

Alberta Minor Midget AAA Hockey League
Fifteen (15) Year Olds

Constitution

Bylaws

Article 1 Name of League

The League shall be known as the Alberta Minor Midget AAA Hockey League, herein referred to as the AMMHL.

The league consists of two (2) Conferences:

Northern Alberta Conference (NAC)
Southern Alberta Conference (SAC)

Article 2 Rules and Regulations

The league shall follow all the Bylaws and Regulations of Hockey Canada and the Bylaws and Regulations of Hockey Alberta in the spirit and intent of Hockey Alberta's Alberta Development Model (ADM).

All games shall be conducted according to the Hockey Canada Official Playing Rules.

Article 3 Objectives

The objectives of the league shall be:

- (a) to foster and promote a high level of play for the players who are fifteen (15) years of age by December 31st of the current playing season;
- (b) to control and administer the playing of the game of hockey in accordance with the rules, regulations and etiquette of the game;
- (c) to ensure keen competition within the league while fostering an environment of shared respect;
- (d) Participate in and foster the development of the elite stream of hockey as conceptualized in the ADM;
- (e) to promote the development of players, coaches, officials and volunteers within the game of hockey.

Article 4 Teams

The Minor Midget AAA teams will be controlled and operated only by a Local Minor Hockey Association (LMHA) and shall not enter into any player contracts or agreements of any kind and with anyone except Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada. Local Minor Hockey association has the same meaning as that used in the Hockey Alberta Bylaws.

All LMHA's will ensure that their teams are to be structured and adhere to the principles defined in the ADM for that level of play within the defined elite draw zone they are situated.

The Alberta Minor Midget AAA League is comprised of LMHA's and their representative teams within the following existing leagues:

- Northern Alberta Conference (NAC) is comprised of twelve teams: EMHA (4 teams); Camrose Minor Hockey (1 team); Fort Saskatchewan Minor Hockey (1 team); Grande Prairie Minor Hockey (1 team); Leduc Minor Hockey (1 team); Lloydminster Minor Hockey (1 team); Spruce Grove Minor Hockey (1 team); Sherwood Park Minor Hockey (1 team); St. Albert Minor Hockey (1 team)
- Southern Alberta Conference (SAC) is comprised of the fourteen teams from SAML: Medicine Hat Minor Hockey (1 team); Lethbridge Minor Hockey (1 team); Red Deer Minor Hockey (2 teams); Okotoks Minor Hockey (1 team); Airdrie Minor Hockey (1 team); Hockey Calgary (8 teams);

Article 5 Governance

The Executive of the AMMHL will be comprised of the Conference Executives representing the Northern Alberta Conference (NAC) and the Southern Alberta Conference (SAC).

Each Conference shall be represented in league matters by their respective President, Vice President and Secretary Treasurer, comprising the Conference Executive.

The Chairman of the League will in the first year of operation shall be the President of the Southern Alberta Conference. In subsequent years the Chairman shall be elected as per these bylaws.

The Vice Chairman of the League shall be the respective President of the Northern Alberta Conference in the first year of operation. In subsequent years the Vice Chairman shall be elected as per the bylaws.

The remaining members of the Conference Executive shall be considered to be Governors' of the League and shall provide the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the League with support and assistance they may require.

These individuals acting as League Executive will confer on a semi annual and annual basis and as deemed necessary throughout the season.

The Executive of the Alberta Minor Midget AAA League will oversee and support the determination of the annual Provincial Championship.

Article 6 General Duties and Powers of the AMMHL Chairman and Vice Chairman

- a) To conduct the business of the AMMHL in its entirety between annual general meetings as directed by Conference members and to be accountable to Conference members.
- b) To discipline any coach, manager, player, team official, local association representative or member for refusing to accept and obey the ruling of the AMMHL or its officers and for any proven misconduct, unfair or unsportsmanlike conduct, individually or collectively at any place where hockey is being played or at any meeting.
- c) To address all appeals referred to the AMMHL as part of the redress mechanism from a Conference.

Article 7 Duties and Powers of the AMMHL Chairman

- a) May represent any and all of the members of the AMMHL on any occasion and will be responsible to the AMMHL. In the absence of the Chairman, the Chairman may designate the Vice-Chairman and he shall have the powers of the Chairman in this respect.
- b) Shall call such meetings as are deemed necessary or to call a special meeting at the request of a majority of the LMHA's teams within a Conference that is received in writing from the appropriate LMHA. Such request shall state the business to be considered at the special meeting.
- c) Shall provide reports within the AMMHL, as well as the Zone Director or designate (as determined by the location of the team) regarding any suspension of clubs, managers, coaches, players or officials as required as determined by the League
- d) Establish, when necessary, any other committee necessary to review operations of the AMMHL.

Article 15 Duties and Powers of the AMMHL Vice-Chairman

Shall be responsible for all duties as assigned by the Chairman. In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman shall assume responsibilities of the Chairman.

Shall be responsible for the conduct of any appeal to the league where the Chairman has already participated in either the initial determination or first level of appeal with in the conference.

Article 16 Violations

Any violations of the Constitution, Bylaws or Regulations of the League, Hockey Alberta or Hockey Canada by any member of this League shall render such member liable to disciplinary action and/or suspension as may be necessary. "Upon learning of an alleged violation or breach of the Constitution, Bylaws or Regulations of the League, Hockey Alberta or Hockey Canada the Chairman or Vice Chairman or their designate shall determine whether there was a violation or breach and impose such disciplinary measures and sanctions as the Chairman or Vice-Chairman or their designate may deem appropriate."

Article 17 AMMHL Meetings – Representation and Voting

- a) Annual meeting of the AMMHL will be held in June of each year with representation of the elected Executive from the NAC and SAC conferences and all League Governors of the teams representing the governing body of the LMHA's and who are in good standing to attend.
- b) Definition of Conference Executive – The President, Vice President, Secretary / Treasurer – as elected in each conference.
- c) Starting with the 2009 2010 season, the Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman will be as follows - In order to run for Chairman or Vice Chairman, or be a nomination from the floor, you must have held an Executive position in your conference within the last 12 months.
- d) Each of the positions as Conference Chairman and Vice Chairman, will be nominated for the floor for a respective position and a vote conducted to declare a winner amongst the nominees for that position.
- e) All LMHA teams shall have one vote each, and the nominee receiving the most votes will be declared a winner.
- f) A quorum shall consist of 2/3 of the LMHA membership, to the next whole number. For 2008 and 2009, with 26 member LMHA's Teams that would be 18.
- g) A simple majority of members present shall carry all questions except as specified elsewhere in these bylaws. In the event of a tie, the League Chairman (or presiding meeting chair in the absence of the Chairman), will cast the deciding vote.
- h) Special meetings may be requested by the members and must be called by the Chairman within 30 days upon receipt of the request for a special meeting. The request must be signed by a simple majority of the LMHA's teams and must include the reasons for the request. Fourteen days notice must be given to each team.
- i) Minutes of such meetings will be distributed by the respective representatives of each Conference to their respective Team Governor's

Article 18 Conference Meetings – Representation and Voting

- a) The respective Conferences of the AMMHL will hold their organizational meetings for their respective Conference meetings in June (prior to the League meeting), September (before the start of league play) and January annually.
- b) No team shall be entitled to be either represented at or have voting privileges at the league or Conference general meeting or any meeting of this league unless its financial commitments to the Conference are fully paid and they are deemed to be in good standing by the Conference.
- c) Quorum will consist of 2/3 of the membership – to the next whole number.
- d) At any meeting, each LMHA team through its local association shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all matters including election of officers. In the case if a tied vote the President (or presiding meeting Chairman in the absence of the President), shall cast a deciding ballot.
- e) A simple majority of members present shall carry all questions except as specified elsewhere on these bylaws.
- f) Special meetings may be requested by the members and must be called by the President within 30 days upon receipt of the request for a special meeting. The request must be signed by a simple majority of the LMHA teams and must include the reasons for the request. Fourteen days notice must be given to each team.

Article 19 Membership Fees

- a) The annual membership administration fees shall be payable to the respective Conference by LMHA for each team on or before the September organizational meeting each year. All Conference and league expenses will be shared equally between the LMHA teams participating in each Conference.
- b) All LMHA team privileges are automatically lost upon default of any monies due to the Conference.
- c) The membership administration fees shall be reviewed at each Conference Annual Meeting, and be set after consideration of the budget.

Article 20 Declaration of Teams

All members shall declare whether their teams will operate in the league for the next season on or before April 30th of the current playing season.

Article 21 Officers of the Conference

The officers in each Conference shall consist of:

- i) President
- ii) Vice-President
- iii) Secretary/Treasurer

Article 21 Election of Officers for each Conference:

- a) The election of Officers will take place at each Conference's Annual General Meeting in June
- b) The elected Executive of each Conference will then arrange a meeting to discuss pertinent issues that pertain to the AMMHL as a whole.
- c) At each annual meeting of the Conferences, the President of the Conference shall appoint a non-voting independent person to act in the capacity of the Returning Officer, who will chair for elections only.
 - i) Candidates may be nominated from the floor and/or by a nominating Committee as selected by the Conference.
 - ii) A candidate requires a simple majority of the voting members present to be elected.
 - iii) In the event three or more candidates are nominated and no candidate secures a simple majority of votes required, the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be deleted until a candidate receives the simple majority required.
 - iv) In the event of a tied vote, the President elect will cast the deciding vote. In the case of the position of President or Returning Officer, the tie will be broken by a simple toss of a coin.
- d) Conference elected Officers will assume a one-year term upon acceptance.
- e) Should a vacancy occur during the year of any officer position the following shall take place:
 - i) If it is the President, the Vice President shall assume the position and may appoint a replacement Vice President until the next league meeting.
 - ii) If it is the Vice President or the Secretary/Treasurer, the President may appoint a replacement until the next meeting.
 - iii) Appointed individuals must come from the current season LMHA team representatives from the respective conferences

Article 23 General Duties and Powers of the Conference President and Vice President

- a) To conduct the business of the Conference within the AMMHL in its entirety between annual general meetings as directed by Conference members and to be accountable to Conference members.
- b) To discipline within their respective Conference any coach, manager, player, team official, local association representative or member for refusing to accept and obey the ruling of the AMMHL or its officers and for any proven misconduct, unfair or unsportsmanlike conduct, individually or collectively at any place where hockey is being played or at any meeting.

Article 24 Duties and Powers of the Conference President

- c) May represent any and all of the members of their respective Conference within the AMMHL on any occasion and will be responsible to the AMMHL. In the absence of the President, the President may designate the Vice-President and he shall have the powers of the President in this respect.
- d) Shall call such meetings as are deemed necessary within their respective Conference or to call a special meeting at the request of a majority of the teams within their Conference that is received in writing from the appropriate local associations. Such request shall state the business to be considered at the special meeting.
- e) Shall provide reports to the other Conference within the AMMHL, as well as the Zone Director or designate (as determined by the location of the team) regarding any suspension of clubs, managers, coaches, players or officials as required.
- f) Shall ensure that their Conference expenditures do not exceed budget amounts without due consideration and approval of the Conference Governors.
- g) To be responsible for the complete operation of their respective Conference within the AMMHL.
- h) To control discipline matters within their Conference of the AMMHL's jurisdiction.
- i) To draw up their respective Conference League schedule, within the AMMHL.
- j) To attend AMMHL meetings, or any other meetings relating to the AMMHL.
- k) Establish, when necessary, any other committee necessary to review operations of the Conference.
- l) Annually, participate in a meeting relating to their respective Conference with all Coaches and Managers before the start of League play.

Article 25 Duties and Powers of the Conference Vice-President

Shall be responsible for all duties assigned by the Conference President. In the absence of the Conference President the Conference Vice-President shall assume responsibilities of the Conference President.

Article 26 Duties and Responsibilities of the Conference Secretary/Treasurer

- a) To manage a bank account, record all revenues and expenditures, deposit all monies received, and pay all accounts of the Conference and prepare appropriate financial statements for all Conference meetings. (Fiscal year ends June 30th of each year).
- b) Records minutes of all Conference meetings, and distribute copies to all Conference members within a reasonable length of time of the meeting.
- c) Handle such correspondence and financial matters as required by the Conference within the AMMHL.
- d) Bank signing authority, any two of the Conference President, Conference Vice-President or Conference Secretary/Treasurer, is required to sign cheques, any one of the above to verify the account.
- e) Audit Clause- Annual internal audit is to be conducted on a yearly basis of all accounts by two representatives of Conference members or an independent auditor, prior to each pre-season meeting.
- f) Budget:
 - i) To prepare a draft budget, for the ensuing year, in conjunction with the Conference President elect, and to circulate the document to the respective Conference members at least 30 days prior to each pre-season meeting.
 - ii) To accurately steward to the budget amounts approved by the pre-season meeting.
 - iii) To monitor expenditures, relative to budget, and advise the Conference President when budget limits are being reached.

Article 27 Duties of Conference Executive Directors

Responsible for the promotion of the AMMHL and other duties as required (e.g. Communications, All Star Games, and AMMHL Provincials)

Article 28 Appeals to Hockey Alberta

Hockey Alberta will hear appeals as provided for in Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations, provided that all internal Conference and League redress procedures have been exhausted.

Article 29 Amendments

- (a) The Constitution shall be amended at the AMMHL Annual General Meeting
- (b) A notice of the intended amendment to the Constitution shall be submitted in writing to a Chairman of the AMMHL at least forty five (45) days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) The Operational Policies and Procedures may be amended at any meeting of the AMMHL providing notice has been given as provided in (d).
- (d) A notice of an intended amendment to the Constitution or the Bylaws shall be provided to each team and their Local Minor Hockey Association at least thirty (30) days prior to either the Annual General Meeting or the meeting where the operational Policies and Procedure change is to be considered.
- (e) Amendments require a simple majority of votes from the assembled members at the meeting called to consider the motion

Article 30 Expansion of Conferences within the AMMHL.

The procedure for expansion will be the responsibility of the Hockey Alberta Development Committee and be part of the Elite Development Model in concert with the Executive of the AMMHL.

Article 31 Conference Ability to Determine Operating Regulations

Where the Operating Regulations are deficient or not appropriate for the circumstances inherent in the Conference play, the Conference may establish such rules as it requires beyond those identified in the this document to provide clarity or certainty to the conduct of the game.

Operating Regulations

- 1 Team Registration
 - a) It is the responsibility of each Local Minor Hockey Association to ensure that their teams are properly registered with Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada.
- 2 Refereeing
 - a) The Referee Assignors for each LMHA in each Conference will do assignment of on- ice officials for all League games and playoff games.
 - b) Referees will be paid as per the fee schedule defined by Hockey Alberta.
 - c) Each home team will be responsible for the payment of fees to the on ice officials.
- 3 Scheduling of Games
 - a) Scheduled League Games have Priority over Exhibition and Tournament games as provided by Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations.
 - b) The Conference President will have a draft schedule to each team by the end of August and the final schedule completed by September 15th.
- 4 Playing Rules.
 - a) The playing rules shall be those provided in the Hockey Canada Official Playing Rules book.
 - b) Regular season games will be concluded without overtime.
 - c) All games between participants will utilize the 15-second face-off procedure as employed by the Western Hockey league and the Alberta Junior Hockey League.
 - d) All players shall wear a Mouthguard as per the risk management regulations
 - e) All games shall be 3 periods of 20 minutes stop time play, and a minimum ice permit of 2 hours and 15 minutes is recommended.
 - f) A minimum 5 minute warm-up shall be provided.
 - g) Where required by local ice rental conditions, the playing clock will be turned down to two (2) minutes playing time, when there are five (5) minutes remaining in the permit. The referee shall be the sole determining authority of these times.
- 5 Tournament, Exhibition and Pre - Season Games

The Officers of the Local Minor Hockey Associations are ultimately responsible for granting permission for pre season, tournament and exhibition games. The AMMHL will honor any discipline arising out of a tournament, exhibition or pre-season game that could not be served during that game or event. All game sheets and game reports for these games with suspendable infractions must be faxed to Hockey Alberta Manager of Operations or designate and the LMHA responsible for that team.
- 6 Duties of Home team
 - a) Home team is wear dark colored jerseys.
 - b) Provides all pucks required for warm up and game play.

- c) All pucks used for the game should be frozen before they are used and stored in a container with ice during the game.
 - d) Shall provide all necessary game sheets and incident reports for the game.
- 7 Game Sheets and Incident Reports
- a) The Home Team is responsible for mailing, faxing or delivering a copy of the game sheet and incident form(s) to the Conference President (or their designate) within twenty four (24) hours of the conclusion of the game.
- 8 Match Penalties On Officials
- a) All Match penalties on an official will be handled by the Hockey Alberta Match Penalty Coordinator as outlined in the Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations.
- 9 Discipline Policy for League and Playoff Games
- a) For all discipline, it is the responsibility of the Head Coach and Team Manager to ensure that all discipline as identified pursuant to the guidelines is properly served. The league will monitor these activities.
 - b) For the purposes of assistance, the League President will appoint a 3 person neutral committee whenever necessary outside League guidelines.
 - c) All LMHA's retain the jurisdiction via their own disciplinary committees (should they have one) to hold hearings or otherwise deal with serious infractions of the rules, for participants carded under their jurisdiction.
- 10 Teams Failing To Represent Itself
- a) If a Conference team fails to present itself at the time and place appointed to play a game, the game or series will be awarded to the opposing team with a score of 1-0 for statistical purposes unless the failure was caused by an unavoidable accident or an unforeseen situation.
 - b) The Conference President will be responsible for ascertaining the reason for the failure and will invoke discipline procedures as set down by the AMMHL for these circumstances.
 - i The Manager, Coach or official and/or players of the team that is responsible for a failure to attend may be suspended for one year or more.
- 11 Reportable Offences
- a) The home team is charged with the responsibility of reporting all reportable offences to the appropriate Conference President and/or the appropriate representative and or HA Zone Disciplinary Coordinator immediately following the game.

Offence	Game Sheet	Incident Report	HA rep
Major CFB and Check to Head	yes	yes	no
Pre / Post Game Altercations	yes	yes	no
Gross Misconducts	yes	yes	no
Rule 9.2 game misconduct	yes	yes	no
All Match penalties	yes	yes	maybe *
Fighting Instigator or Aggressor	yes	no	no

Third man in fight	yes	yes	no
Leaving Bench for fighting	yes	yes	no
Rule 9.6 Abuse of Officials	yes	yes	yes

* if the offence is on a referee or linemen, HA must be informed

12 Suspensions

- a) All infractions that incur a suspension must follow the Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspension Guidelines as outlined in the Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations Section 13.3 Minor Hockey minimum Suspensions, as the **minimum suspension** issued.
- b) The Conference President may review all such suspensions, including the prior record of the player and may provide for an additional suspension where they consider the situation and history warrant such a deterrent. Any such determination must be made in writing.

13 Affiliation

- a) The LMHA will be responsible for ensuring that any affiliate player used in any game is properly affiliated as per Hockey Alberta Regulations prior to playing in that game.
- b) Affiliation shall be conducted with the guidance of the ADM.
- c) Teams may utilize on an emergency or injury basis affiliated players who are fourteen (14) or fifteen (15) years of age on or before December 31st of the current playing season.
- d) No affiliated players who are fourteen (14) years of age on or before December 31st of the current playing season will be allowed to play their 6th game with AMMHL until or unless their home team has completed its playing season in its entirety, including post season tournament play.

14 Regular Season

- a) Each Conference shall play a schedule of no less than 30 games and no more than 40 games as part of scheduled league play.
- b) Each conference will determine the structure of their conference and the means by which any regular season ties will be broken.
- c) Conference play should start on or about the first weekend in October of the season and continue until the second weekend of March (including playoffs within the conference)

15 Playoff Structure

- a) Each Conference will hold playoffs of their own determination to declare a Conference Champion.
- b) The AMMHL Provincial Championship will be held with the Champions of each Conference in accordance with the Hockey Alberta Provincial Championship Regulations. 10.3
- c) 2008 2009:
- d) <<< Add method of determining Champion >>>>

16 Appeals

- a) All appeals must be formally initiated in writing within 48 hours of the decision of ruling being appealed and must detail the matter under appeal, the reason for the appeal and must include copies of any game sheets and incidents reports by the team's respective League Governor or LMHA only. The appeal should be forwarded to the Conference President within the timeframe for appeals.
- b) An appeal to the Conference Appeal Committee shall be accompanied by a \$200.00 deposit and an appeal to the League Appeal Committee shall be accompanied by a \$250.00 deposit. The deposit will be returned if the appeal results in a ruling favorable to the LMHA which initiated the appeal.
- c) A decision of a referee and the length of a minimum suspension issued pursuant to the HA Guidelines are not subject to appeal at the League level. Appeals of this nature will be considered to have been dealt with at the League level as if they were affirmed. Appeals of these matters should be directed to HA, pursuant to the provisions of Bylaws 13.03.
- d) Suspensions greater than the AMMHL's minimum suspension, or those issued by the league officials as a matter of discipline, official's interpretation of rules and the use of ineligible players are subject to appeal.
 - i First Level of Appeal: Conference Appeal Committee (via Conference President)
 - ii Second Level of Appeal: League Appeal Committee (via League Chairman)
 - iii Third level of Appeal: Hockey Alberta pursuant to Bylaws XIII Appeals including sections 13.01 to 13.20 inclusive.
- e) The Conference Appeal Committee shall be comprised of three members from the respective Conference where the suspension or event took place, shall be empowered to review rulings and to determine the appropriateness of that ruling or not. Any review of suspension which is affirmed cannot fall below the Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspension Regulations
- f) The League Appeal Committee will be comprised of three officials from the League Executive. Any Conference official, who participated in the initial ruling or the First Level of Appeal, shall be automatically excluded from these duties.
- g) All appeal committees will render their decision in writing within 10 days of the appeal being filed.

- 17 Risk Management
- a) Any injury resulting in a player injured seriously enough to require emergency medical attention must be reported to the LMHA Officer for information and insurance purposes.
 - b) All players while playing any games in the League must wear mouth guards. All players playing in their first year in the League should be encouraged to acquire and wear colored mouth guards.
 - c) Any player not properly wearing his mouth guard during play is subject to the imposition of a two (2) minute penalty at the sole discretion of the Referee.
- 18 Procedure for Rescheduling and Cancellation of Games
- a) Each Conference may establish rules conducive to their administration for the management of these issues.
- 19 Regular Season and Playoffs
- a) Each Conference shall provide operating rules for the conduct of the regular season and playoffs addressing issues about the breaking of ties, the advancement of teams to the playoffs, the format of the playoffs and essential rules for those playoffs.
 - b) Each Conference may establish its own system of awards based upon the conduct of games within its Conference for regular season and playoffs.
- 20 Off Ice Officials
- a) All off ice officials are responsible for conducting their duties in a manner that displays sportsmanship and shows fair play and respect to all participants. As neutral off ice officials assisting the referee in proper conduct of the game they are significant contributors to the management of the game. Should their behavior warrant disciplinary action they may be relieved of their duties by the referee or other League or LMHA official.
 - b) Should any off ice official be removed from their duties during a game, due to their behavior before, during or after the game has been played, they will be automatically suspended from attending to these duties for the next two home games of their team.
 - c) Any off ice official who is suspended a second time pursuant to this rule, not be allowed to continue their duties as an off ice official for the remainder of the season.

- 21 Discipline Policy
- a) Follow the Hockey Canada Official Playing Rules
 - b) Follow the Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspension Guidelines and Suspension Provisions

Hockey Alberta Provisions

Section A Minor

Regulations (pages 105 to 113 inclusive)

HA Regulations 13.2 Minor Hockey Suspension Procedures

HA Regulations 13.3 Minor Hockey Minimum Suspensions

HA Regulations 13.4 to 13.8 inclusive