

MAIDSTONE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BYLAWS RULES & REGULATIONS

Last updated June 2023

Preamble

WHEREAS THE MAIDSTONE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION IS A VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION OF INDIVIDUALS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE HOCKEY IN THE COMMUNITY OF MAIDSTONE.

AND WHEREAS, INDIVIDUALS AND MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITIES AND GAMES SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE EXECUTIVE OF THE MAIDSTONE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION.

AND WHEREAS, IT IS DECLARED THAT THE PURPOSES OF THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE FOLLOWING OF BY-LAWS, REGULATIONS AND RULES SHALL BE TO CONFER UPON THE MAIDSTONE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION, AND ITS EXECUTIVE, THE POWERS OF A SELF GOVERNING ORGANIZATION.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	NAME	PAGE 2
2.	MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE	PAGE 2
3.	QUORUM	PAGE 2
4.	MEMBERS	PAGE 2
5.	GENERAL MEETING	PAGE 2
6.	SPECIAL MEETING	PAGE 2
7.	NOTICE	PAGE 3
8.	AGENDA	PAGE 3
9.	VOTING RIGHTS	PAGE 3
DUTIES		
10.01	PRESIDENT	PAGE 4
10.02	VICE PRESIDENT	PAGE 5
10.03	SECRETARY	PAGE 5
10.04	REGISTRAR	PAGE 5
10.05	TREASURER	PAGE 5
10.06	EQUIPMENT MANAGER	PAGE 5
10.07	ICE CONVENOR	PAGE 6
10.08	FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR	PAGE 6
10.09	REF COORDINATOR	PAGE 6
11.	GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE	PAGE 6
12.	GUIDELINES FOR COACHES	PAGE 6
12.02	VOLUNTEER'S CODE	PAGE 8
12.03	PARENT'S CODE	PAGE 8
12.04	PLAYER'S CODE	PAGE 9
12.05	TEAM OFFICIAL'S CODE	PAGE 10
12.06	GUIDELINE FOR MANAGERS	PAGE 11
13.	PLAYER ELIGIBILITY	PAGE 11
14.	AFFILIATION	PAGE 12
15.	REGISTRATION	PAGE 12
16.	PROTESTS AND APPEALS	PAGE 13
17.	DISCIPLINE OF PLAYERS AND COACHES	PAGE 13
18	HOCKEY EQUIPMENT	PAGE 13
19.	INSURANCE	PAGE 13
2.0	AMENDMENTS	PAGE 13
ADDITIONAL BYLAWS		PAGE 14

MAIDSTONE MINOR HOCKEY CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the organization is Maidstone Minor Hockey Association, herein referred to as M.M.H.A or MMHA. This association is the governing body of hockey in Maidstone from U5 to U18.

Ages 4 to 18 by December 31st.

- (a) For the remainder of the constitution, all players, male or female, will be referred to as he.
- (b) Other towns or minor hockey associations will be referred to directly by name or as Minor Hockey Association (M.H.A)

2. Members of the Executive shall be:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Vice President
- D. Secretary
- E. Registrar
- F. Treasurer
- G. Equipment Manager
- H. Ice Convener (Non-Voting)
- I. Refing Coordinator
- J. Fundraising Coordinator
- K. Female Hockey Rep (Non-Voting)

3. Quorum

A quorum shall consist of:

- a) 50 % plus one (1) at an executive meeting.
- b) Twelve (12) members in good standing and present in person shall form a quorum at the General Meeting or Special Meetings. In the event that twelve (12) members are not present within one (1) hour given notice of the said meeting, the chairman of the meeting shall adjourn the meeting to a date and time not less than twenty-one (21) days from the date of the original meeting.

4. Members shall mean:

- a) Executive
- b) Any volunteers who are willing to contribute their time and interest in the operation of M.M.H.A
- c) Parents or Legal Guardians of players registered for the season.

5. General Meeting

The General Meetings of members shall be held in April and September each year on a day to be set by the M.M.H.A. Executive.

6. Special Meeting

Other General meetings of the members (hereinafter called "Special Meeting") shall be convened by the President at any time and at any place in Maidstone and District as determined by a majority vote of the Executive. In addition, the Executive, upon receipt of a written request for a Special Meeting signed by ten (10) members in good standing, shall instruct the President

to convene a Special Meeting within sixty (60) days of receipt of the request in the Maidstone and District.

7. Notice

Notice of the time and place of all meetings of members and the general nature of the business to be transacted, shall be communicated to each member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date set for the meeting.

8. Agenda

At every General meeting, in addition to any other business that may be transacted, the following shall be the order of business:

- a) Call to Order by the President;
- b) Reading of the Minutes;
- c) Business Arising from the minutes;
- d) Report of Officers and Team Reps, if any;
- e) Report of Committees, if any;
- f) Notice of Motions;
- g) Elections;
- h) Unfinished Business;
- i) New Business;
- j) Adjournment.

9. Voting Rights

A. At each General Meeting of the Members (General Meeting or Special Meeting), each member will have one (1) vote per family.

B. Voting (General Meeting)

At the Meetings of Members of the M.M.H.A., every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the Members present, in person unless otherwise required by the Constitution. Every question shall be decided in the first instance by a show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by any 50% plus one (1) member. Unless, a secret ballot has been demanded, a declaration by the President that a resolution has been carried or not carried and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the M.M.H.A. shall be sufficient evidence of the fact without the proof of the number of proportions of the votes accorded in favor or against such resolution. The demand for a secret ballot may be withdrawn, but if a secret ballot be demanded and not withdrawn, the question will be decided by a majority of votes given by the Members present, in person and such secret ballot shall be taken in such manner as the President shall direct and the result of such secret ballot shall be deemed the decision of the M.M.H.A. in a General Meeting upon the matter in question.

C. No Proxy

Unless otherwise provided in the Constitution, only Members that attend the meeting shall be entitled to vote, or make motions.

D. President's Casting Vote

In case of equality of votes at any meeting of the Members, whether upon show of hands or at a ballot, the president shall be entitled to a casting vote.

E. Persons Entitled To Be Present

The only persons entitled to attend a meeting of the Members, shall be;

Those entitled to vote thereat, the Executive and the Auditors of the M.M.H.A. and others who, although they are not entitled to vote, are entitled or required under any provision of the laws of the Province of Saskatchewan or these Bylaws, to be present at the meeting. Any other person may be admitted only on invitation of the President.

F. General Power

The affairs and business of the M.M.H.A. shall be managed or supervised by the Executive, who will have full control and management of the affairs of the M.M.H.A. and may exercise all such powers and do such acts and things are not covered within the M.M.H.A. Constitution.

G. Voting (Executive)

At an election of members of the Executive, each person is entitled to vote for such members of nominees as there are vacancies to be filled on the Executive, provided however that each member may only vote once for any one particular nominee. The person being nominated or voted in must be present at the time of the nomination or vote.

H. Election and Term

The Election of Executive shall take place at a Spring or Fall General Meeting of Members. It is M.M.H.A. belief that 75% of an existing Executive Board shall remain to provide an adequate knowledge base.

I. Resignation

An Executive Member may resign from office giving notice to the M.M.H.A. And such resignation becomes effective in accordance with its terms or upon acceptance by the association.

J. Removal

An Executive Member may be removed as follows:

J.1 The Members may, by resolution passed by a majority of the votes cast at a Special Meeting of Members duly called for that purpose, remove any Executive Member before the expiration of his/her term of office and may, by a majority of votes cast at the meeting, elect any person in his stead for the remainder of his/her term;

J.2 The Executive may, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, remove an Executive Member who, in the opinion of the Executive, has been or is being remiss or neglectful of his/her duty or by conduct tending to impair his/her usefulness and/or discretion as an Executive Member;

J.3 Any Executive Member who fails to attend Executive Meetings on three (3) consecutive occasions, without just cause, which shall be determined solely by the Executive, on a motion passed by a majority of the Executive, may be removed as an Executive Member.

10.01 President- shall be elected from year to year, hold office no more than three (3) consecutive years*. (* may be extended if/only if no suitable candidate or representative can take his/her place)

Duties of the President shall be as follows:

- a) the effective administration and management of the M.M.H.A.
- b) the issuance of M.M.H.A. Constitution to be made available for the opportunity of all members,
- c) ensuring that statements of duties exist for all members of the Executive Committee,
- d) scrutinizing and reporting of unpaid accounts as advised by the Treasurer,

- e) convening an Executive Meeting monthly and General Meetings, a minimum two (2) times a year.
- f) ensuring Executive duties and responsibilities are carried out,
- g) designating a replacement during the absence by any Executive Member to whom such duties were allocated,
- h) issuance of instructions in writing to members of sub-committees as to their duties,
- i) maintaining discipline in the M.M.H.A.,
- j) as a director, is responsible to attend, or have representation at league association general meetings.

10.02 Vice President – is responsible to the President, duties shall be as follows:

- a) to assist the President in the performance of his/her duties,
- b) to officiate in the absence of the President,
- c) to be familiar with Association Constitution,
- d) to ensure a handover Committee Members' duties are understood and any change of items are assumed by the incoming member, and
- e) to carry out any duties as required by the President within the scope of the Constitution.

10.03 Secretary – is responsible to the President, duties shall be as follows:

- a) shall keep an accurate record of minutes at all Executive Meetings of the organization for the duration of tenure,
- b) shall notify the Executive of the time and place of meetings,
- c) shall publish the notice of annual meeting at least two (2) weeks in advance.

10.04 Registrar – is responsible to the President, duties shall be as follows:

- a) shall maintain a register of all players of the Association and their addresses,
- b) shall be responsible for ordering, maintaining and disbursing cards and team sheet when needed,
- c) shall be responsible for organizing registration,
- d) shall be responsible for tournament sanctions, travel permits, tryout camps and conditioning camps.

10.05 Treasurer – is responsible to the President, duties shall be as follows;

- a) shall collect and receive all dues and assessments levied by the Association,
- b) shall receive all monies paid to the Association, and be responsible for the deposit of same in whatever financial institution,
- c) shall issue cheques for the payment of the accounts payable by the Association, as ordered by the Executive,
- d) shall present detailed and accurate financial statement for submission to the Annual Meeting of the Association,
- e) shall prepare a duly audited financial statement for submission to the Annual Meeting of the Association,
- f) to maintain and safe keep accounts and records as prescribed in regulations,
- g) to prepare M.M.H.A. Financial Statements for monthly meetings,
- h) to handle and safe keep cash and banking,
- i) to be responsible for the safe keeping of the Book of Accounts and supporting data,
- j) to be responsible for the preparation of Financial Statements when required by the Association when the position of Treasurer is relinquished to the incoming replacement,
- k) to advised the President immediately if any returned cheques are received, and
- l) to carry out any duties as required by the President within the scope of the Constitution.

10.06 Equipment Manager – is responsible to the President, duties to be as follows:

- a) shall be responsible for the purchase of hockey equipment for the Association,
- b) shall at the beginning of each season, sign out said equipment to Team Reps, coaches or individual players as he/she sees fit.
 - b.2 – team jerseys to be kept in jersey bags provided, not in hockey bags.
 - b.3 – team socks shall be purchased by players from booth. Players are required to have socks within two (2) weeks of commencement of the season. Any player not wearing matching team socks after this date will not be allowed to play until he has purchased and wears such socks.
- c) shall, at the end of each season, arrange for the recovery of said equipment from the people who have it,
- d) shall inspect the equipment annually and arrange for needed repair and storage, any major repair/damage must be told to the Executive for a decision to be made of possibly forwarding expenses to the person responsible for the damage.
- e) shall prepare, at the end of each season or on the request of the Executive, a report on equipment supply, condition and requirements.

10.07 Ice Convener – is responsible to the ARENA BOARD, duties to be as follows:

- a) shall be responsible for obtaining ice time,
- b) shall disperse ice time to respective teams prior to scheduling games,
- c) shall approve ice time for exhibition games prior to scheduling of games,
- d) shall approve and record all ice time used by teams under the jurisdiction of the M.M.H.A. regardless of purpose,
- e) shall assign tournament dates for ice bookings to each specific team. No tournaments after February 1

10.08 Fundraising Coordinator- is responsible to the President, duties to be as follows:

- a) Shall be responsible for dispersing fundraising gift cards.
- b) Shall keep an accurate record of funds received and those going out.
- c) Shall keep an account of those purchasing cards and the amounts required to purchase.
- d) Shall order new cards as needed.
- e) Contact team managers in January on account balances per family.

10.09 Ref Coordinator- is responsible to the President, duties to be as follows:

- a) Must keep an updated list of certified refs
- b) Is responsible for scheduling all M.M.H.A. league, tournament and exhibition games.
- c) Is responsible to try to give all refs an equal number of games to ref.

11. Grievance Committee – handles all problems brought to the Executive (i.e... Petitions, complaints or any problem that M.M.H.A. Executive may hand over to them). They are to investigate and bring back their findings to the M.M.H.A. Executive. Grievances will only be accepted in writing and 24 hours must have passed since the original incidence has occurred. There is to be no team parent meetings dealing with grievances without an Executive representative present to mediate the meeting.

12.1 Guidelines for Coaches

Rules and Regulations are as follows:

1. The coach shall not assume the manager's responsibilities unless the manager is absent.
2. M.M.H.A. endorses the National Certification Program.

3. No tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vaping, smoking, or offensive language on the ice, in the box, or the dressing room.
4. Alcohol consumption will not be tolerated at any league or team functions – before, on ice, or after the game in the arena while representing M.M.H.A.
5. The use of illegal drugs could result in a suspension for a minimum of one (1) year.
6. Coaches are responsible for enforcing the team's rules, discipline, and behavior.
7. Coaches must become thoroughly acquainted with league and association rules and regulations.
8. Arrange for a meeting before the season starts to go over the objectives, goals, conduct codes and expectations for the season. Coaches must attend all meetings with the team and parents when required.
9. Coaches must attend all practices and games. If not able to participate, arrange for a registered assistant coach to take charge.
10. Coaches must assume responsibility for the conduct of players and team officials during practices and games. If not able to attend, arrange for someone to take charge.
11. Coaches should be aware that any games or practices are under the coach's control or his designate.
12. Coaches must set a good example in action and dress for the team.
13. Coaches must see that each player has the proper equipment.
14. Coaches will be responsible for communicating with the Team Manager.
15. Coaches will choose affiliate player(s) by the deadline.
16. Coaches will obtain league schedules from Team Manager.
17. Coaches will advise players of game times and what time they are expected to be at the rink.
18. Coaches will be aware of any medical problems with players and seek medical treatment if needed.
19. Coaches must abide by Association Constitution.
20. A coach and assistant coaches may only coach one team in a given year unless approved by the M.M.H.A.
21. All coaching staff must work together for the betterment of the team.
22. Before players are allowed on the ice, at least one coach must be on the ice and all Zamboni gates are properly shut.
23. In the absence of a Team Manager, the Coach will assume the manager's responsibilities.
24. Coaches and the Team Manager should be voted upon by the team's parents when there is more than one (1) volunteer. There is only one vote per family, regardless of marital status.
25. ALL persons conducting a practice must be registered with M.M.H.A. and Hockey Sask.
26. FAIR PLAY – M.M.H.A recognizes that with the essence of FAIR PLAY, players obviously enjoy winning more than losing, but as an organization, we believe there is "room for both." Regular league play is for everyone, and coaches should give all players fair playing time and equal instruction and support regardless of abilities. **Winning at all costs is not condoned nor encouraged.**

27. Provincial playoffs may be treated differently, and the stronger players in any one age group registered with the M.M.H.A. hockey teams or with other centers where teams are combined may be "allowed" an increase in ice time.
28. Coaches will be responsible for keeping their team on the ice at the respective bench until the referee permits them to leave.
29. Understand that coaches are not required to discuss any issue with parents until the 24-hour cooldown period has occurred.
30. Coaches are to never ridicule or yell at any players or officials for making mistakes or performing poorly.
31. IT MUST BE NOTED THAT PLAYERS CAN ONLY PLAY TO THE BEST OF THEIR POTENTIAL. COACHES NEED TO EVALUATE PLAYERS ON A PLAYER-BY-PLAYER BASIS, NOT ON A PLAYER-TO-PLAYER BASIS. PLAYERS SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED FOR PLAYING THEIR BEST!

12.02 Volunteer's Code

1. Expect no special rights or privileges because you are a volunteer.
2. Understand that even though you may not agree with all the M.M.H.A policies or practices as a representative of the organization, you have an obligation to support them publicly and always abide by them. If you do not agree with them, you can work within the system to have them changed.
3. Accept that because you are a representative of the M.M.H.A., your positive or negative actions reflect on all the other volunteers of the organization.
4. Base your decisions and actions on what is best for the majority of hockey players while respecting their rights as individuals.
5. Be prepared to listen and respond to any concerns.
6. Be prepared to listen to ideas from other people, even though they may differ from your own.
7. Judge ideas on their own merit and the benefit they can bring the hockey player and do not fall back on "But they have always done it this way."

12.03 Parents Code

1. Do not force an unwilling player to participate in sports.
2. Remember that participants should be involved in organized sports for their enjoyment.
3. Encourage your child to always play by the rules.
4. Teach your child that honest effort is as important as a victory and that if you give your best, then you have won, regardless of the score.
5. Turn defeat to victory by helping your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship. Never ridicule your child or yell at any player for making a mistake or losing a competition.
6. Congratulate your child on honest effort and skill improvement, not just goals and assists.
7. Remember that players learn best by example. Applaud good plays by either team.
8. Do not publicly question the official's judgment and never their honesty.
9. Respect and support for players, coaches, officials, volunteers, and other parents are expected.
10. Actively support all efforts to remove verbal and physical violence from hockey.

11. Recognize the value and importance of volunteers. They give their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child.
12. Make an honest effort to attend all games. You are welcome to attend the practices.
13. Have players at the rink at the time specified by the coaches before all practices and games. In the essence of FAIR PLAY it is only fair if your child puts in the same amount of effort and, to a degree, time as the other players on the team. i.e., player 1 misses (un-excused) practices; however, make all games, etc.
14. Understand that coaches are not required to discuss any issue with parents until the 24-hour cooldown has occurred.
15. Coaches and the Team Manager should be voted upon by the team's parents when there is more than one (1) volunteer. There is only 1 vote per family, regardless of marital status.
16. Any form of bullying, harassment, intimidation or threats against players, or bench staff, or officials is strictly forbidden.
17. Photographs, videos, or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behaviour, including but not limited to: drug use, alcohol abuse, public intoxication, hazing, sexual exploitation, etc. in keeping with the Hockey Saskatchewan and M.M.H.A. policies and regulations.
18. Inappropriate, derogatory, racist or sexist comments of any kind are forbidden in keeping with the Hockey Saskatchewan and M.M.H.A. policies and regulations.

12.04 Player's Code

1. No tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vaping, smoking, or offensive language on the ice, in the box, or in the dressing room.
2. Alcohol consumption will not be tolerated at any league or team functions – before, on ice, or after the game in the arena while representing M.M.H.A.
3. The use of illegal drugs could result in a suspension for a minimum of one (1) year.
4. Play for the "fun of it."
5. Play by the rules.
6. Never argue with the officials' decision. Let your captain or coaches ask any necessary questions.
7. Control your temper. No "mouthing off" or throwing tantrums, breaking or throwing sticks, or other equipment.
8. Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
9. Be a good sport, and cheer all good plays. Show some class.
10. Treat all players as you would like to be treated on or off the ice. Don't interfere with, bully or take advantage of any player.
11. Remember that the game's goals are to have fun, improve your skills, and feel good about yourself.
12. Cooperate with your coach, teammates, officials, and opponents.
13. The use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and all tobacco products (including vaping and e-cigarettes) will not be tolerated while in the dressing room, on the ice, or while representing the M.M.H.A. The use of these substances could result in disciplinary action.

14. As representatives of M.M.H.A. in provincial Playoff Rounds, it is expected that players comply with a dress code as discussed with the team coach.
15. Any form of bullying, harassment, intimidation, or threats against players, bench staff, or officials is strictly forbidden.
16. Photographs, videos, or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behaviour, including but not limited to: drug use, alcohol abuse, public intoxication, hazing, sexual exploitation, etc., in keeping with the Hockey Saskatchewan and M.M.H.A. policies and regulations.
17. No phone use in locker rooms, excluding music playing. Please refer to M.M.H.A. Social Media Policy or Hockey Sask Social Media Policy.
18. Inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments of any kind are forbidden in keeping with the Hockey Saskatchewan and M.M.H.A. policies and regulations.

12.05 Team Officials Code

1. Understand that you have an obligation to abide by the policies of M.M.H.A. and that failure to do so could result in a loss of coaching privileges.
2. Make sure that your players understand and abide by the PLAYER'S CODE.
3. Make sure that your player's parents understand and abide by the PARENT'S CODE.
4. Be reasonable in your demands on the player's time, energy and enthusiasm. Remember that they have other interests and being able to pursue these interests, as well as hockey, will help them maintain their enthusiasm and make them better hockey players.
5. Teach your players that the rules of the game are mutual agreements which no one should evade or break. Without them, there would be no game.
6. Remember that participants play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it. Never ridicule or yell at the player for making a mistake or losing a competition.
7. Develop team respect for the ability of their opponents, as well as for the judgment of the officials and opposing coaches.
8. Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to play.
9. Remember that players need a coach that they can respect. Be generous with your praise when it is deserved and set a good example.
10. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed on sound coaching principles of growth development in children. Attend all clinics and functions, if required by Hockey Saskatchewan, which M.M.H.A. which may hold from time to time.
11. Treat the players as you would like to be treated.
12. Do not lower yourself to the level of fans or other coaches who throw tantrums, use profanity or make a spectacle of themselves by abusing the game officials and players.
13. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of his players and team officials during practices, games and team functions.
14. Being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs during games or practices will tolerated and could result in disciplinary action.
15. All team officials must wear a helmet when on the ice for any M.M.H.A. event (practice, clinics etc.) including out of town arenas.

12.06 Guideline For Managers

1. No smoking products (including vaping and e-cigarettes) or offensive language on the ice, in the box, or dressing room.
2. Managers are responsible for helping the coach enforce the team's team's rules, discipline, and behavior.
3. At the season's commencement, managers are to obtain the game schedule and practice times from the Ice Convener.
4. Managers must become thoroughly acquainted with league and association rules and regulations.
5. Managers are to learn proper procedures for filling out game sheets, etc.
6. Managers are to arrange for a meeting before the season starts to go over the objectives, goals, conduct codes, and expectations for the season.
7. Managers must notify the players of practice times and locations. Give players as much notice as possible.
8. Managers are to schedule the Team Jobs for the season.
- 9 All communication (i.e., Practice times, exhibition games, etc.) should come from the Manager.
10. Managers are required to attend scheduling meetings with S.T.E.P.
11. Managers are to arrange for exhibition games both at home and away and obtain all necessary sanctions.
12. Managers are to arrange for tournaments – along with coaches and parents.
13. Managers are to have their roster or team sheets with them at all times.
14. Managers are to utilize their given ice times and report to the Ice Convener immediately if the team cannot use the allotted time so that there is sufficient time to provide ice to another team. Teams are responsible to the League first. If practice or game is canceled, give 48 hours notice if possible.
15. Familiarize yourself with the M.M.H.A. Constitution.
16. Managers are to help provide a fun atmosphere for the players.
17. Ensure the winning team sends in all game sheets within twenty-four (24) hours after the game. Failure to do so will result in points forfeited or possible disciplinary action.
18. The use of illegal drugs could result in a suspension for a minimum of one (1) year.
19. Managers are to compile a directory of players' names, addresses, telephone, medical insurance numbers, and parents' names. Note any medical problems.
20. Managers are to get all the coaches, parents, and players to sign the appropriate documents at the beginning of the year.
21. Managers are to remind all new bench staff to hand in their Criminal Record Checks to the registrar.
22. Managers are to make sure volunteers are held accountable for performing their responsibilities throughout the year.

13. Player Eligibility

Unless otherwise provided in these rules and regulations by Hockey Saskatchewan:

1. Age qualifications of players for Divisions shall be govern as follows:

- 1.1. U18 – This division is open to all players who are the age of 18 years and under on December 31 in the season they wish to compete.
 - 1.2. U15 – This division is open to players who are the age of 14 years and under on December 31 in the season they wish to compete.
 - 1.3. U13 – This division is open to players who are the age of 12 years and under on December 31 in the season they wish to compete.
 - 1.4 U11 – This division is open to players who are the age of 10 years and under on December 31 in the season they wish to compete.
 - 1.5 U9 – This division is open to players who are the age of 8 years and under on December 31 in the season they wish to compete.
 - 1.6 U7 – This division is open to players who are the age of 6 years and under on December 31 in the season they wish to compete. Children under the age of 5 years may require a parent on the ice until such time the coach deems the player less “time consuming”
2. Players must participate in the division of their age except:
 - 2.1 Players may play in a lower category with the approval of the M.M.H.A. Executive and subject to proper sanctions by Hockey Saskatchewan and S.T.E.P league.
 - 2.2 If an upper division does not have enough players in its division, players may play up from a lower age group.
 3. Falsification of age and/or address may result in one to three years suspension of the player from the M.M.H.A.

14. Affiliation

1. A team may use affiliated players ONLY if the following rules are complied with:
 - 1.1 The player is used only for replacement of sick, injured, suspended, or otherwise missing skaters. If a team only has 12 registered skaters, then the affiliation process is up to the discretion of the executive of M.M.H.A.. In essence, you can only affiliate for numbers, not for strength
 - 1.2 The coach wishing to use an “affiliated player” must then speak to the player’s regular coach and obtain permission to speak to the player and his/her parents.
 - 1.3 Hockey Saskatchewan Rules and Regulations concerning affiliated players must be strictly observed, and the player may only play the maximum number of games allowed by Hockey Saskatchewan.
 - 1.4. Player must affiliate with the team directly above them.

15. Registration

All players planning on participating in Maidstone Minor Hockey Association for the season MUST be registered on or before the registration date (Fall AGM and Registration Night) in September.

Any late registrations may be subject to a fine of \$150.00. Payment of hockey fees and bond cheques must be paid before player sets foot on the ice unless alternative arrangements have been made.

1. Registration will be accepted after advertising final registration date if:
 - 1.1 Transfer or move to Maidstone.
 - 1.2 Players’ not a resident of Maidstone where a team is not being fielded in that out-of-town area; and
 - 1.3 Any late registrant must be reviewed by the Executive.
2. Each request for reimbursement must be submitted in writing and reviewed by the Executive Committee.

3. No player will be allowed on the ice until registration and bond cheques are paid and the registration form is completed in full.

4. Refunds goes as follow:

Before November 1st: 100% refund less HOCKEY SASKATCHEWAN administration fee!
Before December 1st: 75% refund less HOCKEY SASKATCHEWAN administration fee!

Before January 1st: 50% refund and forfeit the Kitchen Bond Cheque.

5. Bond cheques for Kitchen will be cashed if a shift is missed.

16. Protests and Appeals

1. Appeals will be registered in writing to the President of M.M.H.A either directly or through manager.
2. Chain of Command: Team officials, then local association, then grievance comity, then league if applicable, then Hockey Sask.

17. Discipline of Players, Coaches, and Parents.

1. Individual Players – Every player of the M.M.H.A. will be personally responsible for his/her conduct and for the proper observance of M.M.H.A, S.T.E.P, Hockey Sask and Hockey Canada rules and Regulations.

2. If disciplinary action is deemed necessary, the Player, the Player's Parents/Guardian, and the Coach in question, should present their case to the Executive before a decision is made.

3. Parents/guardians and team officials that have received disciplinary action (i.e. been removed from the game, arena etc., for abuse of officials or any teams players or officials) may be subject to a minimum fine of \$50.00 or more based on the abuse and nature of the abuse. The fines will be decided by the M.M.H.A. and may result, in extreme cases suspension for the violator for a period from their home arena. All minor fines will be paid to the M.M.H.A.

4. Persons not following the chain of command can be fined at the discretion of the M.M.H.A board.

18. Hockey Equipment

1. All mandatory hockey equipment must be worn in accordance with Hockey Canada approval, during Minor Hockey ice time (includes all games and practices etc.).

19. Insurance

1. Insurance coverage is provided by through Hockey Saskatchewan.
2. To prevent any liability, M.M.H.A. will not allow anyone to officiate a game unless certified by Hockey Canada by date set by Hockey Sask.
3. ALL coaches should be the level required by Hockey Saskatchewan.

20. Amendments

In the event that any revisions be made to the constitutions, an 80% vote in favor will be required.

ADDITIONAL BYLAWS

21. PLAYER RELEASES FROM M.M.H.A.

a) The M.M.H.A. Board will approve and grant player releases under M.M.H.A. and HOCKEY SASKATCHEWAN guidelines. All player releases (except for AA** and AAA** teams) must be signed by no less than two (2) M.M.H.A. executives to include the President and Vice President only after an Executive meeting has been held and the release(s) has been voted on. It is M.M.H.A.'s opinion that although "A" teams (Tier 1) may be a higher quality (caliber) of hockey, it does not fall under the umbrella of an automatic release for such players. Releases of this nature will be dealt with on a player-by-player basis.

b) HOCKEY SASKATCHEWAN has governed that releases MUST be given to players that are playing a higher level of hockey (U13 AA, U15 AA, U18 AA or U18 AAA). Players attending try-out camps for U13 AA, U15 AA and U18 AA or AAA do not need a release form for their child(ren) until such time they have "made the team".

Release Guidelines for "U7", "U9" and "U11" Age Groups.

a) If teams are required due to numbers to combine with another centers team, all players from the M.M.H.A. will be required to play on the same team when numbers allow for it. Only through an executive meeting and vote will players be allowed to go to another adjacent town to play. If the combining team numbers are too large. I.e. Maidstone has 7 players but Team A only has room for 5, 2 players (through a vote) will be granted releases to another adjacent town. If this requirement cannot be met, then releases for players will be given after a vote by the M.M.H.A. executive.

Release Guidelines for "U13", "U15" and "U18" Age Groups.

a) Player releases will be granted for any player qualifying for a "AA" or "AAA" competitive team.

b) If teams are required, due to numbers, to combine with another centers team, all players from the M.M.H.A. will be required to play on the same team. Only through an executive meeting and vote will players be allowed to go to another adjacent town to play. If the combining team numbers are too large. I.e. Maidstone has 7 players but Team A only has room for 5, 2 players (through a vote) will be granted releases to another adjacent town.

If this requirement cannot be met, then releases for players will be given after a vote by the M.M.H.A. executive.

c) Players intending to try out for a "AA" or "AAA" team are asked to provide the M.M.H.A. Board a letter or email of intent to tryout for another team no later than September 15 of each year.

d) Notification of acceptance to "AA" or to "AAA" team must be provided and release will be provided by no later than October 15. If the player does not continue with the team he was released to, the player's release will be null and void. He will be required to return to the local M.M.H.A. team.

e) A release form needs to be requested each and every year played away; approval guidelines apply annually.

Release Guidelines for Female Player – All Age Groups

a) Player releases will be granted for female players to play on an all-girl's team, where M.M.H.A. cannot provide a girl's team to play on. Above guidelines will be followed otherwise

22. Tampering

Tampering as per Hockey Canada Regulation (taken from the HOCKEY SASKATCHEWAN handbook)

- a) No Player may be invited to attend or participate in an evaluation camp operated by a Team or League to which the Player is ineligible to register or Affiliate for the upcoming Season as of the date of the camp.
- b) Team Officials shall not encourage or invite, directly or indirectly, a Registered Participant of another Team from the previous Season in the same or higher Category or from the current Season in any Division or Category, to register, participate in training camp activities or in any games without first having secured permission in writing, in the manner set forth from the Team or MHA with which such Player is registered.
 - i) The written permission shall be a statement filed with the Branch in which the Player's Team is registered, which statement shall be signed by the President, Secretary or by the designated signing officer of the Team with which the Player is registered.
- c) A charge of tampering must be filed in accordance with the Hockey Canada appeal procedure established by By-Law 52. If all Teams involved are from the same Branch, the charge will be dealt with by that Branch in accordance with its regulations.
- d) Where tampering is found to have occurred, the responsible Team and/or Team Official shall receive one or more of the following sanctions:
 - i) A fine up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to the offending Team, payable to the Team which files the tampering charge within thirty (30) days of notification;
 - ii) The deduction of two (2) unused Player allotments for that or the following Season;
 - iii) Compensation to the Team that may lose a Player to the offending Team;
 - iv) A minimum of ten (10) game suspension (regular Season or play-offs) to the head Coach of the offending team;
 - v) A suspension for a period up to one (1) year to the responsible Team Officials of the offending Team.

23. Preseason/Post Season Team Meetings

In pre-season meetings, only parents who have made the commitment to M.M.H.A. (through registration) have the right to vote on team officials, league choices etc. There must be a member of the executive or grievance comity present at these meetings. There will be no proxy votes. Parents of children that are trying out for AA or AAA teams have no voting privileges (unless they meet the above criteria); however, their input to all meetings is welcome.

Post Season Team meetings can be held at the end of each season to discuss the player's future plans for the following year. This is to help aid M.M.H.A. discussions in talks of combining with other towns in the next hockey season. Only those members directly involved with the team from that season will have voting privileges (if any arise).

All discussion regarding player movements must be directed through M.M.H.A.. There can be no "side deals", "back-room deals" etc. without a neutral M.M.H.A. executive member being present.

24. Players driving to games and practices.

Players that hold a valid drivers license are allowed to drive to practices and home games, but are prohibited to drive to away games w/o their parent/legal guardian present. It is expected that players (driving w/o parents) will drive directly to the arena and directly home after the event. Any deviations must be discussed through the player's parents/guardians to the Coach or manager.

25. Locker Rooms

M.M.H.A requires that mandatory supervision by least two bench staff is required either inside or outside the dressing rooms when rooms are in use by M.M.H.A players.

26. MMHA SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Comments, remarks, photos, or videos of an inappropriate nature that are detrimental to a Team, the Association, or an individual will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.

What constitutes social media?

This policy will encompass public communications including posting pictures and videos through such internet platforms as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Google+, LinkedIn, Snapchat, WhatsApp, TeamLinkt, texts and any other social media network that allows users to communicate online as well as other forms of electronic communication, but not limited to, methods such as texting and instant messaging.

To whom does this apply?

The policy will apply to all members of the Maidstone Minor Hockey community, including parents, team officials, referees, executives, and players. They are each responsible for what they post on social media sites.

What are Social Media infractions?

The following are examples of conduct through social media and networking mediums that are considered violations as per Hockey Saskatchewan.

- i) Any statement deemed to be publicly critical of Association officials or detrimental to the welfare of a member team, the Association, or an individual.
- ii) Divulging confidential information that may include, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. player injuries;
 - b. trades or other player movements;
 - c. game strategies; or any other matter of a sensitive nature to a member Team, the Association or an individual.
- 2 Negative or derogatory comments about any of the team, Minor Hockey Association, league and/or Hockey Saskatchewan staff, programs, stakeholders, players, or any member of a Hockey Saskatchewan Team.
- 3 Any form of bullying, harassment, intimidation, or threats against players or officials.
- 4 Photographs, videos or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior, including but not limited to: drug use, alcohol abuse, public intoxication, hazing, sexual exploitation, etc.
- 5 Online activity that contradicts the current policies of Hockey Saskatchewan or any of its member Associations.
- 6 Inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments of any kind, in keeping with the Hockey Saskatchewan policies and regulations on these matters.
- 7 Online activity that is meant to alarm other individuals or to misrepresent fact or truth. Should the identity or image of any member MMHA community be used in social media and networking without the individual, team or Association authorization, this is considered to be identity theft. Please notify MMHA immediately.

Discipline

MMHA will investigate reported violation(s) of this policy in the manner set out in the Hockey Saskatchewan Handbook. If the investigation determines that a violation has occurred, MMHA will impose an appropriate suspension and/or fines. Any appeal of the suspension will be dealt with as set out in a Minor Hockey Association, S.T.E.P and/or Hockey Saskatchewan Handbook. If social media incidents cannot be dealt with by MMHA, MMHA may turn over the files to the RCMP.

Summary

When using social media and networking mediums, the MMHA community should assume at all times they are representing MMHA. All members should remember to use the same discretion with texting, instant messaging, all social media platforms and networking as they do with other traditional forms of media.

Use your best judgment at all times-pause before posting or sending. Once your comments are posted or sent, they cannot be retracted. Ultimately, you are solely responsible for your comments.