with NSMHC code of discipline.

5. Player Registration

- a) Player registration fees shall be determined each year by the Executive.
- b) Fees must be collected from each participating team by the Association representative(s) and submitted to the League Treasurer by December 1st.
- c) Rosters for each registered team, including the coaches names and contact information, player names and player numbers of all participants must be collected by the Association representative(s) and submitted to the League by November 1st. Any changes to the team rosters throughout the year must be submitted in writing to the League. There will be no player additions allowed after January 15th.
- d) Teams may affiliate players from other levels according to Hockey Nova Scotia and Hockey Canada rules. The affiliated player must be shown on the team's roster and a registration fee paid if the player will remain with the team for the full season. After January 15 of each year, the following conditions apply:
 - a. Teams can only affiliate a goalie or enough skaters to meet the minimum roster requirements of the League, to replace their own player(s) if absent due to injury, suspension or leaving their home association permanently for any reason;

- e) Any player who withdraws from, or is disqualified by the Executive will be eligible for a refund of registration fees on a prorated basis. There will be no refund of registration fees after December 30 of each playing season.

6. Other

Matters not covered by the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations or Rules are to be referred to the Executive for decision.

Appendix A

- a) If the coach or his representative cancels a game, they must notify the Conference Coordinator or referees, at least two (2) hours prior to game time (acts of God, rink closures, etc., are exempt) or they will be charged referee costs.
- b) League Play comes first, if a team misses playoffs for a tournament the Executive will review the implications of the scheduling problem created, and may require the offending team to provide ice time at their expense, to reschedule any missed playoff games.