

Annapolis Valley Minor Hockey League

CONSTITUTION

REGULATIONS

RULES OF COMPETITION

Revised: February 6, 2019

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1: NAME

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

ARTICLE 2: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of the League shall be:

- a) To conduct, foster, promote, organize and initiate actions for the provision of Minor Hockey in the community.
- b) To provide an organized healthy recreational program for all youth of minor age of The Annapolis Valley with youth of their own calibre.
- c) To conduct play-offs whenever feasible to determine championship teams in each of the divisions under the jurisdiction of the League.
- d) To cooperate with other Minor Hockey Associations to organize a program of competitive play.

- e) To comply with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of Hockey Nova Scotia in conjunction with the Local Associations and the Canadian Hockey Association.
- f) To provide a league for recreational teams from Western Valley Minor Hockey Association, Acadia Minor Hockey Association, West Hants Minor Hockey Association, Yarmouth County Minor Hockey Association, Shelburne County Minor Hockey Association, Queens County Minor Hockey Association, South Shore Minor Hockey Association, Clare-Digby Minor Hockey Association and Chester Minor Hockey Association and others agreed by majority vote at the beginning of each season.

ARTICLE 3: EXECUTIVE

- a) The league shall include equal representation from each association, consisting of a minimum of one representative for each association. Each representative will be a Director of the League.
- b) The directors shall elect a President, Vice-President, website coordinator and Secretary/Treasurer every two years.
- c) Meetings. The executive will endeavour to hold regular meetings during the hockey season with additional meetings as deemed necessary. The President will chair each meeting, or in his or her absence, another director may chair the meeting as agreed by the members present.
- d) Voting: All decisions will be decided by a majority vote. Each director including the President will have one vote with the meeting chairman holding one additional vote for tie breaking.
- e) All members of the executive report to their Association President.
- f) All Association executive members, coaches or representatives of the Association Officials can attend any meeting of the league.
- g) AVMHL Executive board members can, at the request of their board of directors, have their executive league representative removed from the League and find a suitable replacement as soon as possible.

- h) A constitutional change must be a unanimous vote by the executive.
- i) A bank account will be maintained for the League's finances. Three signing officers for the bank account will be appointed, consisting of the President, Treasurer and one other Director. At least two signatures will be required on all cheques or any withdrawals on the bank account.
- j) The Treasurer will submit an interim statement of the League's finances at each meeting.

ARTICLE 4: TEAMS

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

ARTICLE 5: TEAM COMPETITIVENESS

- a) If there is more than one team per division per local area, every effort shall be made by the Associations to ensure that the teams are of equal calibre. There will be no team stacking.
- b) The League executive can request that teams be re-evaluated during the year if they feel teams are not equal.
- c) No registered competitive players will be permitted to play on a "C" level team. In special cases, approval may be given by the AVMHL executive.

- d) If a team is found to be in violation of Article 5 c), than any game in which a competitive player was playing in will be ruled an automatic forfeit. In addition a formal complaint will be filed with Hockey NS.
- e) Any goalie movement between teams must be approved by the AVMHL Executive one hour prior to game time.
- f) Affiliated players must be listed on the game sheet as such.

ARTICLE 6: INITIATION OF FAIR PLAY PROGRAMS

All teams in the league are recreational and there should be no shortening of the bench. Only in a league game or playoff situation, in the last two minutes with the game on the line, will there be any special lines permitted, and only if the goal differential is 2 goals or less.

ARTICLE 7: TEAM REGISTRATION

- a) All teams must pay a per child registration fee to enter the League. The executive will determine the registration fee at the beginning of each season.
- b) Every effort will be made to secure sponsors to keep registration costs down.
- c) All Associations within the League must submit their initial rosters to the Treasurer of the League by November 30th. Invoices will be prepared based on the initial rosters and provided to their respective Associations on or before December 15th. Final rosters must be submitted on or before January 15th with payment of League fees. Associations that do not pay the

required fess by the January 15th deadline will not be eligible to play in the Day of Champions. Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed the league executive on a case by case basis.

ARTICLE 8: SCHEDULING

- a) All teams must come to the scheduling meeting prepared with their available ice times or they will not be permitted schedule games.
- b) All games will be scheduled at a scheduling meeting and ratified by the League Executive.
- c) The League will provide all associations with the League schedule on the website.
- d) All teams must submit their game results by the following Thursday at 11:59 PM to the League Statistician. If the results have not been submitted by the deadline imposed above, the game will be ruled a forfeit in favor of the visiting team. If extenuating circumstances occur they may be reviewed by the League Executive on a case by case basis.

ARTICLE 9: RULES OF PLAY

The League shall follow the rules of Hockey Nova Scotia and the Canadian Hockey Association with the following additions:

- a) If a game cannot be played due to lack of referees, time keepers or any other reason that is the responsibility and under the control of the home team, the game will be declared a forfeit, with the visiting team declared the winner by a score of 10-0.

- b)** If either team does not show up with a minimum of 7 skaters and a goalie, the game will be declared a forfeit with the offending team declared the loser and the score recorded as 10-0.
- c)** If a game cannot be played due to any other reason that is beyond the control of either team, it will be cancelled and recorded as not being played.
- d)** Teams may try to reschedule cancelled or forfeited games, but it will be their responsibility to find available ice time and both teams must agree to play the rescheduled game. If a forfeited game is replayed, the score of the game that was played will be recorded as the result.
- e)** A team will be awarded two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie and no points for a loss.
- f)** There is no overtime in the regular season.
- g)** Players listed on a game sheet must be listed on a team's official roster. Any player listed on a game sheet but not on an official roster is considered an illegal player.
- h)** Teams in violation of Section 9, subsection g, will forfeit any games during which this violation occurred.
- i)** In the event of a tie in the standings, the following tie-breaking rules will apply to the regular season:
 - a. Winner of the game between the two tied teams;
 - b. Most wins;
 - c. Plus/minus – goals for minus goals against in all games played;
 - d. Most goals for during the regular season;
 - e. Fewest goals against during the regular season;
 - f. Flip of a coin.

ARTICLE 10: PLAYOFFS

- a) Playoffs will commence no later than Mid-February and will follow a format determined by the executive. Where possible, groups of teams of equal strength will contend for medals.
- b) In a playoff game, if there is a 2 goal differential or less, the last 2 minutes of regulation time will be stop time.
- c) If round-robin play is used, two points will be awarded for a win, one point to each team for a tie, and no points for a loss.
- d) In the event of a tie in the standings, the following tie-breaking rules will apply:
 - a. Winner of the game between the two tied teams;
 - b. Most wins;
 - c. Most goals for during the playoffs;
 - d. Fewest goals against during playoffs;
 - e. Plus/minus – goals for minus goals against in all games played;
 - f. Flip of a coin.
- g) All playoffs must be completed by March 15.

ARTICLE 11: VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The executive will call for nominations each year for candidates to be considered for the Volunteer of the Year award. The executive will review information submitted regarding each candidate and vote to choose the recipient of this award. The Volunteer of the Year plaque will be engraved with the successful candidate's name and presented at a year-end party or other appropriate time.

ARTICLE 12: FISCAL YEAR END

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

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

REGULATIONS

ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

To be eligible a player must:

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

2. Travel and Game sheets

- a) Teams do not need a travel permit to play league games. A blanket permit is available for use on the AVMHL website.
- b) Teams must, at the request of the League, provide copies of their game sheets to the President or other director appointed by the Executive.

3. Playing Rules

NSMHC Rules shall govern play in hockey.

4. Infractions

Suspensions will be in accordance with NSMHC code of discipline.

5. Player Registration

- a)** Player registration fees shall be determined each year by the Executive.
- b)** Fees must be collected from each participating Association and submitted to the League Treasurer on or before January 15th.
- c)** Initial rosters for each registered team, including the coach's names and contact information, player names and player numbers of all participants must be submitted to the League by November 30th. Any changes to the team rosters throughout the year must be submitted in writing to the League. There will be no player additions allowed after January 15th. Final rosters must be submitted to the League Treasurer on or before January 15th.
- d)** Teams may affiliate players according to Article 5 c) of the AVMHL Constitution. Certain circumstances may apply that must be approved by the AVMHL Executive on a case by case basis. The affiliated player must be shown on the team's roster and a registration fee paid if the player will remain with the team for the full season. After January 15 of each year, the following conditions apply:
 - a.** Teams can only affiliate a goalie or enough skaters to ensure they have one goalie and 10 skaters, if their own own player(s) is absent due to injury, suspension or leaving their home association permanently for any reason.
- e)** Any player who withdraws from, or is disqualified by the Executive will be eligible for a refund of registration fees on a prorated basis. There will be no refund of registration fees after December 30 of each playing season.

6. Other

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

Appendix A

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