

## **PART III – REGULATIONS**

### **A. DEFINITIONS**

1. Affiliation- The process of allowing higher Division or Category teams the opportunity to dress the maximum number of players allowable in accordance with Hockey Canada Playing Rules.
2. Affiliate Players- Refers to a player who participates with a Players (AP) team other than the team with whom they are registered, in accordance with Hockey Canada and HNO regulations.
3. Association- A local Hockey Organization operated and controlled by a duly elected Board of Directors, the members of which shall designate from among themselves the signing officers of the organization.
4. Bona Fide Team- A team operating full time in the specific division and category.
5. Branch- A geographic subdivision of Hockey Canada empowered to conduct amateur hockey within its jurisdiction. Branches are full members of Hockey Canada.
6. Branch Championship- An HNO sanctioned play-offs (in a series or tournament championship format) to declare champions of HNO at the age divisions and categories determined by the Board of Directors.
7. Category- Level of competition within a division e.g. AAA, AA, A,B, Rec
8. Divisions- means one of the following: Senior, Junior, Juvenile, Midget, Bantam, Peewee, Atom, Novice, Initiation
9. HCR- Hockey Canada Registry
10. Host Association- The Association operating a AAA representative team for the AAA Branch Championship
11. League- means a group of three or more hockey teams recognized by HNO as a League
12. Official Game Report- The official report of the activity from a sanctioned game verified by team Officials from each competing team and signed at the completion of the game by the On and Off-ice Officials.
13. On-Ice Sanctioned Activity- Refers to training, practice or game competition sanctioned involving members that are conducted within activity facilities used for ice hockey.
14. Recreational Hockey- Is a non-competitive stream that plays only within their Association and does not permit body checking
15. Regional Championship- A Hockey Canada sanctioned play-off (in a series or tournament format) involving more than one Hockey Canada Branch to declare a champion in a Hockey Canada defined region at age divisions and categories determined by the Hockey Canada Board of Directors.
16. Release-The unconditional release of a player from a team authorized by the Official signing officers of that team or association. The branch has the right, as its discretion, to place conditions on a release as per Hockey Canada Regulations.
17. Representative Team- A team formed from the East or West Zone in Peewee or Bantam, for the purpose of competing in the AAA Branch Championship.
18. Specially Affiliated Team- Teams permitted under the Special Affiliated Policy to form and compete in AA exhibition games and tournaments.
19. Suspension- The loss of an individual's rights to participate in sanctioned activities of Hockey Canada or HNO.
20. Team- A group of team officials, at least one of whom must be a coach and at least one of whom must be a Hockey Trainer Certification Program (HTCP) certified trainer and a group of registered players, at least one of whom must be a goaltender (except in Peewee and below) who are qualified in a division and category under HNO Regulations up to the maximum number provided by Hockey Canada Regulations.
21. Team Officials- All or any of the following registered persons involved in the management of a team and includes coach, trainer, manger and any assistant coach, assistant trainer or assistant managers.
22. Tournament-A schedule of games played among three (3) or more teams that follows an interlocking schedule that leads to an eventual winner (play-offs leading to Branch or National Championships when played in a tournament format are not considered tournament games for affiliation).
23. Tryout- An official sanctioned activity of a team for the purpose of player evaluation and team selection.

### **B. REGISTRATION**

1. Each Member Team, League or Association must register all players, team officials and teams on the Hockey Canada Registry to be considered members in good standing with the Branch.
2. Any team which is registered with the Branch on the Hockey Canada Registry shall not be allowed to play any type of hockey game with another team or group unless that other team or group is registered with Hockey Canada, USA Hockey, IIHF, or any other recognized organization by Hockey Canada and has the proper insurance actively in place at the time of play.

### C. TEAMS, LEAGUES AND ASSOCIATIONS

1. The Members of the Branch may establish teams, Leagues or Associations in accordance with the provisions of the Letters Patent and By-Laws of this Branch and in particular they shall comply with the following:
  - a) Each Member team, League or Association, shall hold its Annual General Meeting a minimum of five days prior to the Branch AGM.
  - b) The President of each team, League or Association shall give the Members in their team, League or Association 24 hour's notice of meetings called by him to consider matters affecting such team, League or Association.
  - c) Each team, League or Association shall within 30 days after the holding of their Annual General Meeting, forward to the Executive Director a true copy of the minutes of such meeting.
  - d) Each team, League or Association registered with this Branch shall submit a copy of their Articles, By-Laws and Regulations for approval by the Board. No changes will thereafter be permitted without the consent of the Board.
  - e) Two (2) weeks prior to the start of their schedules, each team, League or Association shall submit the names of its Officers and Executive Members.
2.
  - a) Minor Hockey Associations shall be required to categorize their teams from Novice to Juvenile and High School as follows:
    - i) AAA (Peewee, Bantam, Midget, Juvenile Only)
    - ii) AA
    - iii) A
    - iv) B
    - v) Development 1 (Novice Only)
    - vi) Development 2 (Novice Only)
    - vii) RecreationTeams will register on one of the categories listed above.
  - b) A Team, League or Association may operate in one (1) or more divisions and/or categories conducted by the Branch, but shall consist of not fewer than six (6) registered players and a maximum defined by Hockey Canada Regulation F.
  - c) A Team, League or Association with more than 19 players may apply to the Branch for exception using the Over 19 Policy.
  - d) In accordance with Hockey Canada Regulation E, Senior, Junior and Minor teams eligible to compete in Inter-Branch, Regional, Provincial and National Championships shall be required to register not less than 15 players, at least two (2) of whom must be goaltenders.
  - e) Teams registered at the Bantam B and Midget B category will not be permitted to body check.
3.
  - a) Minor Hockey Associations Operating AAA teams must declare their teams and the leagues in which they will be participating in by the Annual General Meeting.
  - b) Any Minor Hockey Association planning to operate a new AAA team entry must apply to the branch by January 1 of the preceding season.
  - c) Minor Hockey Associations operating AA teams must declare their teams and the leagues in which they will be participating in by October 15 of the current season.
  - d) Minor Hockey Associations must declare the names and classification of all teams other than those in 3 (a) and (c) by **November** 15 of the current season.

### D. PLAYER MOVEMENT AND AFFILIATION ONE ZONE

1. Player movement permitted:
  - a) Minor hockey players will be allowed to play for any Association within the Branch. The player must be in compliance with all HNO regulations and qualified under Hockey Canada regulations.
  - b) Minor hockey players will be automatically released at the conclusion of each season.
2. Player movement not permitted:
  - a) Players six (6) years of age or younger as of December 31 of the current season may only be registered to and play for an Initiation (I.P. 1) program. They are not permitted to affiliate to a higher division of hockey.
  - b) Player movement not permitted: Players seven (7) or eight (8) years of age as of December 31 of the current season may only be registered to and play for a Novice team.
3. Affiliation will only be recognized where:
  - a) Players are added, to Teams in Registry and identified as "Affiliates";

- b) The Executive Director or his designate(s) acknowledge receipt and identify said players as approved prior to an affiliate Player participating in any game with the Hockey Team to which he is affiliated;
- c) The affiliation has been endorsed by the President of the applicable MHA.
- d) A Hockey Team may affiliate with one or the other of:
  - i) one (1) Hockey Team from a lower Division or Category;
  - ii) up to nineteen (19) Specially Affiliated Players from a lower Division or Category
- e) A team cannot affiliate a team, or players from a team, that are registered in the same age classification within a league that they compete against.
- f) Affiliations will not be deemed to have taken place automatically, i.e. Hockey Team to Hockey Team without filing said affiliation with the Executive Director or his designate(s) and being added in the Registry.
- g) All affiliations shall terminate at the end of the current playing season.

#### E. REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

1. Each Zone defined by By-Law 305(a) has the authority to create Representative Teams in the Peewee and Bantam divisions that do not have a bona fide AAA program operating in that division.
2. Representative Teams shall be declared, in writing, to the Branch Office by **November 1** of each year of competition and these teams only will be eligible for Branch AAA Championships.
  - i. It will be up to each Zone to determine which Minor Hockey Association will be the Host Association of the Zone team.
3. Only bona fide Midget AAA teams may be eligible for the AAA Branch Championships, Regional Championships and Telus Cup National Midget AAA Championship as per the Telus Cup Technical Package regulations.
4. **In the case of AAA Peewee and Bantam teams being formed within the East and West Zones. The host association Peewee or Bantam team must be declared the zone AAA team by November 1<sup>st</sup>.**
5. **The team shall operate under the host association name and use the team nickname and logo.**
6. **A minimum of two goaltenders must be on the roster, registered of affiliate players.**
7. **The team is permitted to affiliate up to 15 specially affiliated players from any High School, AA, A or B team in their division of play and within their zone by January 15<sup>th</sup> of the current season.**
8. **A player, whose parent resides in the East or West zone are currently playing in the Central Zone, is eligible to affiliate to their parents' residence zone AAA team, if they are already not affiliated to the Central Zone AAA team. Hockey Canada Regulation F.3 will be used to confirm the parents' residence in the zone.**

#### F. TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES AND TRAINERS

1. All coaches, trainers, managers and officials requiring certification for the current season must be completed by December 31 of the current season.
2. All Head Coaches that coach teams in Atom or above at the AA category or above including Junior B must be Coach-Development 1 "Certified" (other than those requiring High Performance 1). All assistant coaches must be Coach 2- Coach Level "Trained" status.
3. All Head Coaches that coach Bantam AAA, Midget AAA (minor or major) and Junior A teams must be Coach-High Performance 1 "Certified". All assistant coaches must be a minimum of Coach-Development 1 "Trained".
4. A minimum of one (1) Team Official for all A and House League Minor Hockey teams **in the Atom to Midget divisions** must be Coach 2- Coach level trained.
5. A minimum of one (1) Team Official for every **10** players registered for an Initiation Program must be Coach 1-Intro to Coach trained.
6. **A minimum of one (1) Team Official for all Novice teams must be Coach 1-Intro to Coach trained.**
7. A minimum of one (1) Team Official for all teams must be certified in the Hockey Trainers Certification Program (HTCP), Level One.
8. A minimum of one (1) Team Official for all Junior, AAA or Representative teams must be certified in the Hockey Trainers Certification Program (HTCP), Level Two.
9. All registered Minor Hockey Team Officials who are on the ice during a practice shall wear a properly fastened, CSA approved helmet. There shall be no exceptions to this rule.
10. It is mandatory for all head coaches coaching Atom, Peewee or Bantam teams to complete the Hockey Canada Checking Skills Clinic.

#### **G. PARTICIPATION IN GAMES**

1. **Only players that are duly registered on the Official Game Report and attired in the appropriate protective equipment in order to participate in the game will be permitted on the players' bench during an HNO sanctioned game.**

#### **H. BRANCH BANNERS**

1. The Branch will present a banner, in lieu of a trophy, to each Branch Champion.
2. Divisions where only one (1) League exists, the winner of the League playoff will be declared the Branch Champion.

NOTE: League to be defined as per Hockey Canada Regulation B(31).