

OKANAGAN MAINLINE
AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



POLICY

AUGUST 2023

OMAHA reserves the right to amend the OMAHA Policies at any time by advising of the amended terms to the membership. All amended terms shall automatically be effective 15 days after they are initially distributed by a bulletin.

POLICY MANUAL



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SECTION 1: DISTRICT POLICY

1.01 ALCOHOL & TOBACCO ADVERTISING

REFER TO BC HOCKEY POLICY 4.06.9

1.02 DOPING CONTROL

REFER TO BC HOCKEY POLICY 4.06.6

1.03 AFFILIATION

OMAHA minor hockey players must be registered with a BC Hockey registered Association (Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 Tier 4, Female, and Recreation) to be eligible to affiliate to a higher category or division team. All players shall be registered as an affiliate player as per HC/BCH regulations prior to participation with his/her affiliate team in any Exhibition, Tournament, OMAHA League or OMAHA Playoff games -Refer to HC Reg. F.

1.04 MINOR HOCKEY TIER DESIGNATIONS

The registration numbers determining tier designation will be reviewed every third year. This review will be done by a Committee chaired by the BC Hockey Minor Hockey Chairperson.

1. All OMAHA Associations will have two dates to submit their declaration for participation in league play based on their tiering designation.
2. OMAHA prefers, if at all possible, not to run leagues consisting of 3 teams or less. Should there be 3 teams or less, teams will confirm in writing that they will remain in their designated league declaration, they will then have the opportunity to return to their declared league for playoffs. Should they request to play up, they must make their intent to participate at the higher level for league at the time of final declaration in writing.
3. Any requests to participate in a higher league for the season, must be submitted in writing declaring their intent to participate in the higher division for the upcoming season and remain there for playoffs.
4. No changes will be done to declarations after Wednesday prior to scheduling meetings

1.05 – OVERAGE PLAYERS IN RECREATIONAL LEAGUE/PROGRAMS

There are no overage players on Tiered/Carded Teams.

1. Refer to BC Hockey Policy 9.10 for guidelines
2. At all levels of hockey, the overage player is limited to a maximum of one (1) year older than the upper age limit of the lower division.
3. Teams will be limited to a maximum of 2 overage players. (excluding goaltenders). If an Association finds itself with more than 2 Overage players, a request for an exemption must be submitted by the Association President indicating the reason(s) as for this request. If more than two(2) Overage Players are approved to play on a team, OMAHA District Office will advise those Associations who have a team (s) playing in the same league. A team with more than the approved 2 players are eligible for league and playoff games,

4. If a team has more than 2 Overage Players, then the team, in any game play, is only permitted two (2) on the ice at any one time. Should a team use more than 2 Overage Players at any one time on the ice, the team could face forfeiture of the game including playoff games.

5. Requests for overage players on a team must be submitted to the acting OMAHA District Registrar for disbursement in regards to approval or denial.. All requests are to be submitted on the OMAHA Overage Player Request form. At the U18 level, a Code of Conduct form must accompany the Overage Player Request. Should the review of the U18 OA indicate questionable performance, then the High Risk Notice letter will have to be completed and submitted.

6. Should an overage player be rostered to a team or participates with a team prior to District approval being sought and given, the player will be deemed “Ineligible”. (Refer to BCH Reg 8 and OMAHA Reg. 3000).

7. OMAHA reserves the right to rescind approval based on a review of the player’s performance.

8. Should an overage player serving a penalty with 2 overage players on the ice already, must go straight to the bench without participating in the play or could face suspension.+

1.06 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS: RESIDENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

REFER TO BC HOCKEY POLICY 9.05

OMAHA Procedure:

The following documentation must be obtained and loaded up to all Move With Parent transfer Requests in addition to a completed OMAHA Move With Parent Form, the following must be obtained:

MANDATORY DOCUMENTATION

1. Birth Certificate
2. Purchase, lease or tenancy agreement

3 of the following Residency documents must be obtained:

1. Utility bill showing parent(s) name and new address
2. Canada Post Change of Address
- 3 School Registration
- 4 Driver’s Licence showing parent(s) name and new address

1.07 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS: NON-CANADIAN CITIZENS

REFER TO BC HOCKEY POLICY 9.07

1.08 RESIDENTIAL WAIVERS

1. Residential Waiver-Carded

- a) Should a player’s Residential Home Association NOT have a Tier 1, 2, 3 or 4 team, the player may tryout in an adjacent Association. For Tier 1, a “permission to tryout” form must be submitted to OMAHA Central Office.
- b) For Tier 2, 3 or 4, a Residential Waiver-Carded form must be completed, submitted to the adjacent Association who will initiate a Residential Waiver transfer request on the HCR once the player is selected to participate. The RW-Carded form is then uploaded to the transfer request..
- c) Should the player NOT be selected for a carded/rep team, the player will then return to their Home Association.
- d) As per BCH Reg 4.7 b) – will be permitted to affiliate players from all Minor Hockey Associations from which they have registered players in the division they have accepted players from; unless a categorization exemption has been granted under this Regulation 4.

2. Residential Waiver-Recreation
 - a) Residential Waiver-Recreation form must be completed and submitted to uploaded to the HCR transfer request.
 - b) NO participation is allowed until the HCR transfer request has been reviewed, approved and the player's profile is in the New Association's database.

3. Residential Waiver-Waitlist and Other (Refer to OMAHA Policy 1.13)
 - a) These transfer types will be dealt with on an individual basis.
 - b) OMAHA acting District Registrar will advise as to proper procedure and the documentation required.

4. All Residential Waiver transfer requests

On ALL Residential Waiver forms, the Home Association President must verify that the Association will not be having a team in the player's specific age division and category.

**1.09 TOURNAMENTS
REFER TO BC HOCKEY REGULATION 3**

OMAHA Procedure

All League and Playoff games take precedence over tournament games. At the discretion of the Division Director and President a League Game commitment may be fulfilled by a tournament game. Specific criteria may be applied to satisfy individual applications to the Director. All teams participating in tournaments or exhibition games outside of the District must request a Travel Sanction number prior to their participation. ALL TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN A TOURNAMENT WITHIN OMAHA, MUST PROVIDE TO THE HOST ASSOCIATION, A "PERMISSION TO TRAVEL" NUMBER OR APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION FROM THEIR APPLICABLE DISTRICT WHICH INDICATES APPROVAL GIVEN.

1.10 CASH PRIZES

The awarding of cash prizes at minor hockey tournaments shall be prohibited.

**1.11 TRANSFERRING OF GOALTENDERS FROM ANOTHER ASSOCIATION FOR REGISTRATION ON CARDED TEAMS
Refer to BCH Policy 9.08**

Where an association, for whatever reason, does not have a goaltender or a second goaltender; then that association can apply to their BC Hockey Minor Operations Task Group member to register another goaltender or goaltenders from the next nearest association in their District. The BC Hockey Minor Operations Task Group member will then canvas to obtain a goaltender or goaltenders. The requesting Association is NOT to solicit a Goaltender(s) from other Associations. Once this is done the following approvals must be obtained:

- a) Written request from the Association asking permission to pick up a goaltender or goaltenders and the reason why.
- b) Letter from the association the named goaltender(s) are coming from giving permission for this move.
- c) Letter from parents of the named goaltender(s) giving their permission for this move.
- d) Letter of support / non-support from the District President.
- e) Letter of support / non-support from their BC Hockey Minor Operations Task Group member.

The above shall be sent to the BC Hockey Minor Operations Task Group member.

*The intent of this policy is not to penalize teams who wish to card but are unable to because of no goaltender. It should also be understood that the goaltender being picked up not be necessarily the best available goaltender in their District and does not allow an association to ignore an eligible goaltender from their own association because of questionable assumptions

Within OMAHA, the above policy & procedure is followed for Recreational teams.

1.12 OMAHA PLAYER RELIEF

If a minor hockey team finds itself without sufficient players for a league or playoff game(s), it may apply to OMAHA Central Office for player relief. The request must be submitted to OMAHA Central office 72 hours prior to the game(s) occurring. All requests must be signed by one of the team's signing officers and include written permission from the proposed replacement player's team. Signing officers for minor hockey teams are generally the president/secretary/registrar. Teams must use their rostered players or affiliates prior to requesting relief.

CRITERIA:

1. Carded/Rep teams must have 15 or fewer skaters for a league or playoff game. May add Relief players up to the number rostered on the team
2. Recreational teams must have 12 or fewer skaters for a league, playoff or exhibition game. May add Relief players up to the number rostered on the team
3. Replacement/Relief player must be of equal or comparable caliber
4. Must have 10 minimum affiliated players if applicable. Player cannot be used two consecutive games unless in tournaments

1.13 WAIT LIST POLICY

REFER TO BC HOCKEY POLICY 9.09

1. Minor Hockey Associations must register all participants who have been placed on a wait list via the HCR. Registrants are to be placed in order of their registration date as openings become available.
2. Registration openings are to be made available to wait-listed players on a chronological criterion (i.e. when an open spot becomes available, it shall be offered to the wait-listed player who registered earliest).
3. Minor Hockey Associations who have players currently registered on a wait-list may not accept a player by way of residential waiver.
4. Minor Hockey Associations must submit to OMAHA their intent as to the maximum number of players to be registered to recreational teams in each Division.

1.14 OVERSIZE TEAM POLICY

1. This policy pertains to Recreational teams only.
2. The maximum allowed will be:
 - a) U15 and below – 23
 - b) U18 – 25
3. The request must be submitted to the District President and District Registrar on Association letterhead signed by the Association President indicating the following:
 - a) the reason(s)
 - b) the Division
 - c) number of players over the maximum 19 allowed by Hockey Canada and names of players to be registered to the team
4. No overage players will be allowed on oversize teams
5. Request will be reviewed by a committee of the District President, District Registrar and the applicable Divisional Director

1.15 MINOR HOCKEY MOVES AFTER JANUARY 10

A player of minor hockey age who changes residence after January 10 may transfer to a new association for the balance of the season. A player so registering shall be eligible for tournament or exhibition play but shall not be eligible to participate in OMAHA League of District Playoffs which lead to BC Hockey Championships.

1.16 RECREATIONAL TOURNAMENT TEAMS REFER TO BC HOCKEY POLICY 7.13

1.17 REQUEST FOR RECREATIONAL TOURNAMENT PLAYER REPLACEMENT/RELIEF REFER TO BC HOCKEY POLICY 7.12

OMAHA District shall allow for the playing of replacement relief recreational players in accordance with the BC Hockey Policy as noted.

1.18 LEAGUES AND PLAYOFFS

a) OMAHA Teams will declare their intent to participate in Leagues through a series of declarations. The final declaration will be utilized to determine the individual league structures.

- Participation in leagues will be confirmed in September of each playing season no later than the Scheduling Meeting.

- Should a tiering weekend take place, all guest teams are to attend

- The OMAHA Administrator will circulate the final declarations to the membership prior to the Scheduling Meeting (guest teams included)

- The President, Directors and OMAHA Administrator will set out the structure and preside over the Scheduling Meeting.

- Teams withdrawing or requesting to change Tiers after the scheduling meeting will result in a fine of \$250 should the request be granted.

Teams required to change tiers as a result of BC Hockey tiering decisions will continue to play league games in their existing Tier and carry their win/loss percentage to the new Tier for playoff seeding(pending on review/approval of the OMAHA Executive). No fine will apply

b)Applications from non OMAHA members to participate in OMAHA Leagues may be accepted and are to be ratified at the Annual General Meeting each year.

- Guest Teams will have a \$1000.00 fee levy to offset the administrative expenses of the League and web site.

c) Changes to Carded/Rep scheduled league games will be done in writing on OMAHA Game Change Form. A \$50.00 fee (if both Associations agree), will be assessed for changes to the scheduled date of the game, after the expiration of the grace period to be determined on a yearly basis. No fee will be charged for time, location or date changes between more than one team in an association participating in the same league. Game changes for Recreation will be assessed a \$25.00 fee.

d) Playoff games will be determined and announced at the Semi-Annual Meeting.

1.19 U7/U9

U7

All half ice or modified ice (Cross ice) games only, with 25 games max per year includes exhibition, tournament and jamborees. No jamborees/tournaments before January 01st.

Phase 1 - No games - no games – from start of season to November 01st

Phase 2 - 3/1 practice to game ratio - starts November 01st

Phase 3 - 2/1 practice to game ratio - starts January 01st

U9

Cross ice or half ice until Feb, 01st. 40 games maximum includes exhibition, regular season, tournaments. Full ice February 01st. No full ice tournaments before February 01st.

Phase 1 - No games - from start of season to November 01st

Phase 2 - 2/1 practice to game ratio - starts November 01st

Phase 3 - 1/1 practice to game ratio - starts January 01st

1.20 U11 RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. TEAM REGISTRATION

a) League may consist of 2 Conferences/4 Divisions – Koteles Conference, Berg/Fisher Division A, Strachan/Jamieson Division B and Michie Conference Adolphe Division C, Henderson Division D (Michie is pronounced Mickey and Koteles is pronounced Koe-tell-less)

b) OMAHA Chair and Regional Manager decision shall be final and binding for disputes pertaining to and conference seeding.

c) Any association registering greater than 175 players at the U11 Development level must have 1 team declared in the A Division

2. CONDUCT

a) OMAHA U11 Recreational Development League promotes fair ice time and the concept of player development.

b) Team Parents, Officials and Players are required to read, sign and honor the BC Hockey Code of Conduct Contracts.

c) The OMAHA Operations Manager shall monitor player and team conduct and those not compliant shall be notified through their President of any disciplinary action to be taken.

d) Disputes brought to the attention of the OMAHA Operations Manager shall be addressed through the Operations Manager and the Association President.

3. DECLARATION AND LEAGUE

a) The league may be split into Four Divisions -Berg/Fisher, Strachan/Jamieson, Adolphe and Henderson. First declarations shall be completed by Labour Day and forwarded to OMAHA Central Office

Final declarations shall be submitted no later than 5:00 pm, the Sunday prior to league scheduling. Any exhibition game information must be sent to OMAHA Central Office who will provide the information to the Operations Manager and OMAHA Chair

b) OMAHA U11 Recreational Development league play will commence the weekend following the scheduling meeting and be completed by the last weekend prior to playoffs.

4. DECLARATION AND LEAGUE

- a) The following OMAHA regulations shall apply:
 - i. Regulation 3 - Playing Regulation
 - ii. Regulation 4 - Default of Game
 - iii. Regulation 5 - Penalties
 - iv. Regulation 10 - Discipline
 - v. Regulation 11 - Protests

- b) League and Playoff games shall be a minimum of 1.5 hours (90 minutes) in duration. A minimum 2-man officiating system is required. Games will consist of 3 - 20 minute periods. First half running time, second half stop time. Time outs are not permitted, ice cleans are discretionary depending on ice time allotted for the game. Penalties will be 3 minutes running time and 2 minute stop time.

- c) Statistical information from the completed game sheet is to be entered into the OMAHA electronic game sheet within 24 hours of the completion of the game. A \$25.00 fine shall be assessed to the home team for data not entered as per the Regulation 3003.

5. PLAYOFFS

Recreation - In order to be eligible to compete in playoffs a team must have a Qualified Head Coach and Qualified Safety Person refer to BC Hockey Reg. 3.3

Carded - . In order to be eligible to compete in playoffs a team must have a Qualified Head Coach and Qualified Safety Person refer to BC Hockey Reg 3.1

6. POINTS FOR GAMES ALLOCATED ON THE BASIS OF

- Win - 2 points
- Tie - 1 points
- Loss - 0 points

7. DEFAULT OF GAME

- a. if a team fails to prevent itself at the time and date appointed to start any scheduled game, unless such failure is caused by an unavoidable accident or unforeseen circumstances, the offending team shall be liable for a fine of \$250
- b. any game cancellation must be made minimum 12 hours prior to the game taking place. Should the game be cancelled after that time frame, the team could face officiating costs and ice costs should the home team not be able to cancel on short notice.
- c. any team cancelling a game due to weather, must prove that there was a travel advisory to avoid any fines that are assessed
- d. should the schedule permit, games should be re-scheduled to an agreed date.
- e. this applies to all levels of hockey within OMAHA.

1.22 RECREATION LEAGUE RULES.

OMAHA Recreational Playing Rules

All games will be played under Hockey Canada, BC Hockey, and OMAHA rules, regulations and policies. There is no restriction on number of goals a player can score.

GAME FORMAT (minimum standard)

Priority must be given to league games. See OMAHA Regulation Four for violation of this rule.

All periods are 20 minutes in duration. ***There are no time outs during league play.***

U11 and U13

1 hour 30 minutes - The first period and to the 10 minute mark of the 2nd period as straight time the remaining 10 minutes as stop time. The 3rd period 20 minutes stop time.

There are no ice cleans.

U15 and U18

1 hour 45 Minutes -First period and to the 10 minute mark of the 2nd period as straight time the remaining 10 minutes as stop time. The 3rd period 20 minutes stop time.

One ice clean 1/2 way through game.

Running time periods will be 3 minute penalties and stop time will be 2 minute penalties.

Other Game Formats are based on available ice times.

If a game cannot be completed due to extenuating circumstances, equipment failure, power outage, etc. after more than 40 minutes, the game is considered complete.

The home team is responsible for data entry into Spordle play within 24 hours of the scheduled completion time of the game.

GAME OFFICIALS

Three game officials are required for Carded U15 and U18. The two game official system is appropriate for U15 Recreation Divisions and below. A minimum of 1 game official can be used to prevent game cancellation. (see also Hockey Canada Rule 5.2). Where possible the Referee should be a minimum of 2 years older than the division of play.

TEAMS

A team shall consist of a minimum of 10 players and one goaltender, one qualified/certified coach, one qualified safety person and a maximum of one qualified manager with all having CRC, Respect in Sport/Speak out, CATT along with their designated position requirements in order to be registered.

All players and affiliates from a lower division are to be rostered to the team prior to participation in any league, playoff or tournament game.

A "Hockey Canada Official Team Roster" must be completed prior to league commencement. Multi-Team Associations should create balanced teams as best as possible. Teams cannot play any other player/goalie that is not rostered to their Hockey Canada Roster.

Teams rostered at the U15 and U18 Recreational level, there is to be no body checking. When the minimum roster of 10 players or no goaltender threshold is not obtained, teams may utilize rostered affiliated players to complete their roster.

Affiliated players are shown as **AP** on the electronic game sheet.

A minimum of 6 rostered players are required to start a game (Hockey Canada Rule 2.2a) in order to avoid forfeiture.

FINAL STANDINGS

All teams are eligible for playoffs. Final standings are based on teams with the highest point in league play.

In case of a tie after league play OMAHA Tie Breaking Procedure will be used to determine seeding placement.

PLAYOFFS

Playoff seeding is based on OMAHA playoff formats determined by the number of teams in the league. .

“In case of a tie at the end of regulation time, the puck shall be faced off at centre ice and the play shall continue with a 5 minute sudden victory overtime period playing 4 on 4. If the score remains tied after the sudden victory a 5minute overtime period will occur playing 3 on 3 **teams will continue to play 3 on 3 until a winner is declared**

The winner of the playoff finals will be awarded the designated Recreational Banner and will be the representative at the OMAHA **District Championship**..

1.22 Tie Breaking Procedures

OMAHA Tie Breaking Procedure

In the event Teams are tied for a playoff position after a Round Robin series is completed, the following procedure shall be utilized to determine the placing of the tied teams:

- a) If two (2) teams are tied, the winner of the Round Robin game between those two (2) teams will receive the higher placing. If three (3) or more teams are tied, the team which has accumulated the most points in games against the tied teams will receive the highest placing, the team with the next most points in games against the tied teams will receive the next highest placing, and so on.
- b) If any teams remain tied after (a) has been applied, then the Team with the most wins in the round robin series (note that this includes all games in the round robin series and is not limited to games between the tied teams only) will receive the higher placing, and so on.
- c) If any teams remain tied after (a) and (b) have been applied, then the team with the best goal average in games between the tied teams will receive the higher placing, and so on. The goal average of the teams is to be determined by dividing the total number of goals for and against into the total number of goals for, with the Team having the highest percentage will be awarded the higher position.
- d) If any teams remain tied after (a), (b) and (c) have been applied, then the team with the best goal average in the round robin series (note that this includes all games in the round robin series and is not limited to games between the tied teams only) will receive the higher placing, and so on. The goal average of a team is to be determined by dividing the total number of goals for and against into the total number of goals for, with the Team having the highest percentage will be awarded the higher position. (Example: Goals for 10, goals against 4; percentage is $10/14 = .714$). In determining the goal average the maximum goal differential that may be applied in any single game shall be seven (7).
- e) If any teams remain tied after (a), (b), (c) and (d) the team that received the least minutes in penalties in the round robin games between the tied teams will receive the higher placing, and so on.
- f) If teams are still tied after all previous methods have been applied, then the winner of the playoff position will be decided by the toss of a coin.

1.23 Criminal Record Checks/Vulnerable Sector Check/Respect In Sport

- a. OMAHA requires persons elected or assigned to volunteer positions within our organization to submit for a Consent for Criminal Record Search form (CRC) and Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC) by July 01st of the current season and OMAHA Central Office must be in receipt of the completed CRC and VSC by September 01st of the current season. . Failure to provide a CRC and a VSC will prevent the individual from retaining a position. The application for the CRC and VSC is required upon initial appointment or election and maintaining the position is contingent upon the results of the checks coming back satisfactory to OMAHA. A CRC and VSC must be renewed every three (3) years.
- b. All OMAHA Executive members must be certified in the Coaches Respect In Sport program by September 01st of the current season.
- c. All OMAHA volunteers are required to report charges or convictions of any new offence under the Criminal Code of Canada and/or the Controlled Drugs and Substances act on an on-going basis to the OMAHA Chair.
- d. **Policy Guidelines:**
A CRC and VSC consists of a criminal record check performed by submission through the online process on omahahockey.ca. OMAHA will reimburse any Board member for the cost of the CRC and VSC. The individual may or may not have a criminal record and will be required to attend the police detachment to have fingerprints taken to satisfactorily complete their CRC or VSC requirements to determine that the CRC or VSC is for the correct individual or to confirm that no mistakes have been made.

A satisfactory CRC or VSC is either:

- i) Confirmation from the Criminal Justice Program that no criminal records and/or charges exist;
or
- ii) That any existing convictions and/or charges are not relevant to the position, as determined by the OMAHA Chair

If no further investigation regarding an individual CRC or VSC is required, the Criminal Record information will be kept in the secured, confidential electronic file. Applicants will only be contacted if their CRC or VSC is “flagged” as a potential risk to OMAHA

In determining whether any convictions and / or charges are relevant to the position, the OMAHA Chair will gather information which may include telephone or personal interview with the individual and / or other persons or agencies.

The OMAHA Chair, in making the final decision, will consider the following:

- a) relationship of the offence(s) to the nature of the position;
- b) number and nature of the charges and / or convictions;
- c) relevant offences listed in Schedule 1 of Criminal Records Review Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c.86;
- d) when the offence(s) occurred; and
- e) what the individual has done since the date of the offence.

If the OMAHA Chair determines that the individual poses a risk and is not an appropriate candidate for the position, notification will be sent to the Discipline Committee
All notes, information and informal materials pertaining to an individual’s CRC and VPC will be kept in a secure, separate file by the OMAHA Administrator. They will not be contained in the individual’s BC Hockey file.

OMAHA will not refuse a position to an individual because he or she has been charged with, or convicted of an offence of a type which does not pose a risk to OMAHA, as determined by legal counsel, considering the duties of the position the person is seeking to occupy.

SECTION 2: COACHING / OFFICIATING**2.01 TEAM OFFICIALS CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT**

1. Prior to any participation with players or a team, individuals must have the up to date Respect In Sport (RIS) qualification and an up to date CRC.

2. Head Coach

- a) Must have up to date Respect In Sport
- b) Must have Coach 1, Coach 2 or Development 1 OR be registered for a Coaching clinic applicable to the level/category of the team.
- c) If at the U11, U13 or U15 level, must have the “checking” component or be registered for a “checking” clinic.
- d) Must have CATT
- e) Must have up to date CRC
- f) Must have completed waivers

3. Assistant Coach

- a) Must have up to date Respect in Sport
- b) Must have Coach 1, Coach 2 or Development 1 OR be registered for a Coach clinic applicable to the level/category of the team.
- c) Must have CATT
- d) Must have up to date CRC
- e) Must have critical waivers completed

4. Safety Person

- a) Must have up to date Respect in Sport
- b) Must have up to date Safety or be registered for and completing the HU-Online Safety course
- c) Must have CATT
- d) Must have up to date CRC
- e) Must have critical waivers completed

5. Manager

- a) Must have up to date Respect in Sport
- b) Must have CATT
- c) Must have up to date CRC
- d) Must have critical waivers completed

6. On-Ice Volunteer

- a) Must have up to date Respect in Sport
- b) Must have up to date CRC
- c) must have critical waivers completed

2.02 OFFICIATING

1. All On-Ice Officials shall be certified as per BC Hockey requirements.

2. OFFICIATING UNSANCTIONED GAMES:

The following BC Hockey Policy will apply to BC Hockey officials who officiate in NONSANCTIONED hockey games:

a) The only unsanctioned games a BC Hockey official may receive permission to officiate shall be those games described as BENEFIT GAMES

b) The official must receive approval from the BC Hockey Chair prior to the game to qualify for Medical and Liability coverage

c) The official shall donate all services on this occasion

3. GAME REPORTS/WRITE-UPS

Must be submitted on line by 8 am the following day as pursuant to BC Hockey Reporting Guidelines (at the conclusion of the game).

4. All on ice officials should be one year over the upper age limit to officiate league games.

3.01 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a) TRAVEL

Executive Committee travel shall have the prior approval of the OMAHA Chair. Expenses will be as per By-Law Sixteen. A brief report on the trip is to accompany the expense account submitted.

b) CONFERENCE CALLS / MEETINGS

Conference Calls and Meetings shall have the prior approval of the OMAHA Chair. A brief report on the meeting or calls to follow within 48 hours.

c) JACKETS

Each Executive Committee member shall be entitled to a OMAHA crested jacket.

f) NEW MEMBERS

Newly elected Executive Committee members shall be reimbursed for their travel costs and per diem to the Annual General Meeting (as per By-Law Seventeen).

g) NOMINATIONS

A Nominating Committee shall be struck to accept nominations for positions of the Executive Committee.

All nominations must be in the hands of the Nominating Committee Chairperson no later than May 1 on the prescribed OMAHA nomination form.

h) ASSIGNMENT OF DUTIES

In addition to the regular duties of the Officers, the OMAHA Chair may assign the following duties annually:

- Risk Manager
- Chairperson - Appeal Committee and at least two other qualified persons to serve on the Appeal Committee.

3.02 OMAHA ADMINISTRATOR

- Resolutions Committee
- Coordinate & supervise the selection of the Annual award nominations
- Coordinate the collection of Nomination Forms for the OMAHA AGM Election process
- Fulfill all responsibilities as set out in By-Law Nine.

3.03 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

1. Directors have an obligation to behave openly and honestly in dealings with and for the Society.
2. It is the duty of directors to act in good faith on behalf of and for the Society and to do nothing to bring discredit to the Society.
3. A director must not profit directly or indirectly from their association with the Society. This includes his/her family, as any profit to a family is profit to the director.
 - a. Family means the director's immediate family
 - b. Profit means any gain or advantage whether monetary or otherwise.
4. The activities of the director must not give the appearance of being a conflict between his/her duties to the Society and any other interests he or she might have.

5. A potential conflict of interest is deemed to arise when a director is involved:
 - a. As a member of an Amateur Hockey Association, team or league
 - b. In receiving remuneration of any amount for any position of an Amateur Hockey Association, team or league
 - c. In holding any position in an Amateur Hockey Association, team or league.
6. The directors must be seen by all to be open, honest, correct and unbiased in the performance of their duties.
- 7 The directors must reveal to the Executive any actual or potential conflict by way of submitting an Executive Disclosure Form or before June 01 of every year. Should a conflict arise after this date, or anytime during the balance of the season, the director is responsible to notify OMAHA Central Office.
8. Any potential conflicts will be reviewed by the Executive.
9. All CRC and VSC will expire after 3 years.

Executive Disclosure Form:

Executive Members are required to complete and submit and Executive Disclosure Form to the OMAHA Administrator on or before June 1 of every year. Any change in status during the season should be relayed to OMAHA Central Office immediately.

4.01: FINANCES

a) PURCHASE REQUESTS

All purchases on behalf of OMAHA shall have prior approval of the OMAHA Chair and a purchase order

b) EXPENSE ACCOUNTS

The following expenses shall be reimbursed by OMAHA as follows:

i) Transportation

- Private automobile
- Executive members and appointed personnel shall be reimbursed as per OMAHA By-Law Sixteen
- Airfare
- The most economical airfare, or actual bus fare will be paid in accordance with OMAHA By-Law Sixteen and must be supported by receipts
- Parking Charges
- Parking Charges will be paid at actual cost and must be supported by receipts
- Automobile rentals
- All use of automobile rentals must have the prior authorization of the President
- The most economical rental will be obtained including basic collision and third-party liability coverage

ii) Accommodation

- Hotel rooms will be reimbursed at actual cost and must be supported by receipts
- Should a spouse or other person accompany the BC Hockey representative, reimbursement for accommodation will be limited to the expense that would have been incurred if that person had traveled alone.
- All personal expenses for meals and telephone, etc charged against the hotel account should be paid directly to the hotel before checking out, if the room is being paid directly by OMAHA
- Hotel room expenses for the evening following a meeting are not claimable unless the representative is unable to make reasonable arrangements home that evening

iii) Meals

- OMAHA Executive and Personnel shall be reimbursed as per By-Law Sixteen

iv) Telephone

- Phone allowance diem to be submitted every three months..

v) Office

- Office allowance diem to be submitted every three months.

vi) Overdue / Interest Charges

- OMAHA shall not reimburse for overdue or interest charges incurred

vii) Incidental Expenses

viii) Expense Account Forms

- All requests for reimbursement shall be on an OMAHA Expense Claim form
- Expense accounts are to be submitted monthly, accounts submitted more than one month late will be referred to the Finance Committee.

4.02 FINES

In accordance with OMAHA Regulation Three the "Game Report" shall be handled in a specific manner. Failure to do so shall result in a \$25.00 fine for each non-compliant occurrence of Regulation 3007 including:

- failures to enter the stat data on the OMAHA website within the required time limits

4.03 GAME CHANGE FEE

- All Game Changes will be sent to OMAHA Central Office for all League Game Change requests by forwarding the completed game change form.
- OMAHA Central Office shall issue and collect all game change fees.

4.04 MEETING ATTENDANCE

The attendance of an Association or designates at meetings is necessary to ensure all Associations receive current information and exercise their right to input on District matters. Failure to attend will result in a \$200.00 fine per Association per meeting not in attendance as required. The OMAHA Administrator will notify the Association of fines which is to be paid in no less than 30 days.

NOTE: Failure to pay any outstanding fines or fees may result in a MEMBER NOT IN GOOD STANDING notice to be issued.

Applications for a variance to have a fine or fee waived may be made by an Association President to the OMAHA Administrator and shall be addressed on its' individual merit by the Executive committee.

SECTION 5: INSURANCE / SAFETY / RISK MANAGEMENT / SOCIAL MEDIA

5.01 HARASSMENT and BULLYING POLICY

The purpose of this policy (in part), is to protect those individuals that are being harassed, and or bullied when the game officials or associations are not able to.

Harassment

Harassment is offensive behavior – emotional, physical, and or sexual – that involves discrimination against a person because of their race, national or ethnic origin, age, colour, religion, family status, sexual orientation, sex or gender, disability, marital status, or pardoned conviction. Harassment occurs when someone attempts to negatively control, influence or embarrass another person based on a prohibited ground of discrimination.

Examples of Harassment:

- a) written or verbal abuse or threats, including but not limited to social media sites;
- b) unwelcome remarks, slurs, jokes, taunts, or suggestions about a person’s body, clothing, race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, pardoned conviction, or other personal characteristics;
- c) unwelcome sexual remarks, invitations, or requests;
- d) displays of sexually explicit, sexist, racist, or other offensive or derogatory material;
- e) practical jokes that embarrass or insult someone;
- f) any form of hazing;
- g) leering (suggestive staring) or other offensive gestures;
- h) unwelcome physical contact, such as patting, touching, pinching, or hitting;
- i) patronizing or condescending behavior;
- j) humiliating someone in front of their peers;
- k) abuse of authority that undermines someone’s performance or threatens his or her position;
- l) Physical or sexual assault.
- m) Comments or actions that isolates the victim

Definition of Abuse

Child abuse is any form of physical, emotional and / or sexual mistreatment or lack of care which causes physical injury or emotional damage to a child. A common characteristic of all forms of abuse against children and youth is an abuse of power or authority and / or breach of trust.

Abuse is an issue of child protection. Protection refers to provincial, territorial or Aboriginal band appointed child protective services. A child may be need of protection from harm if abuse or neglect is suspected. Information about one’s legal duty to report and circumstances under which reporting must occur according to child protection legislation is available at www.hockeycanada.ca.

Some examples include:

- a) physical abuse;
- b) emotional abuse;
- c) sexual abuse;
- d) neglect;

Bullying is not...

- a) Conflict between friends
- b) An argument between people of equal power
- c) Accidental
- d) Normal relational development challenges
- e) A "one-time" event (usually)
- f) Friendly teasing that all parties are enjoying

5.01.01 Player Education

See Team First, bullying program, can be taught, free to d/load at:

<http://www.bchockey.net/RiskManagement/TeamFirst.aspx>

Coaches will discuss the problems of bullying/harassment openly with their players *and* parents at the 'Get to Meet" meeting *and* prior to any players entering the ice surface. Players should be encouraged to do the following to stop and discourage bullying/harassment tactics.

- a) If a player is bullied or harassed at any hockey sanctioned activity, or if the threat is media driven in relation to ones hockey 'performance' or situations, they should be encouraged to immediately inform their coach. Telling is not tattling (ratting) and the player should be reassured that no consequences will result to them for coming forward. If possible, players should write down what happened, when it happened, and identify who bullied them.
- b) If players are concerned or nervous about coming forward, they should be encouraged to talk with a friend or teammate. Team captains and assistant captains should be encouraged to intervene in any bullying situation when possible.
- c) Players should be encouraged to not fight back when confronted by a bully. They should calmly tell the player to stop, or say nothing and walk away. Again, they should report the incident to one of their team officials, parent(s), or the OMAHA Harassment Advisor.

5.01.02 Adult Education

In the case of adults reported to be bullying and or harassing members of the Hockey Association. (E.g.: Players, Board members, Volunteers, Officials, or any member of OMAHA). Adults constitute any person the age of eighteen (18) or older, be it a player, spectator, parent, Team Officials, Board member or volunteer.

5.01.03 Submitting a Complaint

a) If the wishes to file a formal complaint, they shall forward a written complaint to the OMAHA Harassment Advisor within forty eight (48) hours of the alleged incident.

Please complete the following;

Person making the complaint. Circle one:

Player	Parent	Volunteer	Official	Employee
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Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number _____

E-Mail: _____

Person on behalf the complaint is made: (to be completed if different from above)

Name: _____

Relationship _____

Name of person(s) against whom you are complaining: _____

Name: _____

Title/Role _____

Association: _____

When did the last incident occur (Date): _____

Please circle the grounds(s) that best describes your complaint:

Type of behavior:	Conduct	Gestures	Comments		
Based on:	Race	Ethnicity	Disability	Colour	Religion
	Age	Sex	Marital Status	Family Status	
	Sexual Orientation		Pardoned Conviction		
Abuse:	Physical	Emotional	Sexual	Neglect	
Bullying:	Physical	Verbal	Relational	Reactive	

OMAHA will not investigate reports of abuse that do not meet the definitions provided.

Provide a summary of the incidents you are complaining about. Your summary must answer the following questions.

Please limit your complaint to be no longer than 2 pages. You may attach any additional documents as necessary.

Where did the incident(s) happen?

Who was involved?

What happened?

How were you treated differently from others (if at all)?

How do the incident(s) relate to the ground(s) you selected?

5.01.04 The role of the OMAHA Regional Manager is to:

- b) receive complaints – maintain confidentiality – need to know only,
- c) provide information on the harassment and abuse policy and complaint procedure;
- d) inform the complainant of his or her options, including seeking legal advice if necessary;
- e) If the complainant chooses to seek legal options, the OMAHA Harassment Advisor will report the incident to OMAHA in writing, and then take no further actions.
- f) The OMAHA Harassment Advisor's findings does not constitute harassment, or bullying, the OMAHA Harassment Advisor will report the incident to OMAHA in writing, and then take no further action.
- g) Investigate complaints by conducting detailed interviews with the Complainant, Respondent, witnesses and any other individuals who may be involved.
- h) The OMAHA advisor may request the respondent's written response to be submitted within 5 days of notice. Failure to respond will be considered no defense offered.
- i) Submit a written report of the investigation results to the Discipline Committee of OMAHA within seven (7) days of the formal complaint. The report shall contain all documentation filed by both parties along with recommendations and findings of the OMAHA Advisor.
- j) A report containing the resolutions and recommendations must also be provided to both the Concerned Person, Respondent, legal guardian if non-adult, and the risk manager of the associations involved. Examples of recommendations include:
 - 1. written apology;
 - 2. letter of reprimand from OMAHA;
 - 3. removal of certain privileges of membership or employment;
 - 4. temporary suspension;

5.01.05 Discipline Committee

- a) The Discipline Committee (members of the committee need to be unbiased, without personal or professional involvement with either the Concerned Person or Respondent, and without prior involvement with the complaint being resolved) shall be appointed as required by the OMAHA Chair. The Discipline Committee shall be comprised of Executive members assigned by the OMAHA Chair.
- b) The Discipline Committee will review the documentation received, from the OMAHA Regional Manager, and thru their discussions shall come to a majority agreement and report to the OMAHA Chair their findings in writing, doing so within three (3) days.
- c) The OMAHA Chair is to advise the OMAHA Acting District Registrar to update the HCR profile, and to advise the association President of the outcome.

Determining Factors

The following are definitions that will be used to determine the grounds on which the complaint is made and the process to address it.

Misconduct

Misconduct refers to the behaviour or a pattern of behaviour that is found, by a formal (i.e., an independent investigation) or informal process (i.e., an internal fact finding)

Bullying

Bullying is intentionally hurting someone in order to insult, humiliate, degrade or exclude him or her. Bullying can be broken down into four categories: physical, verbal, relational (i.e., trying to cut off victims from social connection by convincing peers to exclude or reject a certain person), and reactive (i.e., engaging in bullying as well as provoking bullies to attack by taunting them).

Harassment

Harassment is offensive behaviour – emotional, physical, and or sexual – that involves discrimination against a person because of their race, national or ethnic origin, age, colour, religion, family status, sexual orientation, sex or gender, disability, marital status, or pardoned conviction. Harassment occurs when someone attempts to negatively control, influence or embarrass another person based on a prohibited ground of discrimination.

Abuse

Abuse is any form of physical, emotional and / or sexual mistreatment or lack of care which causes physical injury or emotional damage to an individual. A common characteristic is an abuse of power or authority and / or breach of trust.

Abuse is an issue of child protection. Protection refers to provincial, territorial or Indigenous band-appointed child protective services. A child may be need of protection from harm if abuse or neglect is suspected. Information about one’s legal duty to report and circumstances under which reporting must occur according to child protection legislation is available at www.hockeycanada.ca.

5.01.06 Procedure for Association Board Members, Parents, Players and Coaches

In all cases, strict confidentiality shall be maintained

- a) Parents should report bullying incidents to the OMAHA Operations Manager. In all cases of reported bullying, the parents of the player who was bullied shall be informed immediately and may be asked to meet to discuss the incident.
- b) The bullying/harassment behaviour or threats of, will be investigated by the OMAHA Operations Manager. The parent of any player who is reported to be bullying will be contacted and asked to meet to discuss the incident.
- c) If necessary and appropriate, cases may be referred to the police, social services or judicial complaints procedures as laid out by BC Hockey and / or Hockey Canada.

5.01.07 Outcomes

- a) For a first offence situation involving bullying/harassment, a suspension of all association activities will be administered for a period of no less than fifteen (15) days. The bully (bullies) may be asked to apologize in writing to those affected. If practical, an attempt will be make to reconcile the situation between the players. Other consequences or disciplinary alternatives to stop bullying may also be considered by the parents, coach and or the Association Board.
- b) After the incident(s) have been investigated and dealt with, the situation will continue to be monitored by the respective coach, board members, players and parents to ensure repeated bullying/harassment does not transpire.
- c) If the bullying/harassment persists in any manner be it the same recipient or not, immediate disciplinary action will be taken by the OMAHA Chair and Operations Manager. Disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to, suspension from participation in the hockey program for a period up to two years which includes all sanctioned team activities.
- d) If the offender is an adult, bullying or harassing any member (egg: any player, spectator, coach, volunteer, official or board member), disciplinary actions taken by the OMAHA Chair and Operations Manager in consultation with the Association President, may include, but are not limited to, suspension from participation attendance in the hockey program. Suspensions may be for a period up to two years which includes all sanctioned team activities,

Anti-Bullying and Harassment Acceptance

As a member of the _____ Minor hockey Association,

I hereby agree to adhere to the Harassment and Bullying policy by signing below:

Print Name of Participant: _____.

Position: Please circle one. Parent / Player / Volunteer / Official/Coach / Board Member

Signature: _____ **Date:** __ / __ / __

5.02 INSURANCE

OMAHA is to be protected against accidental loss or losses that, in the aggregate during any financial period, would significantly affect members, property, the budget or the ability of OMAHA to continue to fulfill its responsibility to its members. In no event shall any loss of life or Major personal injury to its members or members of the public be acceptable. OMAHA will secure annual coverage as offered through HC/BF Lornzetti for legal fees.

5.03 SAFETY/RISK MANAGEMENT

The OMAHA President shall appoint a member to act as District Risk Manager at the Annual General Meeting each season.

The appointee shall act on behalf of the District on all pertinent matters and report back to the President on any investigation or reported matter.

The appointee shall give a semi-annual and annual report.

5.04 INJURED PLAYER RETURN TO PLAY POLICY

Coaches and Association Officials are well aware of the variety of injuries that occur to players and they know that despite all attempts to remove risk, injuries can happen. Team Officials should not force a player to play after they are injured or play a player without a medical certificate following illness or injury.

When an injury that prevents a player from participating in regularly scheduled practices or games occurs, it is essential that a medical certificate from a Physician authorizing the player's return to active participation be presented to a Team or Association Official.

Team officials should not allow an injured player to be on the player's bench during a practice without Hockey Canada / BC Hockey required protective equipment.

All teams should carry the Hockey Canada Injury Report Form (found on omahahockey.ca)

5.05 HELMET POLICY – MINOR HOCKEY PRACTICES/EVENTS REFER TO BC HOCKEY POLICY 1.23

5.06 SOCIAL MEDIA

1. INTRODUCTION

For the purpose of this Social Media and Networking Policy, the policy will encompass public communications through such internet mediums and websites as Twitter, Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Foursquare and any other social media network that allows users to communicate online as well as other forms of electronic communication, but not limited to, methods such as 'BBM' or 'texting'.

The policy will be applicable to all members of the OMAHA Community, including Directors, Teams, OMAHA members and staff, on-ice and off-ice officials, billets, players, players' family members and supporters. OMAHA recognizes and appreciates the value of social media and the importance of social networking to all of its stakeholders. OMAHA also respects the right of all Teams and Association personnel to express their views publicly. At the same time we must be aware of the dangers social media and networking can present.

The purpose of this policy is to educate the OMAHA Community on the risks of social media and to ensure all Teams and Association personnel are aware that conduct deemed to be inappropriate may be subject to disciplinary action by their local MHA, League and/or OMAHA.

2. SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

- a) OMAHA holds the entire OMAHA Community who participates in social media and networking to the same standards as it does for all other forms of media including radio, television and print.
- b) Comments or remarks of an inappropriate nature which are detrimental to a Team, Association or an individual will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- c) It should be recognized that social media and comments such as ‘texting’ are on the record and can be instantly published and available to the public and media. Everyone including Association and/or Team personnel, players, corporate partners and the media can review social media communications. You should conduct yourself in an appropriate and professional manner at all times.
- d) 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 a competitive advantage. Furthermore, do not discuss injury information about any player. Only divulge information that is considered public.
- e) Use your best judgment at all times – pause before posting or sending. Once your comments are posted or sent they cannot be retracted. Ultimately, you are solely responsible for your comments.
- f) If requested to participate in an online network, as a direct result of your affiliation with or participation within OMAHA, OMAHA recommends that you request approval from the local MHA prior to participating.

3. SOCIAL MEDIA VIOLATIONS

The following are examples of conduct through social media and networking mediums that are considered violations of OMAHA Social Media and Networking Policy and may be subject to disciplinary action by the local MHA, and/or OMAHA.

- a) Any statement deemed to be publicly critical of Association officials or detrimental to the welfare of a member Team, the Association or an individual.
- b) Divulging confidential information that may include, but is not limited to the following:
- player injuries;
 - player movement;
 - game strategies; or
 - any other matter of a sensitive nature to a member Team, the Association or an individual.
 -
- c) Negative or derogatory comments about any of the Team, Minor Hockey Association, League and/or OMAHA staff, programs, stakeholders, players or any member of OMAHA.
- d) Any form of bullying, harassment, intimidation or threats against players or officials.
- e) Photographs, video or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior, including but not limited to:
- drug use,
 - alcohol abuse,
 - public intoxication,
 - hazing
 - sexual exploitation, etc.

- f) Online activity that contradicts the current policies of OMAHA or any of its member Associations.
- g) Inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments of any kind, in keeping with OMAHA policies and regulations on these matters.
- h) Online activity that is meant to alarm other individuals or to misrepresent fact or truth.
- i) Immediate minimum 15 day suspension (non appealable) pending investigation

4. DISCIPLINE

The MHA, or OMAHA will investigate reported violation(s) of this policy in the manner set out in the OMAHA Handbook for other types of violations. If the investigation determines that a violation has occurred, local Minor Hockey Association, and /or OMAHA may impose an appropriate suspension. Any appeal of the suspension will be dealt with as per OMAHA Appeal Procedure outlined in the OMAHA Handbook.

5.SUMMARY

When using social media and networking mediums, the OMAHA community should assume at all times they are representing OMAHA and/or its member Associations or Teams. All members of the OMAHA community should remember to use the same discretion with texting, etc., social media and networking as they do with other traditional forms of media.

Should the identity or image of any member of the OMAHA community be used in social media and networking without the Individual, Team or Association authorization, this is considered to be identity theft. Please notify the OMAHA Divisional Director or the OMAHA Central Office immediately. Any use of a player or team member's image or likeness without the written consent of OMAHA is strictly prohibited.

5.06.01 SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING POLICY ENFORCEMENT GUIDELINES

Because social media violations may vary in terms of their seriousness and effect, care must be taken to consider sanctions that are appropriate in each situation that presents itself. That is not to say that these types of violations are minor, but rather, some may be more serious than others. This document is intended to assist Minor Hockey Associations as they assess social media violations.

Factors that can be considered when dealing with social media violations include:

- The intent of the violator
- Whether harm, physical or otherwise, resulted from the violation
- The circumstances of the violation
- The effect the violation had upon its recipient, the recipient's family, the team, the Association, or the community
- Any previous social media violation history

Possible disciplinary measures therefore depend on a number of factors. Please consider the following suggested responses for various conducts:

- Implicit or implied threats of death or serious bodily harm: minimum 15 day suspension, referral to OMAHA Discipline Committee for investigation and punishment
- Encouraging someone to do themselves serious harm: minimum 15 day suspension, referral to OMAHA Discipline Committee for investigation Posting of pictures of a threatening nature: minimum 15 day suspension, referral to OMAHA Discipline Committee for investigation and punishment.
- Slurs against someone's race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation: indefinite/minimum 15 day suspension
- Slurs against another or their family: minimum 15 day suspension
- Posting comments and/or pictures of someone else of an implied sexual nature: minimum 15 day suspension, referral to OMAHA Discipline Committee for investigation and punishment

- Gossip - Posting or sending cruel gossip to damage a person's reputation and relationships with friends, family, and acquaintances: minimum 15 day suspension - Breaking into someone's e-mail or other online account and sending messages that will cause embarrassment or damage to the person's reputation and affect his or her relationship with others: minimum 15 day suspension, referral to OMAHA Discipline Committee for investigation and punishment
- Posting or sending unwanted or intimidating messages: minimum 15 day suspension
- Tricking someone into revealing secrets or embarrassing information, which is then shared online: indefinite/minimum 15 day suspension

SECTION 6: PRIVACY POLICY

6.01 PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

This Policy describes the way that OMAHA collects, uses and dispose of the personal information of prospective members, members, and others including players, coaches, referees, managers and volunteers.

This Policy describes the way that OMAHA will, subject to applicable legal requirements, adhere to all relevant federal and provincial legislative privacy requirements. The Policy follows the 10 Canadian Standards Association (CSA) principles identified in the federal Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA). OMAHA will strive to meet or exceed federal and provincial legislative requirements and will ensure that it remains current with changing technologies and laws.

6.02 IDENTIFYING PURPOSES, TYPE OF INFORMATION COLLECTED AND WEBSITE

a) OMAHA shall only collect the information reasonably necessary to conduct hockey programming. Access to our Privacy policies and procedures will be readily available.

b) OMAHA collects personal information from prospective members, members, coaches, referees, managers and volunteers for the purposes of conducting Hockey Programming.

Specifically:

- A player’s name, address and date of birth are collected to determine that the player’s geographical, division of play and level of play information are consistent with Hockey Canada/Branch/District regulations.
- Historical information concerning past teams played for is collected in order to determine if any of the BC Hockey/District transfer regulations may apply.
- Information concerning an individual’s skill level and development and feedback of programs is collected to measure the success of our programs in order that we may better plan future programs.
- Information as to a player’s parents’ name, address, telephone numbers and email addresses may be collected in order to facilitate emergency contact information as well as to ensure compliance with the BC Hockey residency regulations.
- Educational information may be collected in order to ensure all OMAHA / BC Hockey residency regulations have been adhered to.
- E-mail addresses may be collected for the purposes of facilitating membership communication related to upcoming events and programs.
- Information about skill levels, ability, emergency contacts and health to ensure our activities are carried out in a safe and secure environment.
- Personal information collected for the purposes of hockey registrations may also be used for hockey specific research purposes including but not necessarily limited to hockey demographic type research.
- Affiliates. OMAHA has numerous organizations, which offer hockey programs under their auspices. These include, but are not necessarily limited to the Canadian Hockey League, Vancouver Canucks, Canadian Inter-University Sport, Hockey Canada and provincial and local Branches, associations, and leagues. Hockey Canada, its Branches and/or Associations may disclose the personal information described above to all of these organizations in order to facilitate Hockey Programming and ensure compliance with rules and regulations.

6.02 IDENTIFYING PURPOSES, TYPE OF INFORMATION COLLECTED AND WEBSITE

c) OMAHA will endeavor through associations/leagues/Directors to advise potential registration candidates of the purpose for the collection of the data requested at the time of registration or by reference to our web site at www.omaha.ca or the local Association/Branch web site. We will further endeavor to ensure that all collectors of the personal information are familiar with the potential use of the personal data. All personal data collected by BC Hockey shall be maintained in either our office(s) and/or with Privacy Officer.

d) OMAHA will request individually permission for the use of any personal data collected which is to that which has been identified above, unless said usage is authorized by law.

SECTION 7 DISCIPLINE

7.01 DISCIPLINE

OMAHA will monitor high risk play and incidents resulting in the use of ineligible players or team officials.

- Copy the OMAHA Chair and Operations Manager on all/any correspondence pertaining to discipline matters.
- Acknowledge co-operation when you receive it.

On all correspondence, give a definitive time limit for responses. Keep notes on all telephone conversations pertaining to discipline.

*All referee reports and related documents are strictly confidential with BCAHA.

Carry Over Penalties

Any Suspension resulting from a Match Penalty, Gross Misconduct, or Supplemental Discipline Suspension assessed by Hockey Canada and BC Hockey which has not been served in its entirety will carry over into the following season. The Suspension will remain in effect until the required number of Games are served. For carry over suspensions, the season start date shall be as per BC Hockey.

Only those games listed in paragraphs 1-3 listed below would count towards a Suspension being served.

- 1) OMAHA League Games, OMAHA Pre-Scheduled Exhibition Games, OMAHA Playoff Games and BC Hockey Championship Games.
- 2) BC Hockey Sanctioned Tournaments (including Spring Tournaments) which games of the Tournament would count towards the Suspension.
- 3) District scheduled Tiering Games would count towards the serving of the suspension.

The number of days between the last scheduled League Game or Tournament Game prior to the Winter Break, and the first scheduled League Game or Tournament Game after the Winter Break; shall not be included in determining the number of days served for a Time Period Suspension in effect prior to/or during the Christmas Break.

8.01 INVESTIGATIVE HEARINGS

OMAHA shall conduct investigative hearings in a manner that promotes procedural fairness. This will include the right to a hearing, the right to an unbiased decision maker, and the right to appeal the decision resulting from the investigation.

PROCEDURES

Where an individual has been indefinitely suspended as per the BC Hockey Match / Gross Misconduct Bulletin or an individual or incident is being investigated by the Okanagan Mainline Division Directors, OMAHA Regulation 10, the following procedures shall apply:

- The individual shall be notified, through their Association, League or Team President, on the appropriate OMAHA notification form or letter.
- The notification form or letter shall indicate the individual or incident under investigation, the reason for the investigation, the procedures for a telephone or in-person hearing, and a time frame for the investigation and decision.
- The OMAHA Discipline Committee Member conducting the investigation shall be excused if the OMAHA Chair or the Executive member considers there to be a conflict of interest or a real / perceived bias in their conducting the investigation.
- The individual under investigation shall have the right to have both; **a)** supporting documentation presented on their behalf and **b)** have a support person / parent present during the hearing.
- If the individual is to be shown any of the correspondence that resulted in the investigative hearing being established, then either a summary should be provided or anywhere where it could lead to the complainant being identified must be removed.
- Any hearings shall be conducted using the BC Hockey Guidelines for conducting investigative hearings.
- The OMAHA Discipline Committee Member responsible shall maintain notes (not verbatim) of the investigative hearing and submit them to the Executive Director upon request pending a request for an Appeal hearing.
- If an in-person interview takes place, a third person, preferably a representative of the local hockey Association / League, shall be present
- The decision based on the investigative hearing shall be communicated to the individual(s), through the Association, League or Association President, in writing stating the length of any suspension, the reason for it and advising the individual of their appeal opportunities.
- Should the person under investigation fail to respond by the date outlined in the notification form or letter, the decision letter shall note this.

8.02 APPEALS

Appeals shall be conducted in accordance with OMAHA By-Law Fifteen.

SECTION 9: MEETINGS**9.01 AGM OMAHA By-Law 5**

The OMAHA AGM is hosted no later than the last Sunday in the month of May. Resolutions are to be submitted to the OMAHA Administrator on the supplied form no later than March 15, of the current season. Submitted resolutions will be circulated to the membership not less than 14 days prior to the AGM.

9.02 Scheduling

All Associations participating in League play shall attend a meeting at which time the full OMAHA League schedules will be set out. OMAHA will preside over the meeting. Members Ice Ambassadors or designates are to attend and submit ice time availability to satisfy the competing teams commitment.

9.03 Semi-Annual

OMAHA will host a Semi-Annual Meeting the second weekend of January wherever possible.

9.04 Executive

At the discretion of the President, Executive Meetings will precede all General Meetings and a year-end meeting will be held in April.

9.05 District Presidents/Minor Committee

OMAHA Chair or designate will attend the Branch hosted Minor Committee Meetings.

9.06 BC Hockey AGM

OMAHA will send delegates to the BC Hockey AGM. The OMAHA Administrator will make all accommodation, voting, and delegate arrangements. District representation will be based on funding, voting and availability of delegates.

SECTION 10: AWARDS

10.01 Scholarships

April 30 deadline for submission to Central Office/OMAHA Administrator.

Scholarships and bursaries will be awarded to Okanagan Mainline Amateur Hockey Association registered minor hockey players and/or on ice officials who apply and who best combine the qualifications set hereunder. The purpose is to give recognition to players and officials who develop their academic or technical programs in terms of their career aspirations, at the same time nourishing their interests in hockey.

- a. All scholarship and bursary winners **must currently be registered with a minor hockey association within the Okanagan Mainline Amateur Hockey Association, and be attending grade 12, or a post secondary institution.** They will have two years in which to utilize the scholarship funds towards tuition costs for full time attendance at a Canadian post secondary institution of their choice. If tuition fees are less than the scholarship amount, the remainder may be applied to the next year's fees.
- b. Qualifications:
 - i. Good sportsmanship, leadership and character.
 - ii. Good hockey and/or officiating skills and performance.
 - iii. Good school and community participation
- c. How to apply:
 - i. Send name, address and telephone number and a personal letter of application which specifically outlines hockey/officiating achievements.
 - ii. Submit a letter from the applicant's minor hockey president.
 - iii. Submit a letter from applicant's school principal, head master or president.
 - iv. Submit a copy of school transcript (grades) Application and supporting documents must be received by OMAHA Administrator no later than April 30 each year.
- d. Selection of successful candidates will be made by the Officers or their designates.
- e. Funds will be made available to successful applicants after proof of full time registration has been received. All cheques will be made payable to the institution.

10.02 Officiating School

OMAHA will sponsor 3 candidates to attend an Officiating School. OMAHA Central Office/OMAHA Administrator will accept qualifying nomination forms from Association Referees-In-Chief or Referee Committee Member up to March 15. Candidates must be between the ages of 13 and 16 and fulfil the requirements as noted on the application form.

10.03 Association of the Year

OMAHA will review and put forth an Association for OMAHA Association Of The Year.

10.04 Koteles Award

THIS AWARD IS PRESENTED TO ONE PLAYER OR TEAM IN EACH DIVISION OF U13, U15, U18 INTEGRATED AND FEMALE. REP OR RECREATIONAL PARTICIPANTS OR TEAMS INCLUSIVE.

THE AWARD WILL GO TO DESERVING INDIVIDUALS OR TEAMS WHO SHOW A STRONG COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE. NOMINATIONS OUTLINING THE PLAYER'S OR TEAM'S COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE FORWARDED TO OMAHA CENTRAL OFFICE NO LATER THAN MARCH 15 OF THE CURRENT SEASON FOR CONSIDERATION.

PLAYERS MUST RESIDE AND PLAY ON AN MHA TEAM WITHIN THE OMAHA BOUNDARIES. TEAMS MUST BE PART OF AN ASSOCIATION WITHIN OMAHA BOUNDARIES.

10.05 Margie Moss Award

MARGIE MOSS AWARD MAY BE PRESENTED TO THE MOST VALUABLE U18 FEMALE A OR U18 FEMALE RECREATION PLAYER. U18 FEMALE A AND U18 FEMALE RECREATION TEAMS SHALL SUBMIT THE NAME OF ONE (1) PLAYER FOR THEIR TEAM AS A NOMINEE TO OMAHA CENTRAL OFFICE BY MARCH 15 OF THE CURRENT SEASON. .

THE NOMINEE MUST SHOW A COMMITMENT TO FEMALE HOCKEY AND BE A LEADER FOR THE TEAM ON AND OFF THE ICE.

10.06 Allan Philcox

AWARDED TO THE U15 CARDED TEAM WITH THE LEAST PENALTIES TO GAMES PLAYED BASED ON LEAGUE PLAY ONLY

10.07 John Boscha

AWARDED TO A PLAYER VOTED ON BY THEIR PEERS AS THE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER NOMINATED BY EACH U18 CARDED TEAM. TEAMS DO NOT VOTE FOR THEIR OWN NOMINEE.

10.08 Nonie Miyazaki Award

THIS AWARD IS PRESENTED TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS GONE ABOVE AND BEYOND THE ROLE OF A **VOLUNTEER** WITHIN THE OMAHA DISTRICT. THIS INDIVIDUAL SHOWS NOT ONLY A STRONG COMMITMENT TO THE DISTRICT, ASSOCIATIONS, COACHES AND TEAM OFFICIALS BUT A STRONG DEDICATION TO THE PLAYERS, THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND THE PROMOTION OF HAVING FUN.

NOMINATIONS FOR THIS AWARD ARE TO BE SENT TO OMAHA CENTRAL OFFICE NO LATER THAN MARCH 15 OF THE CURRENT SEASON FOR CONSIDERATION.

NOTE: The successful nominations and submissions will be announced at the OMAHA AGM. Plaques, scrolls and letters notification will be presented by the OMAHA Executive Committee.

ALL FORMS FOR THE ABOVE AWARDS CAN BE FOUND ON THE OMAHA WEBSITE (omahahockey.ca) UNDER DOCUMENTS.

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SECTION 11: 11 REGIONAL POLICY

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 18 - Final roster to be completed and submitted prior to any sanctioned games
January 10 - All registered players will become permanent
January 15 - Final date for addition to affiliate list
February 10 - Final date to make any changes to team rosters (HCR system will convert over to "read only").

U15/U18AA PROGRAM

11.01 ZONE/REGIONAL BOUNDARIES

The OMAHA Board of Directors has approved 4 draw zones for U15AA and U18AA teams eligible to compete in the OMAHA AA Hockey Leagues. The Regional draw boundaries and Minor Hockey Associations included in each of the respective Regional areas established by OMAHA are:

- a) **South** - Penticton, West Kelowna, Summerland, Princeton, South Okanagan
- b) **Central** - Kelowna, Winfield
- c) **Thompson** - Kamloops, Lillooet, Logan Lake, Thompson Cariboo, Merritt, Clearwater, Chase (pending on numbers of players)
- d) **North** - Salmon Arm, Revelstoke, Sicamous, North Okanagan, Greater Vernon, Lumby

11.02. REGIONAL DRAW AREA ADJUSTMENT

The OMAHA Board of Directors shall approve all adjustments to the OMAHA AA draw areas

11.03. TEAM APPLICATION

The OMAHA Board of Directors shall only approve one (1) team in each of the above Regional draw areas

4. FINANCIAL

11.4. BUDGET

a) The OMAHA Draft League Budget to be presented at the OMAHA AGM and confirmed by July 01st of the calendar year.

b) Team Fundraising Budgets

- i. Each AA Team must:
 - Establish and submit a proposed budget by October 01 of the calendar year.
- ii. Provide a financial report three (3) times during the season. One at Nov. 01st, Jan 01st and Mar 01st as well as at the conclusion of the season. Teams that do not meet this requirement will be subject to discipline, suspension or fine.
- iii. AA teams will notify parents of any additional costs for the team such as meals, skate sharpening, water bottles, etc. Parental vote must receive 75% approval.
- iv. All team capital purchases shall require the pre-approval of the AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair. . All teams must file a complete inventory list including items such as audio visual equipment, dry land training equipment, and skate sharpeners. The list will be sent to OMAHA Central Office by November 1 and March 1. All team capital purchases become the property of OMAHA.

11.05 HOTELS/TRANSPORTATION

a) Transportation to all league regular season and playoff games outside of a team's zone and involving travel that are in excess of approximately 125 km shall travel by chartered bus. Parents are responsible for Coaches and Trainer expenses while on the road.

b) Mileage will be paid at \$0.61 per km once per game. Bench Staff are to car pool. Coaches will be paid \$0.61 per km for league, playoff and practice travel if they are travelling outside of the host city limits. Any travel inside the host association will not be covered. Once travel budget is achieved, team budget will pay any additional costs for travel.

c) Meals for overnight league and playoff games will be paid based on the OMAHA diem of \$15 for Breakfast, \$20 for Lunch and \$25 for Dinner. Once travel budget is achieved, team budget will pay for any additional costs for meals.

d) Accommodation and transportation for up to 19 players and a maximum of five (5) team officials who are traveling with the team will be provided by the league. Transportation outside of Districts must be arranged through commercial carrier. Any variance must be approved by AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair. All hotel and transportation costs for league play must be preapproved by the AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair.

- i. Travel by chartered buses shall be provided for team officials and players only
- ii. Parents or guardians of players may be permitted to travel on the bus, space allowing
- iii. Non-players under the age of 15 are not permitted to travel with the team

e) Travel expenses incurred for any reason other than travel by charter bus with the AA team for league games will be the responsibility of the UAA team.

11.06. TEAM BANK ACCOUNTS

Each AA Team will be assigned a bank account prior to the start of each season, with the following parameters:

- a) The OMAHA Chair or Staff Designate will assign two (2) signing officers for each team
- b) All transactions and monies for the team must be accounted for in the assigned account
- c) The Head Coach/Manager officer will be required to complete a financial report. This report is to be filed with OMAHA three (3) times per year.
- d) Teams are not to open or use any other bank account in addition to the league supplied account. Team officials are not to use their personal accounts for any team funds.
- e) All gaming applications are to be administered by the host Association. It should be noted that a successful gaming application will necessitate the use of a second account, gaming specific, bank account for the team. OMAHA can supply a Gaming Account for all revenue received through gaming funds.
- f) OMAHA will pay a deposit fee for up to \$2500 for a team to register for a tournament with the fee to be paid back to OMAHA.

11.07 FUNDRAISING

No advertising, name bars (other than league supplied name bars) or other patches may be applied to team jerseys without prior consent of the OMAHA Chair.

11.08 HONORARIA

- a) The League will provide a team staff honorarium with the following breakdown
 - i. Head Coach - \$12,500.00
 - ii. Team Supplies - \$1500.00 (pucks, coach boards, travel supplies, Coach Certifications required for this league)
- b). Honorarium payments will be held by OMAHA should a team not have up to date accounting records.
- c) Fees in addition to the OMAHA player fee may not be assessed to the players or a team in order to supplement the head coach honorarium.

NOTE: Any request to deviate from the above noted policy shall be submitted to the AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair for consideration. The Head Coach can dispense honorarium to staff as he sees fit.

11.09 TEAM OFFICIALS

All coaching staff must share the philosophical values of the representative zone, OMAHA and that of BC Hockey:

1. DUTIES

- a) Head Coach/Manager is responsible for all on ice and off ice hockey issues. Also responsible for the completion/submission of a financial report three (3) times per season.
- b) The Team Liaison (formerly Manager) will assist the Head Coach in non hockey issues including travel arrangements, hotels, team food, tournaments, etc.
- c) On Ice Volunteers will be rostered to the team and will assist with the set up and take down of equipment as required.
- d) If the Safety Person is a non-parent, they will be permitted in the bench. Any parent that is a Safety Person is not permitted in the bench.
- d) The Head Coach may appoint a person to handle social media accounts but the Head Coach is responsible for all information being posted on social media accounts.
- e) AA teams will adhere to the BC Hockey Social Media Guidelines.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) Applications will be open starting March 31st, for all individuals wishing to apply shall submit an application to the AA Program Coordinator noting the team they wish to participate. Closing date will be May 01st.
- b) If a qualified AA team official application is received after the above closing date, the application shall be considered,
- c) Returning team officials shall be given preference over new applicants unless it has been determined that to do so would not be in the best interest of OMAHA
- d) If no applicant is deemed suitable, the application process shall be extended to June 30.
- e) All coaches shall be non-parents.
- f) All team officials to complete criminal record check prior to being selected.
- g) All team staff will sign the AA League Code of Conduct as well as the Hockey Canada and BC Hockey Waivers.

11.10 SELECTION

New and returning Team Officials will be appointed by the OMAHA Director and OMAHA Chair on recommendation by the AA Program Coordinator.

11.11 RELEASE OF TEAM OFFICIALS

Team officials are expected to provide a good example to the players in their charge. As a result, an offence committed by a team official shall be deemed to be more serious than an equivalent offence committed by a player.

- a) Team officials may be released from an AA team for the following reasons
- Failure to control conduct of players
 - Disrespect for the rules and regulations of Hockey Canada, BC Hockey and OMAHA
 - Failure to follow philosophy and/or philosophical values of BC Hockey and the AA League
 - Excessive penalties
 - Use of alcohol or drugs during a league game or event
 - Failure to meet team obligations
 - Any infraction deemed by the AA Program League Coordinator not to be in the best interests of the team
 - Failure to adhere to the OMAHA AA League Code of Conduct.

The OMAHA Chair shall have the authority to release a team official based on the recommendations from the AA Program Coordinator.

- b) A decision to release a team official from a team roster may be appealed to the OMAHA Chair

11.12 COACHING CERTIFICATION

- a) Head Coach Requirements

- i. Certified in Development 1
- ii. Valid Criminal Record Check
- iii. Valid Criminal Record/Vulnerable Sector Check
- iii. Completed Respect in Sport
- iv. Completed Concussion Awareness Training Tool
- v. At U15AA must have the checking component

- b) Assistant Coach Requirements

- i. Trained in Development 1
- ii. Valid Criminal Record Check/Vulnerable Sector Check
- iii. Completed Respect in Sport
- iv. Completed Concussion Awareness Training Tool

11.13 RESPECT IN SPORT

All OMAHA AA team officials must complete the Respect in Sport to be considered for any position within the AA program

11.14. HOCKEY CANADA SAFETY PROGRAM (HCSP)

All Hockey Canada carded teams must have an HCSP official carded by December 1 of the current season in accordance with BC Hockey regulations. The team Safety Person shall be permitted on the bench during games if they are a non-parent Safety Person. Note that a parent safety person shall not be permitted on that team's bench during games.

11.15 TEAM REGISTRATION

All AA teams are to be rostered through OMAHA.

11.16 LEAGUE REGISTRATION FEES

Each OMAHA Operating Expense Fee for the AA program as outlined in the budget, shall be payable to OMAHA by the player to cover the costs of the league. These fees are based on the registration of 19 players (including 2 goaltenders) per team. Each player will be responsible for their payment to OMAHA. Member players of the league shall be responsible for any financial deficit incurred by league operations.

11.17 TEAM NAMES

- a) All AA team names must be approved by the AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair
- b) A AA team's approved name cannot be altered in any way, including the addition of sponsor names, without prior approval of the AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair.
- c) Application to change a team's name must be made in writing to the AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair.

11.18. PLAYER REGISTRATION

PLAYER FEES

- a) Player fees shall be prorated equally based on AA team registration fees.
- b) The players are responsible for their meal costs.
- c) Player fees shall be paid by credit card, electronic transfer, or money order/certified cheque payable to OMAHA
- d) If payment is not received within seven (7) days of due date for installments, the player shall not be eligible to participate with the team. In the case of a player joining the team after the season has commenced, payment of fees must be received within two (2) weeks of the player's first game. OMAHA Fees are due prior to first league game.
- e) OMAHA dues are 50% before 1st league game and the balance is due by Dec. 01st.
- f) Any requests for extensions must be submitted to the AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair.
- g) Any shortfall of player registration fees (i.e. player quits and is not replaced) shall be borne by the remaining players. Any concerns/requests will be reviewed and addressed on an individual basis. Should a player leave and a new player replace the player in question, fees will be pro-rated. If a team has less than 19 players that will be addressed by the OMAHA Chair and AA Program Coordinator.
- h) Players are responsible for any expenses incurred by their AA team during the season over and above the registration/player fee.

11.19 REFUNDS

Any shortfall of OMAHA registration fees will be borne by players. As such, refunds shall only be granted if a replacement player is found to fill the vacant roster spot.

a) **Players Release Due to Health:** In the case where a player has encountered health issues that restrict participation, the player may apply for a refund, either in full or in part, of registration fees.

b) **Players Voluntary Release:** Should a player choose to be released from the team on their own accord or upon their own choice (i.e., player decides to quit the team), the registration fee will not be refunded by OMAHA. Should a player be released in order to sign with a junior team, the player may apply for a refund, either in full or in part, of registration fees.

c) **Player Releases:** There shall be no refunds for any player who has been released for disciplinary reasons.

d) **Player Suspensions:** Should a player be suspended by a AA team, or by the AA Program Coordinator relative to BC Hockey / Hockey Canada Regulations, the registration fee will not be refunded by OMAHA

e) **Player Equipment:** players are permitted to keep a jersey at the end of the season but must return the other jersey. Should a jersey not be returned, the player will be assessed a fee for the jersey.

f) All player refunds will be at the discretion of the AA Program Coordinator and the OMAHA Chair

g) Pro-rated refunds, where applicable above, will be based upon percentage of season completed at time of the request.

11.20 REGISTRATION/CARDING PROCEDURES

a) Each U18 team shall receive access to a seasonal allotment of 25 electronic Player Registration certificates and each U15 team shall receive access to a seasonal allotment of 20 electronic Player Registration certificates. Prior to the first league, tournament or playoff game, the OMAHA Registrar **shall:**

i. Register all players and team officials on the HCR

ii. All players are required to complete registration, which includes acknowledgement of the refund policy. No player shall participate with a team until said registration has been completed. Players must all complete the Hockey Canada/BC Hockey waivers and a Standard Player Agreement.

b) Participation of a player or team official prior to carding on the BC Hockey Registration system will result in loss of points and/or discipline in accordance with BC Hockey Regulations.

c) A team shall carry a full roster of 19 players, two (2) of which must be goaltenders.

d) Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, in order to be eligible for the BC Hockey AA Championships, in accordance with Hockey Canada Regulations, to meet eligibility requirements, the teams shall be required to have registered not less than 15 players on Hockey Canada Registration Certificates (at least two (2) of whom must be goaltenders) on or before February 10 of the current season.

11.21 AFFILIATION

a) BC Hockey AA teams may affiliate players from within their draw zones as set out by BC Hockey. AA Teams shall not affiliate any players from outside their draw zones in the event an adjacent zone does not register a team (i.e. there shall be no movement of players between zones for the purposes of affiliation in the event that a given zone does not have a AA team).

b) There shall be no “permanent affiliate” players in AA.

c) Affiliate players must be approved by BC Hockey by way of the Hockey Canada Registry prior to participation. Participation of an affiliate player prior to such approval will be considered as use of an ineligible player by the team and will be subject to discipline in accordance with BC Hockey Regulations.

d) Registration of an affiliate player requires the written permission of the player’s carding MHA. Once an affiliate player’s information is submitted electronically, a copy of the page must be printed and signed by both the player and the President or Secretary of the player’s MHA.

e) Affiliate players must be carded with a BC Hockey registered lower division/category team prior to being eligible to be included as an affiliate on a BC Hockey AA team’s list. g) Players registered on recreational (“house” or “C”) teams, may affiliate to a AA team. h) Teams may not call up Affiliate Players (except under emergency conditions) when the Affiliate Player’s team is playing. Affiliate players shall only be used as emergency replacements for the following emergency conditions unless there has been a Coach agreement in writing:

i. Injuries

ii. Suspensions/Disciplinary action (not including team-imposed suspensions)

i) The player’s team may not unreasonably deny a player the opportunity to play as an Affiliate.

NOTE: This provision applies to players affiliating from MHAs to AA teams, as well as players affiliating from AA teams to Junior clubs.

f) Consent of an affiliate player’s home association must be obtained prior to using the player in a game or practice.

g) Affiliate players may play a maximum of 10 games (Regular Season and Playoff) as an affiliate to a AA Team in a given season. Once an Affiliate player’s registered team is eliminated from playoff competition the player may participate as an affiliate for the balance of the season.

h) An Affiliate player who has played the maximum number of games permitted under Hockey Canada rules and/or BC Hockey policy may not be used as an affiliate unless their registered team has been eliminated from playoff competition.

11.22 PLAYER RELEASES

- a) Players shall not be released once they have been offered a place on a team except for the following reasons:
- i. Disciplinary problems
 - ii. Use of drugs or alcohol
 - iii. Non-payment of player fees
 - iv. Player requests to play at a higher division or return to Minor Hockey Association.
 - v. Safety or risk management concern to the player
 - vi. Deemed by the AA Program Coordinator to be in the best interests of the team and/ or player
- b) Application to remove a player from a AA team roster must be made in writing to the AA Program Coordinator, setting out reasons for the removal of the player.
- c) If a player with disciplinary issues is being considered for removal from the team:
- i. Written and/or verbal notice of disciplinary concerns and steps taken to address the problems must be documented by the player's UAA team officials.
 - ii. The player and parent(s) must be made aware of the problems and given the opportunity to correct their behaviour prior to submitting said application to the AA Program Coordinator
- d) There shall be no refunds for any player who has been released for disciplinary reasons.

11.23 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

AA AGED PLAYERS

- a) All U18 aged players (15, 16 or 17 years old within the calendar year) residentially eligible to register and play minor hockey in BC Hockey are eligible to try out for the OMAHA U18 AA team.
- b) All U15 aged players (13 and 14 year olds within the calendar year) residentially eligible to register and play minor hockey in BC Hockey are eligible to try out for the OMAHA U15AA team

11.24.OMAHA

UNDER-AGED PLAYERS

No under-aged players will be permitted to be rostered on, or carded with, an AA team unless deemed an exemplary player in accordance with OMAHA and BC Hockey Policy 9.

11.25 RESIDENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

The residential qualifications for AA teams shall be those adopted by BC Hockey and Hockey Canada.

NOTE 1: A player is only eligible to try out for the AA team where their parents reside. NOTE 2: Sports School Players: Players may try out for AA teams based on the residence of their parents and in accordance with Hockey Canada Regulations. Therefore, regardless of where a player registers with a Sport School, they may only try out in their "home" AA zone.

11.26. AA RESIDENTIAL WAIVER

Player / Goaltender

- a) An AA team may apply for a player/goaltender residential waiver to the AA Program Coordinator. A player who has been released from their residential AA team may be issued a residential waiver prior to September 30.
- b) There is no appeal if a player is not selected to an AA team
- c) Infractions to the Player Residential Waiver will result in discipline to the team staff
- d) All residential waivers shall be returned at the end of the playing season

11.27 PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS

IDENTIFICATION/EVALUATION CAMPS

- a) Evaluation camps will be held at the discretion of the Host Association and AA Program Coordinator.
- b) All players must register with OMAHA prior to any camp. Failure to register may affect eligibility to participate in the camp.
- c) Players may only attend AA camps in the area in which they reside and/or specified Regional draw areas
- d) A player who received a residential waiver in the previous season is eligible to submit a request to attend the Home Regional Identification Camp or the team they were carded with on January 10 in the previous season. The player must submit the request to the AA Program Coordinator by April 30th.
- e) Any player who is unable to attend any stage of the Camp due to injury or for any other valid reason must register with OMAHA and remain eligible for future evaluations. Approval must be obtained from the AA Program Coordinator.
- f) Players will be assessed a tryout fee for all AA Camps that will cover the cost of the camp and any additional evaluations and is to be paid at the time of Permission To Try Out Form submission.
- g) No player shall participate in any evaluation session unless the camp registration fee has been paid in full.
- h) Tryout jerseys will be provided and must be returned after the event otherwise the player will be charged for not returning the jerseys.

OMAHA League budget covers \$950 for exhibition games, 3 hours per week for practice (72 hours x \$150 per hour) for AA teams. Any team participating in practice prior to September 15th will be responsible for those ice costs. Once budget is exceeded, the team will be responsible and will be billed accordingly.

Players will be evaluated and selected by independent evaluators for the AA program. Evaluators will be selected and consist of OMAHA, a rep from the host association and a rep from each Association within the particular region.

- i. the list of identified players shall be registered by the way of the Permission To Try Out Form

11.28 TEAM STRUCTURE

- a) Teams will consist of 19 players including 2 goaltenders
- b) Players registered on September 18th may only be released to participate at a higher level (AAA/Junior)
- c) In situations where a player returns from Junior and their residential home regional team has exhausted their player certificates, placement of that player on another AA roster will be determined by the OMAHA Chair in consultation with the AA Program Coordinator.
- d) Rosters are to be finalized within 48 hours after the conclusion of the Showcase/IceBreaker event.

11.29. CANCELLATION – REFUNDS

The following policy applies to Tryout/Evaluation Camps

- a). 50% refund if cancelled under 15 days prior to the start of the event
- b) 100% refund if cancelled over the 15 days prior to the start of the event
- c) Refunds as stated shall be approved by the OMAHA Chair upon recommendation by the AA Program Coordinator.

11.30. RULES OF PLAY

RULES OF PLAY

OMAHA AA League teams shall be composed of 19 players (including 2 goaltenders) and up to 5 team officials who are duly registered with BC Hockey in accordance with the rules and regulations of BC Hockey and Hockey Canada. Membership for such teams shall commence upon acceptance of the team's roster by the OMAHA Registrar and shall expire as of the following August. 14th.

League play will consist 2.25 hours ice slots wherever possible with ice cleans between each period and game.

11.31. HOME TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

The home team shall be responsible for the following for each game:

- Warm Up pucks
- Electronic Game Sheet entry
- A qualified timekeeper
- A qualified Scorekeeper
- Shots-on-goal statistics for each team to be included on the electronic game sheet. Any issues with not get the data in, contact OMAHA Central Office for any updates.

11.32. RULES AND REGULATIONS

DISCIPLINE/SUSPENSIONS

a) BC Hockey Discipline Task Group Member (OMAHA) shall administer and issue suspensions based on penalties assessed.

b) Team officials shall be responsible for supervising and controlling the conduct of their players before, during or after each game. Failure by team officials to control the conduct of their players (e.g. dressing room/hotel vandalism, theft, bench brawls, lobby and parking lot altercations, etc.) may result in suspension and / or other disciplinary action of the team official and/or player(s). In addition, the cost of any damages shall be assessed against the team.

c) All penalties and/or suspensions shall be in accordance with AA League Policy and/or Hockey Canada published rules. Automatic / Minimum suspensions shall be applied as per BC Hockey Suspension Guidelines. It is the responsibility of the team's officials to ensure that players serve their total game suspensions as required by Hockey Canada and BC Hockey rules, whether or not notification is given

d) Excessive penalty minutes by individual players including a combination of major penalties such as Gross Misconduct/Match penalties, Misconducts, and Game Misconduct penalties shall result in suspension(s) and/or disciplinary action as determined by the AA Program Coordinator.

e) Any team official who incurs a Game Misconduct outside of the last 10 minutes of the game shall be suspended for the team's next games. A team official who incurs a Game Misconduct in the last 10 minutes of a game shall be suspended for the team's next two (2) games.

f) Pre-scheduled exhibition games are considered league, tournament or playoff games for the purpose of serving suspensions.

11.33 ZERO TOLERANCE - DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS

There is a zero tolerance for the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, smoke-less products (e.g. vaporizers) and illegal activity during activities within BC Hockey. All incidents will be investigated and dealt with on an individual basis. The recommended minimum suspension for violation of this policy is 30 days from all participation within the league. A written report must be forwarded to the AA Program Coordinator outlining the circumstances within seven (7) days.

11.34 HAZING/INITIATION

- a) All Hazing/Initiation incidents will be reported to the AA Program Coordinator
- b) All suspension shall be in line with Hockey Canada Regulations

11.35 RECRUITING PRACTICES - TAMPERING

No team official may invite a registered player of another association/club to participate in any exhibition, tournament or league game, practice or team event without prior consent of the player's home association. Violation of this rule will result in disciplinary action.

11.36 GAME FORFEIT/DEFAULT OF GAME

1. DEFAULT OF GAME

- a. if a team fails to present itself at the time and date appointed to start any scheduled game, unless such failure is caused by an unavoidable accident or unforeseen circumstances, the offending team shall be liable for a fine of \$250
- b. any game cancellation must be made minimum 12 hours prior to the game taking place. Should the game be cancelled after that time frame, the team could face officiating costs and ice costs should the home team not be able to cancel on short notice.
- c. any team cancelling a game due to weather, must prove that there was a travel advisory to avoid any fines that are assessed
- d. should the schedule permit, games should be re-scheduled to an agreed date.
- e. this applies to all levels of hockey within OMAHA.

2. FORFEITURES

- a. any team forfeiting a game will be assessed a \$250 fine along with ice and referee costs that the home association would incur. This will be invoiced by OMAHA to the offending Team for payment and the costs for ice and referees will be sent to the Team

3. COMMUNICATION - DEFAULT OF GAME/FORFEITURES

a) For any game changes resulting from a Default of Game or Forfeiture, all communication is to be directed through the respective Ice Ambassadors as well as a copy to OMAHA Central Office and the AA Program Coordinator as well as the respective District President for both teams. (there is to be no communication/decisions between Team Managers or Coaches, only between Ice Ambassadors)

b). it will be the responsibility of the team requesting a cancellation or a forfeiture to notify the host association Ice Ambassador and OMAHA Central Office that they will not be attending. The host Association Ice Ambassador with a copy to OMAHA Central Office will notify the respective opposing Ice Ambassador of the issue and request a confirmation either by email or text that the message was received.

Each host Association will attempt to have someone available to accept the notice should the Ice Ambassador not be available.

11.37 LEAGUE PLAY

The number of scheduled league games shall be based on the number of participating AA teams.

a) Time of Game

- Three (3) 20 minute stop time periods will be included in regulation playing time with a 12 minute intermission between each period.
- A five (5) minute warm up will be used with no flood prior to the start of the first period. • Teams will be required to provide two and a quarter (2.25) hour game time slots.

11.38 VIDEO REVIEW POLICY

- a) OMAHA will review certain penalties in regards to supplemental discipline
- i. Video must come from the Head Coach within 48 hours after the conclusion of the game.
 - ii Any infraction that is not called or seen by the on ice Officials during any game or any infraction that may have resulted in an injury
 - Major, Match and Gross infractions
 - Late Hits
 - Check From Behind

11.39 GAME PROTESTS

LEAGUE GAME PROTESTS

- a. League game protests shall be transmitted in writing to the AA Program Coordinator and OMAHA Chair within seventy two (72) hours of completion of the game in question. To initiate a league game protests, a fee of \$100 is to be sent to OMAHA Central Office. Payment must be sent via e-transfer and received prior to the review taking place.
- b. The protested team shall be notified of the protest by the OMAHA Chair or AA Program Coordinator and given seventy two (72) hours to file a defense. This defense must be in writing and accompanied by payment of one hundred (\$100) dollars.
- c. The AA Program Coordinator and the OMAHA Chair will rule on the protest within seventy two hours and inform the parties involved. A refund of the \$100 dollar deposit may be forthcoming to one or other party involved.
- d. Either party has the right to appeal the ruling to the OMAHA Appeals Committee. (refer to OMAHA By Law Fifteen)

PLAYOFF GAME PROTESTS

- a. Play off game protests shall be transmitted in writing to the OMAHA Chair and AA Program Coordinator within 24 hours of completion of the game in question. This protest must be accompanied by payment of one hundred (\$100) dollars.
- b. The protested team shall be notified by the OMAHA Chair or AA Program Coordinator given twelve(12) hours to file a defense. This defense must be in writing and accompanied by a one hundred dollar (\$100) payment.
- c. The AA Program Coordinator and the OMAHA Chair will rule on the protest within twelve(12) hours and inform the parties involved of the ruling. A refund of \$100 dollar payment may be forthcoming to one or other party involved.
- d. For protests of playoff games, the decision of the OMAHA Chair and AA Program Coordinator is final, and is not appealable.

NOTE: Arrangements may be made with the OMAHA Chair for an alternate method of payment for protests.

11.40 EXHIBITION GAMES AND TOURNAMENTS

- a) Any team wishing to play an exhibition game or enter a tournament shall first obtain permission from the OMAHA Chair or AA Program Coordinator and then obtain an Exhibition/Tournament Game number from OMAHA Central Office. All league commitments must be met prior to permission being granted.
- b) All exhibition games and tournament costs will be paid by the team.
- c) Players are not required to attend tournaments and may not be disciplined for such decision.
- d) A rostered player who is not able to attend a tournament for any reason shall not be charged a tournament fee or any related expenses.
- e) No tournament game shall be substituted for any scheduled league game unless pre-approval has been received by the AA Program Coordinator.

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

- i. Teams must submit to the AA Program Coordinator for approval to attend an out of province/country tournament. Once approved they are to submit a Tournament Travel Request approval from the BC Hockey Operations Task Group Member for OMAHA in order to receive a Permission To Travel number to attend Out Of Province/Country Tournaments.
- ii. Teams must not make participation in out of province tournament mandatory. Players may opt out of attending and incurring the expenses.
- iii. Teams attending a tournament outside of the OMAHA District must make request a travel number from OMAHA Central Office.

11.41 RESCHEDULING OF LEAGUE GAMES

No league or playoff game will be altered or rescheduled to accommodate a tournament or exhibition game unless special permission is granted in writing by the AA Program Coordinator. Permission will not be granted unless the date(s) and time(s) of the rescheduled game(s) have first been obtained, which date(s) and time(s) are mutually agreed on by both teams.

11.42 GAME REPORTS

- a) The home team is responsible for supplying the game report ensuring that it is properly completed, and submitting on line within 24 hours of the completion of the game. Should it not be submitted within the time frame, a \$25 fee will be assessed to the home team.
- b) All affiliate players (AP) shall be designated as such on the game sheet beside the player's name.
- c) requests for changes to game sheet data are to be submitted in writing by the Head Coach to OMAHA Central Office.
- d) In order to ensure no sanctions will be applied to your team, the above must be followed.

11.43 TIE BREAKING PROCEDURE – LEAGUE STANDINGS

In the event of any ties in final league standings, the following tie breaker format shall apply for the determination of playoff positions:

- a) If two (2) or more teams are tied, standings will be determined by ranking the teams on the basis of most wins in regular season play.

- b) If the standings determined in step a) contain any further ties, those teams whose standing was not determined in step a) will have the following format applied, with all games played by the tied teams against each other being considered (i.e. If three (3) teams are still tied, then all games played involving any two (2) of the three (3) tied teams will be used in breaking the tie): teams will be ranked by highest winning percentage in these games
 - i. Teams will be ranked by highest winning percentage in these games
 - ii. Any teams still tied will be ranked by most goals-for in these games
 - iii. Any teams still tied will be ranked by least goals against in these games
 - iv. Any teams still tied will be ranked by the least penalty minutes in these games

NOTE: For section b), games involving all of the tied teams will continue to be used in each of steps ii. iii. and iv. even if one or more of the tied teams receives a placing after a step is applied (i.e. if three (3) teams are tied and one (1) team receives a ranking after step i. is applied, then games among all three (3) teams will still be used in step ii. and beyond).

11.44 OFFICIATING NO SHOWS

Should fewer than the required number of officials appear for any game, then the procedures outlined below shall be followed in accordance with hockey Canada Rules:

- a) If, for whatever reason, the Referee or Linesperson appointed are prevented from appearing, the Managers or Coaches of the two (2) competing teams shall agree on a Referee and one (1) or two (2) Linesperson

- b) If they are unable to agree, they shall appoint a player from each team who shall act as officials

- c) If the regularly appointed officials appear during the process of the game, they shall replace the temporary officials immediately

- d) If a Linesperson appointed is unable to act at the last minute, or if through sickness or accident they are unable to finish the game, the Referee in Charge shall have the power to appoint another individual in their place if they feel it necessary.

- e) If, owing to illness or accident, the Referee is unable to continue to officiate when working with two (2) Linespersons, they will continue the game as a two (2) official system

11.45 TEAM UNIFORMS / DRESS CODE

UNIFORMS

OMAHA has approved league colors, which shall be worn by all AA teams. Where uniforms of both teams are so similar that in the opinion of the referee there will be confusion, it shall be the responsibility of the home team to change its uniforms to a contrasting color.

No advertising, sponsor names or logos, name bars, or other patches may be applied to team jerseys, without prior consent of the AA Program Coordinator after consultation with the OMAHA Chair.

Players are required to wear league-supplied equipment including but not limited to jerseys, socks, and pants.

“Players including goal tenders, shall wear required protective equipment, including CSA-certified helmets and facial protectors and BNQ certified throat protectors in all games, practices, warm-ups and while sitting on the players’ bench or penalty box.”

11.46 DRESS CODE

All players shall wear a shirt and tie, slacks, mock turtleneck, tracksuit or team jersey on game days or when in public during league functions. Baseball caps are not to be worn.

11.47 LEAGUE ALL-STAR SELECTIONS

END OF SEASON LEAGUE ALL STAR TEAM

Each team shall nominate the top three (3) forwards, two (2) defensemen and one (1) goaltender from an opposing team. Each team shall submit their completed All Star Player Ranking form to OMAHA by March 30.

11.48 LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

AA LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The AA League Championships shall adopt the BC Hockey Championship policies, procedures and format with the following variations:

- a) The AA League Championship shall consist of a Semi-Final series and Final series.
 - i. Semi Finals to consist of the first place team versus 4th place and 2nd place to play 3rd place. Winner of those series to meet in the final.
 - ii. Semi-Finals: • Highest placing remaining team vs. Lowest placing remaining team (series to be hosted by the higher placed team) • Second highest placing remaining team vs. Lowest placing remaining team (series to be hosted by the higher placed team)

- iii. Finals: • Winners of the Semi Final series will advance to the Final series.
 - The Final series will be hosted by the higher placing team per league standings.
- iv. All playoff games should be 2.5 hours in length with ice cleans between each period.

b) All AA League Championship Playoffs will consist of a best two (2) out of three (3) games series as follows:

- Game One (1): Friday evening
- Game Two (2): Saturday afternoon or evening
- Game Three (3): Sunday (preferably afternoon)
- Series will be held on a specific weekend as determined by OMAHA

c) The higher placing team shall have the home team dressing room and bench for Game one.

- The teams will then alternate home and away jerseys, dressing rooms and benches for each subsequent game the higher placing team shall provide the timekeeper and scorekeeper.

d) All games must end with a winner. No ties are permitted. In the event a game ends in a tie, the following overtime format shall be applied:

- In a tied game at the end of regulation time, there will be a two (2) minute rest and then a 3 on 3 play until a winner is declared

e) The OMAHA AA League Champion shall be the OMAHA Representative at the BC Hockey Championships

11.49 TRAVEL

All travel and accommodation expenses for games outside of a team's District during the Championships shall be covered by the team.

11.50 FINAL DATE TO WITHDRAW

The final date to withdraw from the BC Hockey Championships is December 31st

12.01 GUEST TEAM

1. Guest teams requesting inclusion in OMAHA Leagues are required to submit in writing on their MHA letterhead stating which teams and levels they want inclusion in for the coming season. As well in the letter, all guest teams requesting inclusion in OMAHA Leagues will be required to disclose other leagues they participate in.

2. Teams are to come to OMAHA Scheduling meetings with no prior commitments.

3. If home and away regular season games are not equal during the scheduling meeting, the OMAHA team will host the majority of the regular season game. Coin tosses are no longer permitted.

4. Please be advised that we expect all teams in OMAHA to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates good sportsmanship and respect for the game. This extends to all on ice participants, coaches, volunteers and spectators. Excessive penalties or complaints of inappropriate conduct can result in revoking of Guest Privileges on top of any sanctions, penalties or suspensions that are levied by OMAHA and/or BC Hockey in accordance with the Hockey Canada Playing Rules.

5. Inclusion in OMAHA Leagues will be determined by vote of the membership at the May AGM annually, typically the week after the long weekend.