

Rules Committee Report 2012 Annual Meeting

rev. 3 3/28/2012



The Mn Hockey Rules Committee met on Monday, March 5, 2012.

Modifications to the Bylaws and Youth Rules are proposed. Also, an Affiliate Agreement for off-season teams is submitted for Board approval.

Bylaws Changes

B1. It has been proposed to remove the non-voting Coach-In-Chief position from the Board of Directors and place it in the Hockey Operations organization with a new title.

B2. It has been proposed to not fill the open Tournaments Vice President position and assign those duties to the Tournament Committee Chair(s). This would reduce the number of Vice Presidents to five.

B3. At the Winter 2012 Meeting, the Board voted to remove the Controller position from the Board of Directors. There are two additional changes required to completely eliminate this position from the Bylaws.

B4. The paragraph "Voting Quorum" prohibits proxy voting except for District Directors. We expanded this last year to include all constituent-elected Board members.

ARTICLE 7 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[B1] ~~Coach in Chief: The Coach in Chief shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors. The Coach in Chief shall be a non voting board member, but in all other respects shall be entitled to all of the rights, privileges, duties and responsibilities of other Board members.~~

[B2] **Officers:** The officers of this corporation, when elected, shall be Directors at Large of the Board of Directors and shall be the President, Immediate Past President, Secretary/Treasurer, and not more than ~~six~~ five Vice Presidents, ~~and a Controller~~. Officers may be selected from the membership of the Board or any adult resident of Minnesota who supports and can further the purposes of the corporation. Separate elections shall be held for each open position, with the successful candidate being the person receiving at least a simple majority of the votes cast. If a simple majority is not reached, the candidate receiving the least votes shall be dropped and the position re-voted. The officers shall have such powers and duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors. Such officers along with two District Directors appointed by the President shall constitute the Executive Committee. An officer may also be an elected member of the Board of Directors but such officer shall be entitled to only one vote.

[B4] **Voting Quorum:** At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a simple majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum with the manner of voting to be established by the presiding officer. Cumulative and proxy voting is prohibited except as ~~noted in the Article entitled "Board of Directors", "Directors' Duties,"~~ defined for constituent-elected Board members in "Voting" hereinafter.

ARTICLE 8 – ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

[B3] The administrative management committee shall be a standing committee for the purpose of effecting and furthering the business affairs of the corporation. The committee shall consist of ~~seven~~ six members including the President, ~~the Controller~~, the Chairs of the Publicity and Promotion, and Planning committees, two District Directors and one other person to be appointed by the President. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the committee. The committee shall have the authority to employ, on a part or full time basis, an employee, to be known as the Executive Director of the corporation, upon such terms and conditions as shall be mutually agreeable.

B5. The present Bylaws require unanimous consent to waive the rules. This is far in excess of the normal Robert's Rules of Order requirement of a two-thirds majority. There are important matters that occasionally come before the Board that require waiving the rules to deal with expeditiously. It is felt that it is impractical to put ourselves in a situation where one person could block an important matter from coming before the Board for consideration. It is proposed that the requirement to waive the rules be reduced to a two-thirds majority, in accordance with Robert's Rules.

ARTICLE 11 – AMENDING/ADOPTING GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

1. Governing Documents are defined as the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Affiliate Agreement(s), Code of Conduct, and Sexual Abuse and Physical Screening Policy, and may be amended/adopted at any meeting of the Board of Directors.
2. Anyone wishing to adopt or amend a Governing Document must place the item on the agenda of the Board of Directors meeting by notifying the Secretary/ Treasurer in writing, not later than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. The specific wording of the proposed changes must be provided, in writing, to the Secretary/Treasurer not later than 21 days prior to the meeting. Items submitted without the specific, written proposal will not be accepted. The proposed changes must be distributed to the members of the Board of Directors at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which they are presented for adoption. Any additional Governing Document items that are to receive consideration of the Board of Directors must receive ~~unanimous~~ **two-thirds** approval of those present at the Board of Directors meeting in order to be placed on the agenda.

Youth Rules Changes

R1. The Playing Rules presently require that a scoresheet be used for all games – league, tournament and scrimmage. With our new definitions, the term "scrimmage" is used for coaches-on-ice scrimmages with no referees. Two teams playing a discretionary game with referees is now referred to as an "exhibition game". It is proposed to modify the verbiage to not require a scoresheet for a coaches-on-ice scrimmage.

VIII. PLAYING RULES

- [R1] O. Scoresheets – A scoresheet shall be used for all games; league, tournament and ~~scrimmage~~ **exhibition**.
1. The scoresheet shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
 - Date, time and location of the game.
 - The division and classification of the teams.
 - The home and visiting team player rosters including player names and numbers.
 - The home and visiting team coaches names, USA Hockey Coach Education Program (CEP) card numbers, CEP level attained and the year of certification.
 - Scoring and penalty information.
 - Printed names of the referee(s) and the linesmen and the signature of the referee(s).
 2. For MH District, Region and State Tournaments, the scoresheets shall be signed by all participating coaches attesting to the accuracy of the player roster and the CEP Information.
 3. If a game misconduct or match penalty is assessed, the on-ice officials shall receive the top copy of the scoresheet to accompany a game report to the cognizant district supervisor of officials.

R2. There was a situation this year where a low-budget small-town team made it to a Regional Tournament – with one set of jerseys (dark). This created a fair amount of confusion – do they always have to be the "away" team? What if the opposing team thinks that they're the "away" team, and the players only bring their dark jerseys to the game? Although this may seem simple, it got complicated. Additional language is proposed below to provide guidance for this circumstance.

R3. It has been proposed to not fill the open Tournaments Vice President position and assign those duties to the Tournament Committee Chair(s). This proposed change is linked to B2 above.

R4. There are some legacy provisions in the "Credentials" paragraph dealing with how to check in teams not registered in CyberSport (verifying IMR's and birth certificates). Since we no longer have any teams in Minnesota that are not registered in CyberSport, this language is no longer needed. The Credentials checking process is covered in detail on Pg. 78 of the current Handbook.

X. DISTRICT, REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

- [R2] G. All players on each team in region and state tournament play shall have similarly colored jerseys with numbers conspicuously displayed and each player and team must wear matching socks, if available. Two sets of jerseys with contrasting colors should be available. **In the event that a team has only one set of jerseys available, this shall be communicated to the tournament director who will advise the opposing teams to wear a contrasting color (the designation of Home and Away teams would be unaffected).**
- [R3] O. LOCATION/FORMAT/GAME SCHEDULE - The location (community and arena) of each regional and state tournament must be submitted by the hosting District Director or the cognizant Divisional Vice President to the MH ~~Vice President for~~ Tournaments **Committee Chairman** on or before the summer meeting of the MH Board of Directors. The tournament formats, including tournament dates and game times must be submitted to the ~~Vice President for~~ Tournaments **Committee Chairman** no later than November 1 in the year preceding the tournament. If the above requirements are not met, the ~~Vice President for~~ Tournaments **Committee Chairman** shall notify the cognizant Divisional Vice President within five days following the deadline. The cognizant Divisional Vice President is responsible for resolving the problem. This resolution must be accomplished within fifteen (15) days and the ~~Vice President for~~ Tournaments **Committee Chairman** is to be so notified. For Region and State tournaments with elimination-brackets, the team on the top of the bracket is home. For round-robin tournaments, the home team shall be clearly indicated.
- P. MINIMUM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS - The following minimum requirements shall apply to facilities used for MH Region and State Tournaments. Any exceptions must be requested in writing to the ~~MH Vice President for~~ Tournaments **Committee Chairman** for consideration by the Tournaments Committee.
- Q. SCHEDULE CHANGES - Only in cases of emergency should the announced game schedule be changed. Game schedules for regional and state tournaments will not be changed without prior approval of MH ~~Vice President for~~ Tournaments **Committee Chairman**. Often, teams wish to change the time for the consolation and/or third place game. The changing only results in additional problems. All teams entering the tournament will know in advance the game schedule and are expected to play the games when scheduled.
- [R4] R. CREDENTIALS - A Credentials Committee, including an official of MH such as a District Director or his/her designee, shall check each team's credentials prior their playing of any games. Each team participating in invitational, district, region or state tournaments must present the following credentials package to the Credentials Committee prior to participating in the tournament. Any team that does not have a properly completed credentials package is not allowed to participate in the tournament. A meeting of the coaches and managers of the participating teams should be held before the tournament starts.
 1. Player Roster completely filled out including the signatures of all participants (players and team officials). This roster must be signed by an individual that is authorized to approve rosters.
 - ~~2. A copy or photo copy of the IMR for each rostered player. Players registered and rostered via the CyberSport Registration System do not need IMR copies.~~
 - ~~3. A birth certificate issued by a governmental body (not a hospital certificate or a baptismal certificate) or a passport for each rostered player.~~
 - ~~4. A copy or photo copy of the IMR for each rostered team official. Team officials registered and rostered via the CyberSport Registration System do not need IMR copies. Note: for Minnesota District teams, individuals listed as "Managers" on the Official Roster are not allowed on the bench.~~
 5. Waivers for any players who are not members of the team's affiliate, based on the Participation Rule. Waivers apply only to MH teams. Invitational Tournaments are not required to check waivers.
 6. An approval letter...

Off-Season Affiliate Agreement

A1. A special modified Affiliate Agreement is needed for entities wanting to register their off-season teams. The proposed agreement is attached and submitted for Board approval.