

Doug Marshall High School Hockey League

Memorandum of Association Bylaws, Regulations and Rules

October 2022

Amended October 2022 – Article 3
Amended October 2023 – Regulation 8

Memorandum of Association

Article 1: NAME

This Association shall be known as the Doug Marshall High School League (“DMHL” or the “League”), operating as a High School 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 are as follows:

- To foster and promote the development of young hockey players from participating High Schools within the Metropolitan St. John’s Area through a competitive hockey experience,
- 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 Metro area High Schools listed below:

Gonzaga
Holy Heart
Holy Spirit
Holy Trinity
Mobile
Mount Pearl Senior
O’Donel
Prince of Wales (PWC)
Queen Elizabeth
Roncalli
St.Kevins
Waterford Valley

A school will only be granted Membership to the league if its roster is made up of of a minimum of 75% of players from its own school. An allowance will be made to schools to pick up players from other schools not selected to fill out the roster requirements for the season. All Schools MUST register their full rosters and affiliated players with Hockey NL.

A school that does not meet the minimum required players will have an opportunity to make an application for admittance on a yearly basis.

Memorandum of Association

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, HNL Female Council, or Hockey Canada.

Article 5: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of three persons from three different schools. One of which whenever possible should be a teacher or administrator for the school. A league coordinator will sit on the executive committee in a Non-Voting capacity.

The positions on the Executive committee are appointed for a 2-year term.

Each school shall provide a qualified individual to represent their association on the Operations Committee for the duration of the hockey season. This individual should have responsibilities associated with the operation of the hockey program for their respective school.

Article 6: BYLAWS, REGULATIONS AND PLAYING RULES

The Bylaws, Regulations and Playing Rules must be followed by all persons involved in the administration, management and operation of the League, and its teams.

The Bylaws, Regulations and Playing Rules 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 and Bylaws 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 notice of 7 days is required for a meeting where an amendment to the Memorandum of Association or Bylaws 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.

All proposed amendments to the Regulation and Playing Rules, or the Duties of the Administrators, will require a greater than 50% majority vote of the Operating Committee members in attendance at the meeting where the vote is taking place.

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Article 8: MEETINGS

Meetings of the Operating Committee will be held as required. Meetings will be called by the league co-ordinator, at the request of two or more members of the Operating Committee. **Meetings of the Operating Committee will be chaired by the league co-ordinator.**

Attendance at Operating Committee meetings is mandatory. A meeting quorum will be 7 (seven) members of the Operating Committee, including the meeting chairperson.

Bylaws

Bylaw 1: OPERATING COMMITTEE

Each school shall provide a qualified individual to represent their association on the Operations Committee for the duration of the hockey season. This individual should have responsibilities associated with the operation of the hockey program for their respective school.

Every school on the Operating Committee is entitled to one vote at meetings. In the event of a tie vote the league co-ordinator will make the tie breaking vote on a matter.

Bylaw 2: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Referred to in Article 5

By-Law 3: DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

The League will convene a three-person Discipline Committee when required. The members will be selected based on their hockey knowledge, familiarity with the League, and experience with hockey. This committee will be appointed on a yearly basis before the start of the season.

Other members of the Operating Committee and members of team management are permitted to serve on the Discipline Committee. The exception being, if an operating or Executive Committee member is deemed to be in a conflict of interest they must be excluded from the committee. Another person may be appointed by the league co-ordinator to replace a person in this instance.

The Discipline Committee ruling will be considered final on all matters that appear before them.

By-Law 4: PROTESTS

The League Co-ordinator will handle all matters of Protest in regard to playing rules and league rule violations. The decision of the co-ordinator will be final in these regards but maybe appealed to Hockey NL. Please see Protest in Regulation 11 of this documents for more information.

By-Law 5: VOTING

All members of the Operating Committee will have one vote for all matters under consideration at meetings. This should result in 12 votes on all matters. (Unless new school are added to membership)

When a vote is called, all members of the Operating Committee are required to vote, with the exception of a member who has declared a conflict of interest with respect to the matter at hand. There will be no abstentions. Abstentions will be considered to be a vote against the motion. An abstention may be granted by the Chairperson for any member who is in a conflict of interest with respect to the matter voted upon.

Bylaws

Abstentions granted by the Chairperson for a conflict of interest will not be considered as 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

At a maximum, the League will operate with the following divisions of High School hockey;

- Tier One Division
- Tier Two Division

The Executive Committee reserves the right to modify the scale of divisions depending on interest and preseason competition

The Operating Committee reserves the right to reassign school 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. Regulation 10 covers the procedure involving team transfers.

By-Law 7: PLAYOFFS

At the end of the regular season there will be playoffs in every division to declare a champion. All teams in each division will advance to the playoff round.

The Executive Committee will agree upon the format for the elimination in the required divisions and publicize same at least two weeks before the end of the regular season.

By-Law 8: SCHEDULE

Each team will normally play a balanced schedule of at least 24 games per season. There may be some overall variation depending upon the number of teams per division, and the overall duration of the hockey season.

Establishing the League regular season and playoff schedule will be the responsibility of the League Co-Ordinator. The League schedule will be posted to the League website and maintained daily.

The game schedule will attempt to have teams typically play 2 games per week. This may however not be possible due to ice time and school constraints.

Bylaws

By-Law 9: SPONSORSHIP AND NAMING RIGHTS

The League will offer naming rights for the League. Sponsors must be appropriate for the age of the students participating in the League. The amount and term of League and team sponsorship will be determined by the Executive Committee.

By-Law 10: LEAGUE WEB SITE

The League will maintain a website to act as the primary communication channel between the League and its teams. The website will provide schedule, standings, results, rosters, documentation and news in a timely and accurate manner.

Regulations

Regulation 1: PURPOSE

The purpose of the League Regulations is to clearly define the operation of the League and the teams participating in the League. Schools, Players, team management and the Operating Committee should be familiar with the League's Regulations.

Regulation 2: AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

All proposed amendments to the Regulations will require a greater than 50% majority vote of the Operating Committee.

A notice of motion can be made at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Operating Committee that an amendment to the 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. In most instances these should be addressed prior to the beginning of the season.

Regulation 3: TEAM ROSTERS

High School teams will consist of a minimum of seventeen skaters and two goalies. Team rosters must conform to Hockey Canada Rule 2.2(a) and HNL rules for maximum number of players. **In certain cases, a school will be permitted to pick up some players to fill out the minimum roster as long as they meet the league membership requirements noted in Article 3.**

The minimum number of players required for a League game is established in Rule 5

Regulation 4: TEAM COLOURS

Association based teams should have both dark and light coloured jerseys. 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. **If the Home team only has one set of jerseys and the Visitors Must change colours, then the visiting team will have the rights and privileges accorded to the home team for that game only.**

Regulation 5: FINANCES

The management of League finances is the responsibility of the league co-ordinator. The co-ordinator will ensure a Budget is presented to the Operating Committee prior to the start of each hockey season.

The League will maintain a consolidated bank account at a recognized financial institution. Signing Authority for League accounts will be the Executive Committee members and League Co-Ordinator. Two signatures are required for every cheque issued for payment.

Regulations

Regulation 7: LEAGUE REGISTRATION FEES

League Registration Fees apply to all school teams. League Registration Fees will consist of the following.

- League Website Costs and Fees
- League Championship and Individual Awards
- League Banquet (If applicable)
- League Co-Ordinator Honorarium
- Hockey NL Meeting Fee and Costs associated if applicable

These fees will be set each season and included within the budget approved each season by the Operating Committee.

Regulation 8: AFFILIATES – Policy changed by Hockey NL prior to 2023 season to allow school to “Roster 30 players including goaltenders”

Regulation 9: OFFICIALS

The league will arrange officials for all league games. In all divisions the standard 3-man system will be used whenever possible. The four man system has been approved for league play as well.

Regulation 10: TRANSFERRING TEAMS BETWEEN DIVISIONS

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, on a go forward basis the transferred team will play the same number of games against each team in the new division.

Regulation 11: PROTESTS

Protests of the interpretation of a League or playing rule may be made in writing to the League Co-ordinator within 24 hours of the initial interpretation of the rule. A protest must be made to the officials at the first reasonable opportunity to do so on the ice and noted on the official game sheet prior to the officials leaving the ice. 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 League bank account for all unsuccessful protests.

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A protest can be made by any member of the team staff listed on the game sheet or teacher sponsor.

Regulation 12: APPEALS of Fighting Major Suspension Length

Any appeal of the length of suspension for a fighting major must be submitted in writing along with any video evidence of support for the appeal withing seventy hours of the infraction. A \$100 fee must be submitted with the appeal and will be refunded if the suspension is reduced in length. If the suspension is not reduced the \$100 appeal fee will not be returned and deposited into the league account.

Regulation 13: APPEALS

Appeals of any decision regarding a protest or disciplinary matter can be made to the HNL Appeals Committee. All appeals to the HNL Appeals Committee must conform to the regulations established in the HNL constitution, By-law 6, Section 610, available from the HNL website.

Regulation 14: AWARDS

The League will present championship Banners and Trophy to the respective division winners at the conclusion of the playoffs. The league championship trophy (Charlie Decker Trophy) will remain the property of the league. The banners are the schools to use as they see fit.

Individual awards will be presented to the following;

- League MVP – Dave Burry Award
- Top Forward – Tom Moret Award
- Top Defenceman – Bob Thompson Award
- Top Goaltender –
- Most Gentlemanly and Effective – Craig Squires Award
- Rookie of the Year (Grade Ten Student) – Rod Squires Award
- Coach of the Year – Scott Gordon Award
- 2 Divisional All Star Teams (Goaltender, two Defence, three Forwards)

Playing Rules

Rule 1: PURPOSE

The purpose of the League Playing Rules is to clearly define any additions or deviations from the official playing rules established by Hockey Canada or HNL which are unique to the League.

Rule 2: AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAYING RULES

All proposed amendments to the League's Playing Rules will require a greater than 50% majority vote of the Operating Committee. Notice is *not required* to be given in advance of a meeting where an amendment to the Playing Rules will be discussed and voted upon. Amendments to playing rules will only be entertained prior to the start of a season.

Rule 3: LEAGUE PLAY

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

Each team will play a balanced schedule of approximately 24 regular season 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 will follow the regular season.

Rule 4: GAME DURATION

Game duration in all divisions will be determined at the start of the season by the Operations Committee.

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 if a score is less than a three-goal difference. No additional time can be added to the game clock at the conclusion of the game.

Rule 5: DEFAULTS

As a minimum, teams must ice eleven (11) skaters plus one (1) goalie in all levels of league play. The minimum number of players must be dressed and on the team bench before the start of the second 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. A game will be halted if the Hockey Canada minimum player requirement as established in Playing Rule 2.2 is not met or if in the opinion of the referee it is unsafe for the players to proceed.

A default shall be recorded as a 7-0 result for team standing purposes.

Any team that defaults two (2) games shall be reviewed by the Operations Committee to determine whether or not the team should stay in the League. The

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team that is in default must pay the ice time and officials expense for the defaulted game to the school they were scheduled to play against.

Rule 6: GAME RESULTS

Each school is responsible for reporting of game results from league-based play and the entering of detailed game stats from the league. Team Managers at all levels are expected to participate in this process. The home team Manager is responsible for uploading or reporting game results through DMHL website. **All game results are to be updated within 24 hours of the game being played. Failure to update stats by the home team may result in loss of points or financial penalty by the league.**

Rule 7: TOURNAMENTS AND TRAVEL PERMITS

DMHL High School teams traveling for tournaments or exhibition games must follow HNL regulations with respect to travel permits. Teams are responsible for advising the League Co-ordinator of any scheduling changes required to accommodate the team's travel plans. The maximum travel period must not exceed the actual days of tournament play unless out of the metro region and then 1 travel day prior to and 1 travel day following the actual days of tournament play will be entertained.

The League Co-ordinator is not obligated to accommodate travel requests without a minimum of two weeks notice. Teams are requested to provide as much notice as possible to improve the likelihood of their travel request being approved. Teams traveling without League approval may have missed games defaulted, or the team can be suspended from League play for the remainder of the season.

Rule 8: ICE TIME ALLOCATION & EMERGENCY GOALTENDER PROCEDURE

The Doug Marshall High School Hockey League is considered a Varsity Program. Each school is responsible for its own ice time allocation policies at the school level. No ice time allocation issues will be entertained at the league level.

When an Emergency goaltender must be used by a school they can only play in the event a goaltender from their own school is unable to play and dress. An emergency goaltender is exactly as stated. Someone that can only be used as a last resort so a game will be played or can continue due to goaltender shortage or injury. Emergency goaltenders can only be used with permission from the league co-ordinator. Teams using the emergency goaltender should also inform the team they are playing prior to the start of the game so there is no confusion after the game about eligibility.

Rule 9: TIME OUTS

One 30 second timeout per game is permitted during the regular season and playoff games per team.

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Rule 10: SCHEDULES

The role of Scheduler will be undertaken by the League Co-ordinator. League schedules will be completed in advance of the season and released in stages through the League web site.

Changes to home game schedules require a minimum of 14 days notice with the exception of games being postponed due to adverse weather conditions or the unavailability of the host facility.

The League Co-ordinator will determine if any schedule change request is bona fide and, if approved, will work with the two affected team 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.

Rule 11: PLAYOFFS

All teams make the playoffs. The format for play-offs in each League division must be approved in advance by the Executive Committee. A playoff series to select League champions will commence at the conclusion of the regular season. The League playoffs are to start as soon as possible after the end of the regular schedule for a particular division.

League playoffs must be concluded by Easter Saturday.

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

The League will present a Championship Trophy and Banner in all divisions.

Rule 12: PLAYOFF SEEDING

Playoff seeding will be based upon the final standings at the end of the regular season.

Ties for seeding purposes will be decided by the following:

1. Record against each other
2. If still tied, most overall wins in regular season
3. If still tied, goals for and against percentage in games involving the tied teams as per HNL tie breaking rules
4. Total Goals For in all Regular Season games
5. Total Goals Against in Regular Season games
6. If still tied, lowest penalty minutes in games involving the tied teams

Rule 13: SHOOTOUTS and POINTS for REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS

If the teams are tied at the end of regulation time in a regular season game, a five minute three vs three OT will be played and then if needed game will be decided by shootout.

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The shootout procedure is as follows:

1. Initially each team identifies 3 players to participate in the shootout
2. Home team shoots first
3. The team with the most goals after each has taken 3 shots is the winner
4. If the score is tied after 3 shots, each team will proceed to alternate shots until a winner is declared
5. No player can shoot twice until every player has taken a shot
6. If a player was in the penalty box at the end of regulation time they will not be allowed to participate in the shootout

A regulation time win will be three points. An OT or shootout win will be two points. An OT or shootout loss will be one point for the standings

Rule 14: PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

The first two games of each playoff series will be scheduled according to the regular schedule of ice time used throughout the regular season. Therefore, the higher placed team may not always have the first game, but each team will host one game before either team hosts 2 games. 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 be held at the earlier time. Forty-eight hours notice and the approval of the League Co-ordinator will be required for the higher placed team to request to reschedule the first game.

Typically, 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 will normally host the even numbered games in each series.

Rule 15: OVERTIME PROCEDURE

In all league games, a Five-Minute Sudden Victory 3 vs 3 Overtime will be played. If the game is not decided in this OT a shootout will be used to determine the winner as described in Rule 13

Rule 16: SUSPENSIONS

Players and coaches in the League are subject to the HNL Suspension Guidelines as the basis for suspensions. In addition to the HNL Suspension Guidelines, the League will add a THIRTY DAY suspension given for fighting infractions. The HNL suspension is included in this month and not additional to.

Immediately following the completion of any game which included a suspension, gross misconduct or match penalty, the home team is responsible for sending a copy of the official game sheet to the League Co-Ordinator. A scanned copy of the official game sheet should be forwarded to the League Co-Ordinator's email account.

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

Any suspension received in the DMHL must be served in the DMHL. House league, exhibition, tournament high school games cannot be used to serve a suspension issued

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in a DMHL game. However, HNL sanctioned tournaments and exhibition games scheduled prior to the awarding of a suspension, in which the player's DMHL team is previously scheduled to participate can be used to serve a DMHL suspension.

Serving suspensions that carry beyond the end of the playoffs will be addressed by the Executive Committee.

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 for a duration to be determined by the Discipline Committee for subsequent offences, and**
- 3. Games where a team uses a suspended or ineligible player will be forfeited to the opposing team.**

Doug Marshall High School

Hockey League

Appendix A Duties of League Staff

Duties of the League Co-Ordinator

GENERAL

The League Co-Ordinator will be responsible for the day to day operation of the League.

APPOINTMENT

The League Co-Ordinator 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 Director of Hockey Operations will be set in the annual League budget, as agreed upon by the Executive Committee.

The Executive and or Operating Committee can use any method it wishes to identify candidates for the position of Director of Hockey Operations. The appointment must be made prior to the start of the hockey season.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The duties and responsibilities of the Director of Hockey Operations include:

- Calling meetings on behalf of the Operating Committee as required
- Calling meetings on behalf of the Executive Committee as required
- Scheduling and uploading League games to the DJHL web site
- Maintaining a record of any/all suspensions
- Fulfill the role as media spokesperson for the league if called upon
- Overseeing the League web site
- Work with the Executive Committee to establish an annual League budget
- Other duties as assigned

AUTHORITY

The League Co-Ordinator has the authority to act on behalf of the Executive and Operating Committee in the following matters.

- Interpretation of League rules and regulations
- Purchasing of items in the approved budget
- Notify players of suspensions through the appropriate Teams
- Negotiating changes to the League schedule
- Negotiating sponsorships and partnerships