

# **Annapolis Valley Minor Hockey League**

## **CONSTITUTION**

## **REGULATIONS**

## **RULES OF COMPETITION**

Revised: April 6, 2017

# **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, and West Hants Minor Hockey Association and others agreed by majority vote at the beginning of each season.
- g) The AVMHL shall provide a league for recreational teams from Yarmouth County Minor Hockey Association, Shelburne County Minor Hockey Association, Queens County Minor Hockey Association, South Shore Minor Hockey Association and Chester Minor Hockey Association for a 1 year trial for the 2015-2016 season, with the intention to continue on thereafter.

### **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.

There can be a Division Coordinator for each level of teams (ie Atom, Peewee, etc.).

- 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.

#### **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.

#### **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 30<sup>th</sup>. Invoices will be prepared based on the initial rosters and provided to their respective Associations on or before December 15<sup>th</sup>. Final rosters must be submitted on or before January 15<sup>th</sup> with payment of League fees. Associations that do not pay the required fess by the January 15<sup>th</sup> 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 associations involved with the League shall provide one game time per team per week.
- b) All games will be scheduled at a scheduling meeting and ratified by the League executive and the League may substitute ice times for different divisions or teams.
- 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)** Each game will have a two (2) minute warm-up and a minimum of 3, 15 minute run time periods. If the game is called due to lack of ice time the score will remain as it was at the end of the game.
- b)** If a game cannot be played due to lack of referees, time keepers or any other reason that is the responsibility and under the control of the home team, the game will be declared a forfeit, with the visiting team declared the winner by a score of 5-0.
- c)** If either team does not show up with a minimum of 7 skaters and a goalie, the game will be declared a forfeit with the offending team declared the loser and the score recorded as 5-0.
- d)** 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.
- e)** 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.
- f)** A team will be awarded two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie and no points for a loss.
- g)** There is no overtime in the regular season.
- h)** 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.

- i) Teams in violation of Section 9, subsection j, will forfeit any games during which this violation occurred.

## **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. Plus/minus – goals for minus goals against in all games played;
  - c. Most goals for during the playoffs;
  - d. Fewest goals against during playoffs;
  - e. Flip of a coin.
- e) At end of round-robin or any other format of playoffs selected by the executive for the division, the team with the highest number of points



will play the second place team for gold and silver, and #3 will play against #4 for the bronze. Where possible, medal games will be contested by equally matched teams in pools.

- f)** In these medal games, based upon ice time available, medal games shall be as follows: 2 x 15 minute run time periods and 1 x 12 minute stop time period. This will accommodate the following: If there is a 2 goal differential or less, the last 2 minutes of regulation time will be stop time. In the event of a tie after regulation time, there will be a 5 minute run-time sudden death overtime (5 on 5). If the score is still tied when overtime is completed, teams will do a 3 person shootout. If the score is tied after the shootout it will go to a 1 person shootout until a winner is determined. No player shall be used more than once until each player has had a turn.
  
- g)** All conference playoffs must be completed by March 15.
  
- h)** The teams winning the gold medal games will be presented with AVMHL gold medals and the losing teams will be presented AVMHL silver medals. In addition, the gold medal winning team of the stronger pool will be presented the AVMHL championship trophy for their level. The team name will be engraved on the trophy and they will have the trophy for display in their home arena for a period of one year. The trophy must then be returned to the League executive to be awarded in the following season.

## **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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 CHA and NSMHC rules.
- b) Be registered with the Association and has paid the annual registration fees.

## **2. Travel and Game sheets**

- a) Teams do not need a travel permit to play league games. 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 15<sup>th</sup>. Final rosters must be submitted to the League Treasurer on or before January 15<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 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 meet the minimum roster requirements of the League, to replace their own player(s) if absent due to injury, suspension or leaving their home association permanently for any reason;
  
- e)** Any player who withdraws from, or is disqualified by the Executive will be eligible for a refund of registration fees on a prorated basis. There will be no refund of registration fees after December 30 of each playing season.

## **6. Other**

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