



MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

Memorandum of Association
&
Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Revision 1



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Memorandum of Association

Article 1: NAME

This Association shall be known as the Tri-Com Hockey League (“Tri-Com” or the “League”), operating as a Minor Hockey League, based out of the Metropolitan St. John’s Area and deriving its authority from Hockey Newfoundland & Labrador (“HNL”).

Article 2: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the League will be:

To foster and promote a competitive level of all-star hockey for youth of participating minor hockey associations within the Tri-Com area

To control and administer the playing of the game of hockey in accordance with the rules, regulations and etiquette of the game, and

To promote sportsmanship and respect amongst the players, coaches, parents and fans of the League

Article 3: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the League shall consist of the seven Tri-Com based minor hockey associations that have historically participated in the League. More specifically:

Avalon Minor Hockey Association
Conception Bay Regional Minor Hockey Association
Goulds Minor Hockey Association
Northeast Minor Hockey Association
Mount Pearl Minor Hockey Association
Southern Shore Minor Hockey Association
St. John’s Minor Hockey Association

Other teams from outside Tri-Com wishing to enter the league must adhere to the procedure outlined in Bylaw 10.

Article 4: GENERAL

The Memorandum of Association (“the MOA”) shall conform to the Articles, By-Laws, and Regulations of HNL, HNL Minor Council and Hockey Canada. In the event any section of the MOA is in conflict with the Articles, By-Laws and Regulations of any of



HNL, HNL Minor Council or Hockey Canada, the Executive Committee is empowered to make such changes as are required so that this MOA complies with the Articles, By-Laws and Regulations of HNL, HNL Minor Council or Hockey Canada.

Article 5: OPERATING COMMITTEE

The Operating Committee shall consist of one representative of each of the seven participating minor hockey associations, and the League Administrator.

Each association shall endeavour to provide a qualified individual to represent them on the Operations Committee for the duration of the current hockey season. This individual should have responsibilities associated with the operation of the entire all-star program of the association as opposed to only coaching responsibilities with one team.

An Executive Committee, consisting of a President, Vice President and Treasurer will be elected from the members of the Operating Committee at the first meeting for the new season. The Administrator cannot hold an Executive Committee position.

Article 6: BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS

The Bylaws and Regulation must be followed by all persons involved in the administration, management and operation of the League, and it's Teams.

The Bylaws and Regulation may be modified and added to during normal meetings of the Operating Committee as allowed for in Article 7.

Article 7: AMENDMENTS

All proposed amendments to the Memorandum of Association, Bylaws and Regulations, or the Duties of the Administrator will require a two-thirds majority vote of the Operating Committee members in attendance at the meeting where the vote is taking place.

A minimum of 7 days Notice is required for a meeting where an amendment to the Memorandum of Association, Bylaws and Regulations, or the Duties of the Administrator will be discussed and voted upon. The agenda for the meeting and the proposed amendment must be provided at least 3 days in advance of the meeting.

Article 8: MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Operating Committee will be held as required.

Meetings will be called by the Administrator, at the request of any member of the Operating Committee.



Meetings of the Operating Committee will be chaired by the President, and in his/her absence the Vice President.

Attendance at Operating Committee meetings is mandatory. A meeting quorum will be 5 members of the Operating Committee, including the meeting chairperson and the League Administrator.

Any member of the Operating Committee, who misses three consecutive meetings, without having an alternate representative in attendance, will be asked to remove themselves from the Operating Committee. The President, at the request of the Operating Committee, will seek a replacement representative from the sponsoring association.



Bylaws

Bylaw 1: OPERATING COMMITTEE

The Operating Committee shall consist of one representative of each of the eight participating minor hockey association, along with the League Administrator.

Bylaw 2: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, Vice President and Treasurer elected for a one year term from the members of the Operating Committee. An Executive Committee member can hold the same executive position for a maximum of 2 consecutive one year terms.

The Executive Committee will be elected at the first meeting of the Operating Committee for the current season.

The President's role will be to act as the chairperson of League meetings and as the public spokesperson for the League. The President will also act as liaison between the League and HNL.

The Vice President will support the President in his role by filling in whenever the President is unavailable to fulfill their duties.

By-Law 3: DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

The League will convene a three person discipline committee when required, under the direction of the Vice President. The members of the discipline committee will be selected for their hockey knowledge, familiarity with the League, and experience with minor hockey.

Other members of the Operating Committee and members of team management are prohibited from serving on the Discipline Committee. The exception being, if the Vice President is believed to be in a conflict of interest, the Operating Committee will select another member from within their ranks to act as chairperson of the Discipline Committee in place of the Vice President.

The Discipline Committee will make recommendations to the Operating Committee, who in turn will be responsible for imposing a disciplinary action upon a player, parent, members of team management, or other person referred to the Discipline Committee for consideration.



By-Law 4: PROTEST COMMITTEE

The League will convene a three person Protest Committee when required, under the direction of the Vice President. The members of the Protest Committee will be selected for their hockey knowledge, familiarity with the League, and experience with minor hockey.

Other members of the Operating Committee and members of team management are prohibited from serving on the Protest Committee. The exception being, if the Vice President is believed to be in a conflict of interest, the Board of Directors will select another member from within their ranks to act as chairperson of the Protest Committee in place of the Vice President.

The Protest Committee will make recommendations to the President, who in turn will be responsible for ensuring those recommendations are carried within an appropriate timeframe.

By-Law 5: VOTING

All members of the Operating Committee will have one vote for all matters under consideration at meetings.

When a vote is called, all members of the Operating Committee are required to vote, with the exception of the Chairperson for the meeting. There will be no abstentions. Abstentions will be considered to be a vote against the motion.

In the event of a tie, the Chairperson for the meeting will cast a final deciding vote.

By-Law 6: LEAGUE STRUCTURE

The League will operate with the following divisions of minor hockey as established by Hockey Canada:

- Bantam A
- Bantam B
- Peewee A
- Peewee B
- Atom A
- Atom B

By-Law 7: TEAMS

Prior to the start of the season Associations must provide the Operating Committee with the list of teams they wish to enter in each division.

Associations with 2 teams must enter a team in both the A and B division.

Associations with 1 team must identify the division in which they prefer to enter the team. The Operating Committee will determine which division is most appropriate for



the team. Where practical, a pre-season tournament will be used to determine the appropriate division for the teams from each association.

The Operating Committee reserves the right to reassign teams after the season has commenced. The transfer of teams between divisions will occur if the teams in question are not of a comparable calibre to the other teams in the division. Transfers may be made from A to B divisions and from B to A divisions. Rule 17 covers the procedure involving team transfers.

By-Law 8: PLAYOFFS

There will be a playoff at the end of the regular season to declare a divisional champion. Only the top four teams in each division will advance to the playoffs.

By-Law 9: SCHEDULE

Each team will play a balanced schedule of approximately 30 games per season. There may be some variation depending upon the number of teams per division, and the overall duration of the hockey season.

The league regular season and playoff schedule will be the responsibility of the League Administrator. The League schedule will be posted to the League website and maintained daily.

Each association will provide one game time slot for every team participating in the League. The League Administrator will determine which game slot is assigned to which team. The objective of the League regular season schedule is to minimize the number of schedule conflicts on a weekly basis.

By-Law 10: ENTRANTS FROM OUTSIDE TRI-COM

Other teams wishing to enter the league must file a letter of application with the League President prior to the conclusion of the HNL Fall Meeting of the year in which the team requests entry.

The letter of application is to include a list of available ice time and the division of entry for the team. Applications are for one season only. Applications for B divisions will not be accepted if there are already six teams in that division.

Applications will be considered by the Operating Committee for entry into the League. Teams will be accepted with a two-thirds majority vote of the associations competing in the division in which entry is sought.



League Operating Rules and Regulations

Rule 1: PURPOSE

The purpose of the League operating rules and regulations is to clearly define the expectations of the League when it comes to the operation of the teams. Players, parents, team management and the Operating Committee should be familiar with the League's operating rules and regulations.

Rule 2: AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAYING RULES AND REGULATIONS

All proposed amendments to the Playing Rules and Regulations will require a two-thirds majority vote of the Operating Committee.

A minimum of 7 days Notice is required for a meeting where an amendment to the Playing Rules and Regulations will be discussed and voted upon. The agenda for the meeting and the proposed amendment must be provided at least 3 days in advance of the meeting.

A notice of motion can be made at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Operating Committee that an amendment to the Playing Rules and Regulations will be discussed and voted upon at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Operating Committee. The motion wording must be included in the minutes of the meeting where the notice was given, and the discussion and vote identified on the agenda of the meeting where it will take place.

Rule 3: LEAGUE PLAY

The League will play both a regular season and a playoff in each division to select the Division Champion.

Each team will play a balanced schedule of approximately 30 games per season. There may be some variation depending upon the number of teams per division, and the overall duration of the hockey season.

A playoff series, as described in Rule 14, will follow the regular season.

Rule 4: GAME DURATION

Games will be a minimum of 30 minutes duration with all periods of 10 minute stop time duration in a 50 minute time slot. The exception being in Bantam A where games will be of 45 minutes duration with all periods of 15 minute stop time duration with a two hour provision of ice time.

Associations may schedule games for a ninety minute time slot if there is a guarantee that additional time can be made available to complete a game that runs more than ninety minutes. The clock cannot be ran to finish up within the limits of a ninety minute time slot.



The ice will be resurfaced between the second and third period of Bantam A games, time permitting in the opinion of the referee.

The referee may instruct the minor official to run the time clock in order to ensure the game will be concluded on schedule. However, there shall be no running of the clock for the last minute of the game. No additional time can be added to the game clock at the conclusion of the game.

Rule 5: DEFAULTS

Teams must ice thirteen (13) skaters plus one (1) goalie as a minimum. For games scheduled at 5:30 p.m. weekdays, minimum number of players must be dressed and on the team bench before the start of the second period. Otherwise the minimum number of players must be on the team bench prior to the start of the first period. Teams without the minimum number of players will forfeit two points to the opposing team. Games will be played to their conclusion with all penalties and suspensions applying as if the minimum number of players participated. The only time a game will be halted is if in the opinion of the referee it is unsafe for the players to proceed.

Any team that defaults three (3) games shall be reviewed by the Operations Committee to determine whether or not the team should stay in the league.

Rule 6: GAME RESULTS

Each team will identify a representative who will be responsible for uploading game results on the League website. The Association's Operating Committee representative will provide the League Administrator with a list of team representatives immediately prior to the first game of the season.

The home team is responsible for uploading game results to the league website. The League Administrator will assign a user id and password to the team representative responsible for uploading game results.

All game results are to be updated the same evening as the game was played.

Within 24 hours of the completion of the game, the home team is responsible for sending a copy of the official game sheet to the League Administrator. The official game sheet can be sent by facsimile transmission or scanned in and sent as a PDF file to the League Administrator's email account info@tricom.sport.ca.

When a game includes a suspension that will carry over to future games, the home team is responsible for sending an email to the League Administrator within 24 hours of the conclusion of the game advising of the nature of the suspension. This requirement is in addition to the transmission of the official game sheet to the League Administrator.



Rule 7: TEAM ROSTERS

Teams will consist of a minimum of fifteen skaters and two goalies. Team rosters must conform to Hockey Canada and HNL rules for maximum number of players.

The minimum number of players required for a League game to commence will be thirteen skaters and one goalie.

Rule 8: TEAM COLOURS

Teams should have both a dark and a light coloured jersey. The home team is to wear the dark coloured jersey and the visiting team is to wear the light coloured jersey.

Home team is to change colours in the event of a conflict of colours.

Rule 9: LEAGUE REGISTRATION FEES

League Registration Fees will consist of an association component and a per team component.

The association component will consist of \$500 per association.

The per team component will consist of a \$75 per team fee.

For example, an association with 3 teams will pay $\$500 + \$75 + \$75 + \$75 = \$725$.

The League will issue an invoice to each association after the start of the season. There will be no refunds issued after the initial invoice has been paid.

Rule 10: OFFICIALS

Associations will arrange for all on ice and off ice officials for all League games played in their home arena.

The League Administrator will consult with the Avalon Zone Coordinator to establish the minimum standard for on-ice officials for the League.

Rule 11: FINANCES

The management of League finances is the responsibility of the Treasurer.

The Treasurer will present a Budget to the Operating Committee prior to the start of each hockey season.

The Treasurer will prepare financial statements and present them at meetings of the Operating Committee.



A year end financial statement will be presented to the Operating Committee for April 30th each season.

The financial year will be from May 1st to April 30th each season.

Signing Authority for League accounts will be the President, Treasurer and the Administrator.

Rule 12: SCHEDULES

The role of Scheduler will be undertaken by the League Administrator.

League schedules will be completed in advance of the season and released in stages through the League web site.

All games are scheduled to start no earlier than 5:30pm weekdays, and must be concluded by 10:00pm with the exception of the Atom divisions where games must be concluded before 9:00pm.

Changes to League schedules require a minimum of 48 hours notice with the exception of games being postponed due to adverse weather conditions or the unavailability of the host facility. Requests for schedule changes are to be made to the League Administrator by the Association's Operating Committee representative. *Coaches cannot request changes to League schedules.*

The League Administrator will determine if the request is bona fide and if approved will work with the two Associations to reschedule the game. Otherwise the scheduled game must stand and if not played two points must be awarded to the opponent.

Postponed games must be added to the schedule as soon as possible after the original scheduled time. There will be a two (2) weeks allotted at the end of the season to provide an opportunity to rescheduled games.

Rule 13: PLAYOFFS

A playoff series to select League champions for each division will commence at the conclusion of the regular season. The Tri-Com League playoffs are to start no later than two (2) weeks after the end of the regular schedule for a particular division.

The League Administrator shall ensure that there is normally a minimum of four (4) weeks available for playoff games prior to Easter Sunday. Extending the season past Easter Sunday will require the approval of the Operations Committee.

The playoffs will consist of a semi-final round with the top four teams in the division competing, and a final round with the two winners of the semi-final round competing.

Each playoff round will be a best 2 of 3 games format, or first team to acquire 4 points, under the following format.



1. Any game other than a final game is completed at the end of regulation time even if the score is tied.
2. If teams are tied in points at the end of the third game, a fourth game will be scheduled.
3. If the third game ends in a tie and teams are tied in points, then overtime will be used rather than a fourth game.
4. If the teams are tied at the end of regulation time in the fourth game, then overtime will be played.
5. If overtime is required, there will be a maximum of two (2) ten minute sudden victory overtime periods played.
6. If the game is still tied after two overtime periods, the game will be declared a no contest and a new game scheduled. The visiting team will host the rescheduled game.

Bantam A playoff rounds will be a best 3 of 5 games under the following format:

1. Any games tied at the end of regulation play will immediately go to a sudden-death five-minute overtime period featuring 4 on 4 hockey.
2. If the score is still tied after the sudden-death period, then a 3 shooter shoot-out will take place to decide the winner. If necessary, teams will go shot for shot after the initial three shots each, but no player will be permitted to shoot twice until all players have had an opportunity to shoot.

The minimum number of players required for playoff games is the same as during the regular season.

Rule 14: PLAYOFF SEEDING

Playoff seeding will be based upon the final standings at the end of the regular season. The semi-final round will involve the 1st place team playing the 4th place team, while the 2nd place team will play the 3rd place team.

In the event of a tie for the fourth playoff position based upon points, a special playoff game will be held in the rink of the team with the first available ice time. Sudden death overtime must be used if required.

Ties for first, second and third positions will be decided by the following:

1. Record against each other
2. If still tied goals for and against percentage in games involving the tied teams as per HNL tie breaking rules
3. If still tied lowest penalty minutes in games involving the tied teams

Rule 15: PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

The first two games of each playoff series will be scheduled according to the regular schedule of ice time used throughout the Tri-Com Season. Thus the higher placed team may not always have the first game, but each team will host one game. If the higher placed team can provide ice time earlier in the week, before the regularly scheduled ice time for the lower placed team, then the first game will held at the earlier time. Forty-eight hours notice and the approval of the League Administrator will be required for the higher placed team to request to reschedule the first game.



The odd numbered games in any series shall be played at the home rink and time slot provided by the higher placed team. The lower placed team shall host the even numbered games in each series.

In divisions below Bantam A, games (except the final game of a series) are to be allotted the same length of a time slot as the regular season and will be subject to the same rules and regulations as the regular season.

The host association of the final game is required to have a minimum of 2 hours of ice time (2.5 hours for Bantam A) available in case the teams are tied after regulation time.

Rule 16: SUSPENSIONS

The League employs the HNL Suspension Guidelines as a basis for suspensions; however League suspensions are typically longer than HNL suspensions. The Tri-Com Suspension Guidelines are included at the back of this document.

The Operating Committee, through the Executive Committee, reserves the right to increase the duration of HNL suspensions where the situation warrants this action.

Players receiving three (3) penalties in any Tri-Com League game will receive a game ejection for the remainder of the contest. There is no carryover from the game ejection to the player's next game.

Any suspension received in Tri-Com must be served in Tri-Com. House league, exhibition, tournament or high school games cannot be used to serve a suspension issued in a Tri-Com game. However, HNL sanctioned tournaments scheduled prior to the awarding of a suspension, in which the players Tri-Com team is previously scheduled to participate can be used to serve a Tri-Com suspension.

The onus is on coaches to ensure that all players on the game sheet are participating in the game and are permitted to play and are not currently under suspension. Any coach who uses a suspended player will be subject to the following disciplinary measures:

1. Two (2) game suspension to the Head Coach for a first offence,
2. Suspension of the Head Coach the duration of which to be determined by the Protest and Suspension Committee for subsequent offences, and
3. Games where a team uses a suspended player will be forfeited to the opposing team.

Rule 17: TRANSFERRING TEAMS BETWEEN DIVISIONS

Under Bylaw 7, the Operating Committee reserves the right to transfer a team to another division if they are not of a comparable calibre to the other teams in their original division.

When a team is transferred to a new division they will start with 0 points. There will be no points transferred from the original division.



All games involving the transferred team in the division from which the team was transferred will be removed from the game results for that division. It will be as if the team never played in the original division from the perspective of divisional standings.

When the transferred team is added to the schedule in the new division, the transferred team will play the same number of games against each team in the new division. To make the playoffs the transferred team will need more points at season's end than the 5th place team in the new division.

Rule 18: PROTESTS

Protests of the interpretation of a League rule may be made in writing to the League Administrator within 24 hours of the initial interpretation of the rule. Protests are to be accompanied by a \$100 fee that will be refunded if the protest is successful. The \$100 fee will be credited to the Tri-Com bank account for all unsuccessful protests.

All protests must be filed by the Association's Tri-Com Operating Committee Representative. Coaches cannot file a protest directly.

Rule 19: APPEALS

Appeals of any decision regarding a protest can be made to the HNL Appeals Committee, if necessary. All appeals to the HNL Appeals Committee must be made in writing within 14 days of the protest ruling and this appeal must be accompanied with a \$200.00 appeal fee made payable to Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador. \$100.00 will be refundable if you are successful with your appeal.



Duties of the League Administrator

GENERAL

The League Administrator will be responsible for the day to day operation of the League. The Administrator will answer to the Operating Committee and will work closely with the Executive of the Operating Committee.

APPOINTMENT

The League Administrator will be appointed for a 2-year term that can be renewed with no limit on the number of terms served. The honorarium paid to the League Administrator will be set in the annual League budget, as agreed upon by the Operating Committee.

The Operating Committee can use any method it wishes to identify candidates for the position of Administrator. The appointment must be made prior to the start of the hockey season.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The duties and responsibilities of the League Administrator include:

- Calling meetings on behalf of the Operating Committee as required
- Calling meetings on behalf of the Executive Committee as required
- Act as recording secretary for all meetings
- Managing the Tri-Com web site
- Schedule League games
- Maintain and circulate on a weekly basis a record of any/all suspensions
- Conduct the day to day business of the League (Pay bills, purchasing, etc)
- Support the President to fulfill the role as media spokesperson
- Other duties as assigned

AUTHORITY

The league Administrator has the authority to act on behalf of the Operating Committee and the Executive Committee in the following matters;

- Interpretation of League rules and regulations
- Payment of bills
- Purchasing of items in the approved budget
- Notify players of suspensions through the appropriate Operating Committee representative
- Negotiate changes to the League schedule



Suspension Guidelines

The duration of suspensions is established by Hockey Newfoundland & Labrador (“HNL”) on an annual basis. In addition, serious offenses including gross misconducts and match penalties are ruled upon by the President of HNL.

Tri-Com promotes a competitive game of hockey played with the established rules of the League, HNL and Hockey Canada. The League considers offenses serious enough to warrant suspensions as matters requiring supplementary discipline. Therefore supplementary discipline will be issued for the following suspensions:

- All ***match penalties*** will receive one (1) game added by the League to the suspension issued by HNL
- All ***gross misconducts*** will receive one (1) game added by the League to the suspension issued by HNL
- All major penalties for ***checking from behind*** will receive one (1) game added by the League to the suspension issued by HNL
- All major penalties for ***checking to the head*** will receive one (1) game added by the League to the suspension issued by HNL
- All major penalties for ***fighting*** will receive one (1) game added by the League to the suspension issued by HNL



Endorsement

The Associations included as members of the Tri-Com Minor Hockey League endorse the establishment of the Association as described in the Memorandum of Association, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations.

The undersigned have received authority from their respective associations to endorse this document.

Avalon Celtics Minor Hockey Association

Print Name

Signature

Conception Bay Regional Minor Hockey Association

Print Name

Signature

Goulds Minor Hockey Association

Print Name

Signature

Mount Pearl Minor Hockey Association

Print Name

Signature

Northeast Minor Hockey Association

Print Name

Signature

Southern Shore Minor Hockey Association

Print Name

Signature

St. John's Minor Hockey Association

Print Name

Signature