

PORT HURON MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Bylaws

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Bylaws

Article I - Rules and Regulations

The Port Huron Minor Hockey Association shall at all times maintain membership in USA Hockey and the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) and other affiliated hockey associations in which its teams participate. The rules and regulations of these organizations will govern the Port Huron Minor Hockey Association, except as amended herein.

Article II - Registration

Player registration requirements are:

- A. Online USA Hockey registration form.
- B. Signed Parent, Player Code of Conduct & Ethics and STAR program forms. If forms are not signed Player will not be registered.
- C. Registration fees paid according to the rules and regulations set by the PHMHA Board prior to each playing season.
- D. No refunds will be made except for cases of illness or injury. Pro-rated refunds may be granted to players making high school rosters.
- E. A refund will be based on the pro-rated cost of ice time including USA Hockey Insurance, 10 % of the total registration fee, the % of the MAHA team cost.
- F. Any requests for refunds must be in writing to the Board.

Article III - Eligibility

Section 1

The Association reserves the right, through the Board of Directors, to prescribe qualification requirements, including the promulgation of rules and decisions specifying grounds for refusing or withdrawing participation, disciplinary actions, and related matters.

Addendum: The following rule change was voted on and passed at the MAHA summer meeting July 10, 2005; By-Law No. 2.

- A. Membership Fee – Annual registration fees and/or dues may be established by the Board of Directors for team registration or for membership in MAHA.
- B. Other assessments necessary for the operation of this Association may, from time to time, be established by the Board of Directors. All such assessments, etc., shall be payable as directed by said Board or Executive committee, in the Board's absence. Failure to comply with either Section A or B of this by-law and any rules promulgated hereunder shall result in the immediate suspension of said non-complying league, association, team and/or individual(s) and said suspension shall remain in full force and effect until such time as there is full compliance.

Section 2

Each player shall play in the division determined by USA Hockey and MAHA rules and regulations for their age classifications. Any player wishing to play up a division shall meet the following criteria:

- A. A player wishing to move up a division must fill out the electronic "Player Movement Request" on the association website at least 7 days prior to the scheduled tryout or draft skate.
- B. Travel players requesting to move up can attend the tryout for the team they are requesting to move up to.
- C. House players requesting to move up must attend the draft skate for their current age classification. Player movement will also depend on the current number of players registered for that division. Evaluations will be completed by the Player Movement Committee during the draft skate.
- D. Starting with the 2019-20 season, each travel / house team will be allowed to carry a maximum of three players of a younger birth year.
 - i. Players currently playing on a higher division will be "grandfathered" into the team they are playing on even if the team has more than three players.

- ii. If a player is cut from a travel / house team after a future tryout / draft, they will lose their “grandfathered” status.
- iii. Players will only be considered to move up if they are a top five player on their current team / age
- E. The Coaches Committee and the 2 Coaches from the Division involved will meet to discuss the proposed player movement. The Coaches Committee will make a recommendation to the PHMHA Board of Directors.
- F. Goalies will only be considered to move up if there is an open roster spot available for that position.
- G. PHMHA Board of Directors will vote on the Coaches Committee recommendation within 7 days.

Section 3 Any registered player in the PHMHA may not participate with any other rostered team other than their own rostered team, per USA Hockey Insurance guidelines

Section 4 A registration fee, in an amount established by the Board of Directors, shall be collected from each player at the start of the season. This registration fee must be received by the Association in accordance with terms prescribed by the Board. Failure to pay the balance of any moneys due, in accordance with the terms prescribed by the Board of Directors, shall result in a player being denied further participation until such time as payment is made. Collection action will be taken.

Section 5 In financial-hardship cases, the coach, or his designate, shall advise the Executive Committee of the situation along with recommendations of the amount that can be paid or the delayed payment schedule that can be met. The Executive Committee decision regarding financial arrangements will be final.

Section 6 If a player participated in the previous season without full payment of PHMHA fees, the amount of the arrearage plus the current season’s fees, plus any late fees, must be paid in full before the player is allowed to play or practice with a PHMHA team.

Section 7 If players of the same family wish to participate on the same team in a given division, the parents must inform the Convenor in writing prior to the draft. Efforts will be made to place those players on the same team, but team balance and equality will not be sacrificed in the process.

Section 8 Players are responsible for maintaining PHMHA equipment, such as jersey socks, and goalie equipment in good condition. If a player deliberately damages, misplaces, or does not return PHMHA equipment, that player will be required by the Board to return the equipment or replace it as a condition of continuing league play or participating in the Association thereafter.

Article IV - League Games

Section 1 In the Mite House divisions, all players will play a substantially equal amount of time per period in a game. To assist teams in changing lines, the Convenor, or his designated assistant, may stop the time clock and play at regular intervals as determined by the Board, regardless of the condition of play, so the lines may be changed.

Section 2 All house players shall receive fair treatment in regards to ice time throughout the course of the season.

- A. The coach does reserve the right to use appropriate action in any disciplinary situation (i.e., breaking team rules).
- B. The coach also has the right to use the last 5 minutes of any game to do what is best for the team. This is not to be done at the expense of player development and is used only if necessary.
- C. The coach is responsible for all decisions made and will explain the situation to the child and parent of that child if the situation is not understood. Any complaints or conversation must be done under all parent rules. The decision and reasoning must be respected if it falls under the rules above.

Ice time for travel players shall be left up to the discretion of the coach.

Section 3 No player shall go onto the ice until the ice resurfacing machine is completely off the ice. No pucks shall be on the ice until all rink doors are closed. Violation of the provision may be penalized as a minor bench penalty by either the referee or the Convenor or his designated assistant.

Section 4 All Convenors, coaches, and managers shall see that no unauthorized personnel are allowed in the general area around or near the player's bench, penalty box, locker rooms, and Officials rooms during games or practices without approval of the Convenor. Violators must vacate the area or they will be subject to disciplinary action.

Section 5 Each ice time will consist of a minimum of 50 minutes. Each game shall have at least a three-minute warm-up time prior to the start of the game unless otherwise directed by the Convenor, or his designated assistant.

Section 6 If it is necessary, at any point in time, to determine the ranking of teams in a division for any purpose, the ranking shall be determined by MAHA regulations.

Section 7 House League Playoffs

- A. At the conclusion of each regular season's league play, there will be a playoff held in every division if there are 2 or more teams.
- B. All teams are eligible to participate.
- C. Each division playoff will be organized as a single or double game elimination or round robin.
- D. All the Association's Bylaws and operating rules shall apply during the playoffs. In a round-robin playoff, each team plays every other with the winner to be determined by the Convenor.
- E. For single- and double-elimination tournaments, all games shall be played to a decision. In the event of a tie game at the end of regulation time, the two teams will immediately play a 5 minute sudden-death overtime period. If at the end of the sudden-death overtime period a tie still exists, there will be a 5 player shoot-out and if needed a sudden-death shoot-out to determine the winner of the game.
- F. Championship Games will be played to a conclusion starting with a 5-minute sudden death overtime.

Section 9 Canadian teams will be governed by PHMHA, MAHA, and USA Hockey playing rules when playing in Port Huron.

ARTICLE V - UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Section 1 All uniforms and equipment issued to players of the PHMHA shall only be used in authorized games or practices.

Section 2 Each coach shall be responsible for all equipment issued to his team and for its return or replacement. Each coach may be required to sign a receipt for the jerseys, socks, and/or equipment of PHMHA issued to his team including goalie equipment. Failure to return such equipment at the end of the season or tournament shall obligate the coach and/or player to reimburse the association for the replacement value of the equipment. An equipment/uniform fee may be assessed.

Section 3 All teams, within the PHMHA, will be known as the Flags. House league teams may have any color jersey or team name approved by the Board. The Flag logo will be displayed on the front or shoulder of the jersey. Team jackets will have the PHMHA emblem displayed on the front of the jacket. Travel teams must adhere to the red / White / Black Jersey format, ie..Detroit, Chicago, Ottawa. The Sponsor may request to change the colors however That request must be submitted in writing by the team manager or head coach to the convenor and is subject to board approval. Any team that is granted approval must have the Flags logo on both shoulders. Approval lasts till that team needs to order new jerseys then they must re-apply.

Section 4 Travel teams shall be responsible for furnishing a minimum of two sets of jerseys (home and away) with numbers on the back. Sponsors names may be placed in any or all three places on the jerseys. Sponsors name may be placed across the top of the shoulders, on the back or on the outside of each shoulder.

Sponsor name may also be placed on the helmets. If the sponsor chooses to purchase additional equipment, such as equipment bags, garment bags, jackets or any other items, they may place their names or logos on these items, along with the Flags logo, subject to obtaining prior Convenor approval. The head coach and manager are responsible for obtaining the required approval prior to any purchases.

Section 5 Any equipment, jerseys, bags, etc that were donated to the team in exchange for a tax ID number, is property of the team and upon leaving the team, it may be collected by the coach.

ARTICLE VI - TEAM FORMATIONS

Section 1 Each Convenor is responsible for organizing and conducting a tryout or draft skate of all players registered to play in that division.

Section 2 The Convenor shall organize a coaches & managers meeting prior to the division's player rating sessions. Attendance is mandatory for all division coaches & Managers. The following shall be discussed at this meeting:

- A. The league's insurance claim procedure.
- B. The league's first-aid procedure.
- C. The use of PHMHA equipment.
- D. The necessary protective equipment that each player must wear.
- E. League operating rules.
- F. Scheduling refs
- G. Ice Schedule changes
- H. Team account and finances

Section 3 Each House league division's tryout and draft should be conducted so as to create teams of equal ability and performance at the beginning of the regular season according to USA Hockey and MAHA regulations. To this end, the following procedures will generally be followed in each division each year. With the consent of the Convenor or where appropriate, the Board of Directors may deviate from these procedures in individual cases or for compelling reasons.

- A. One or more division tryout sessions shall be conducted. All players will attend at least one tryout session unless excused by the Convenor. No Association member shall urge or influence any player to performance at less than his best ability at each tryout. The Convenor, coaches and other designated personnel, shall rate each player as to ability during the tryout.
- B. An open draft of all players will be conducted every year. Every player who registers and tries out will be assigned to a team. The Convenor, coaches and other designated personnel, shall make every effort to create teams of equal ability and performance.
- C. Head coaches will be assigned to teams before the draft. Head coaches' sons or daughters may be transferred to their father's teams by adjusting the team roster, but the ability and performance of the respective teams will be kept equal in this process. Similar adjustments may be made so that brothers and sisters can play on the same team if desired by the parents. At the conclusion of each draft, any applicable USA Hockey or MAHA rules will be reviewed to insure compliance with such rules. Any adjustments necessary to conform with those rules shall be made.
- D. Only the Head Coach and one other person per team will be permitted in the draft.

Section 4 Late registering players not assigned to a team in the draft may be placed on teams by the Convenor after having been evaluated.

ARTICLE VII - SUSPENSIONS

- Section 1 All suspensions for penalties shall be handled according to MAHA, USA Hockey and S.T.A.R. Program rules and guidelines.
- Section 2 Any misconduct on the part of an Association member may result in suspension from all Association activities until such time as said member can appear before the Disciplinary and Accountability Committee for disciplinary action.
- Section 3 It shall be the responsibility of the Convenor and/or Executive Committee to enforce these rules and attempt to inform affected players, coaches and parents of these rules when violations occur.

ARTICLE VIII - COACH AND MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Section 1 All PHMHA coaches and managers must consider the participation and advancement of every player to be their fundamental coaching objective.
- Section 2 All coaches and Managers participating in the PHMHA program shall be recommended by the Convenor and Coaches Committee and approved by the Board.
- Section 3 All coaches and managers must be knowledgeable of, abide by, and strictly enforce all rules and regulations incorporated in the PHMHA Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct and Ethics and STAR Program. Coaches are required to participate in all coaching clinics and ACE Programs designed for their benefit.
- A. The Board requires all House and Travel coaches to be certified per USA Hockey regulations.
 - B. The Board recommends that at least one member of the teams Staff have a current CPR certification.
- Section 4 The coaches shall be responsible for the conduct of themselves, their assistants, team manager, players, parents and team visitors at all times. They must attempt to prevent disorderly conduct before, during, and after each game on or off the ice, and at any place in the rink, place of business, or place of lodging.
- Section 5 The coach, assistant coach, or manager, or their designate must arrive at the ice arena a minimum of thirty minutes prior to a scheduled game or practice. The coach or his assistant must be on the ice (or on the bench) at practices as soon as the players are on the ice.
- Section 6 Any coach of a team assigned ice for a practice or game will be totally responsible for that ice according to the published ice schedule unless otherwise arranged by the Convenor.
- Section 7 The coach and manager are responsible for the conduct of their players in the locker room as well as the condition of their locker rooms before, during, and after a game or practice.
- Section 8 The coach or manager is responsible for those skaters on the ice during a practice session. Such skaters shall only include the coach and his designated assistants and registered team players. All players must wear complete protective equipment at all times while on the ice during practices, tryouts, and games.
- Section 9 The coach is responsible for seeing that his team leaves the ice immediately at the conclusion of their scheduled practice time. If a coach desires to eliminate the resurfacing of the ice prior to his practice, he must notify the ice machine operator fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the scheduled practice.
- Section 10 The assistant coach or manager shall assume the responsibilities and duties of the head coach in his absence.
- Section 11 It is the responsibility of each head coach to provide competent instruction in the game of ice hockey for all players on his team, promote citizenship, fellowship and sportsmanship at all times, adhere to league Constitution and Bylaws, and appoint a competent manager and assistant coach.

Section 12 Each coach shall sign a receipt for any equipment issued to their team.

Section 13 It is the responsibility for each team manager (or, in the absence of a manager, the coach) to:

- A. Deliver to the Convenor or his designate all player dues collected, registration forms, Financial Statements, Equipment Inventories and Game Log by April 15.
- B. To maintain PHMHA-issued equipment.
- C. To ensure volunteers for the Silver Stick Tournament, ALL PHMHA teams will be allowed to schedule only one (1) league game and NO practices during each weekend (Thursday through Sunday) of the Silver Stick Tournament. Any violation of this rule shall be referred to the Discipline and Accountability Committee for further action.

Section 14 Each coach and Manager shall agree to abide by and enforce all PHMHA, MAHA, USA Hockey and STAR Program rules and regulations.

Section 15 Head coaches shall create and follow a detailed set of team rules, which shall be submitted to the Coaches Committee for approval. These rules must be in accordance with all "Fair Play Codes of Conduct" guidelines and be included in the "Team Operations Guide".

- A. Coaches must hold a parents meeting and supply each parent with a copy of the "Team Operations Guide" with the approved team rules included, before the first scheduled practice. They must also have all parties sign the "Fair Play Code of Conduct" forms and return them to the Ace Director. The Ace Director shall be notified of the date, time and location of this meeting.
- B. All travel team coaches shall submit to the Travel Convenor and team parents, a written financial statement showing the use of team funds on the first of each month. Coaches will have a five day "grace period" after the first day of the month to provide these documents. Failure to do so by 6 pm of the fifth "grace day" will result in the coach being temporarily suspended from all team functions until such documents are turned in. Recommendation to the Disciplinary Committee would take place immediately following any temporary suspension.
- C.

ARTICLE IX - REFEREES AND MINOR OFFICIALS

Section 1 The Referee-in-Chief shall meet with the Board prior to the beginning of the season to establish the cost and operating procedures for the upcoming year. The Referee-in-Chief shall be responsible for monitoring his associates and for administering disciplinary actions where required.

Section 2 The Referee-in-Chief shall be responsible for proper scheduling of all referees for all games.

ARTICLE X - SPONSORS

Section 1 All sponsor funds will be deposited with the PHMHA and will be used only to defray the operating expenses or the Association. Travel sponsor funds will be deposited with sponsored team.

Section 2 Individuals, groups, or businesses may sponsor a team. The cost of a team sponsorship shall be determined by the sponsorship Committee and Finance Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. The Board may reject any sponsorship by majority vote.

Section 3 Sponsorship, for Travel teams, will be the sole responsibility of that team. Once a sponsorship is assigned to a certain travel team, within the Association, the sponsorship will remain with that team until a change is necessary.

ARTICLE XI - TOURNAMENTS

Section 1 MAHA Playoff Tournament: All tournaments must be approved by the Board.

Section 2 Special Tournaments: All tournaments must be approved by the Board. All tournaments will be sanctioned by the governing authority.

ARTICLE XII - TRAVEL PROGRAM

Section 1 Travel Program Objectives: The PHMHA Travel program exists solely as an extension of the PHMHA House program to allow highly-skilled PHMHA players the opportunity to play at the Travel level.

Section 2 Team Divisions and Classes: If numbers permit:

- A. The PHMHA shall consist of the following travel divisions: Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget.
- B. Each travel division shall contain the following classes:
 - 1. A minor team which, for purposes of USA Hockey registration, shall be designated as an "A" team.
 - 2. A major team which, for purposes of USA Hockey registration, shall be designated as an "AA" team.
- C. A second travel team may not be formed unless after its creation it still leaves 4 house B teams at that level or unless approved by the board.
- D. A travel team must consist of 12 skaters and 1 goalie, unless approved by the board.

Section 3 Team Formation: The Travel Convenor shall submit his recommendation for Travel teams for the next spring and fall/winter season at the appropriate meeting of the PHMHA Board. The recommendation shall include:

- A. Level (i.e. 17 and under, 14 and under, 12 and under, etc.).
- B. Head coach
 - 1. Head coaches, at their option along with their assistant coaches, will move with their respective teams through their respective divisions on a yearly basis pending annual Board approval.
- C. Assistant coaches
- D. Manager
- E. Sponsor
- F. Intended level of league play.
- G. Each division will charge the same amount per try out skate adjusted by an hourly rate.

Section 4 Travel Finances: Travel teams are responsible for their own finances and may establish sponsor fees, player dues, and conduct fund raisers as needed. All such fund raisers must be approved by the Board. All financial dealings are to be governed by accepted accounting principles and must be presented to the Finance committee at year's end. All accounts will be audited at fiscal year-end upon written request of any team parent.

Section 5 Team Financial Accounts: The team fund, established by each head coach, will remain the responsibility of that coach but must be separately maintained by a team manager and must be reduced to a zero balance at the end of each season.

Article XIII – House Program

Section 1 House program objectives: A recreational league with the emphasis on having fun, equal ice time for every player, encourage sportsmanship and skill improvement.

Section 2 House Finances: House teams are responsible for their own finances and may conduct fund raisers as needed. All such fund raisers must be approved by the Board of Directors. All financial dealings are to be governed by accepted accounting principles and must be presented to the Finance Committee at year's end. All accounts will be audited at fiscal year end upon written request of a team parent. The team fund established by each head coach will remain the responsibility of that coach and must be separately maintained by a team manager and must be reduced to a zero balance at the end of each season.

The above Bylaws of the PHMHA were duly amended at a regular meeting of the membership of the Association on the 20th day of May, 2019.

Eric Beauchamp

Vice President PHMHA