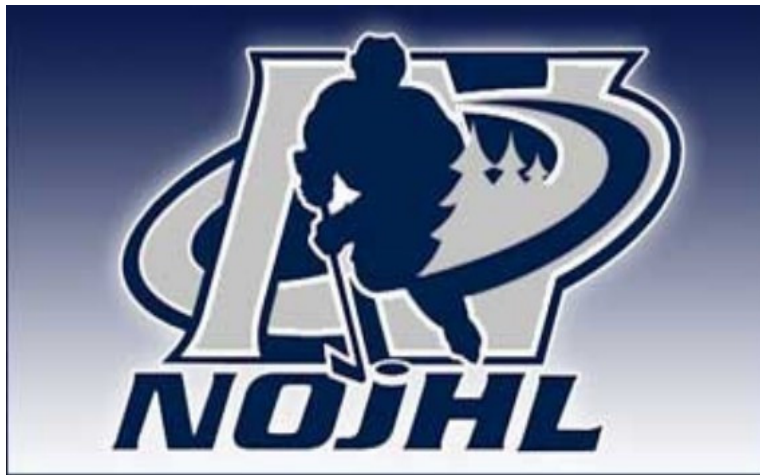


Northern Ontario Junior A Hockey League



Constitution, By- Laws and Regulations

(as of June 20, 2015)

NORTHERN ONTARIO JUNIOR A HOCKEY LEAGUE
Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations

	Page
DISCLAIMERS	7
 <u>CONSTITUTION</u>	
Name of the League	7
Principle Office	7
Mission	7
League Goals	7
League Principles	8
League Purposes	8
Adoption	9
Amendments	9
 <u>BY-LAWS</u>	
1.0 MEMBERSHIP	
1.1 Existing Membership Holder	9
1.2 Application for Membership	10
1.3 Acceptance or Refusal of Membership	12
1.4 Membership Certificate	12
1.5 Transfer of Membership	12
1.6 Suspension of Playing Activities	14
1.7 Forfeiture of Membership	15
1.7.2 Involuntary Termination	15
1.8 Termination Procedure	16
1.9 Fining in Lieu of Termination	16
2.0 ADMINISTRATION	
2.1 Board of Directors	17
3.0 MEETINGS	
3.1 Regular Board Meetings	18
3.2 Special Meetings	18
3.3 Annual Meetings	18
3.4 Quorum	19
3.5 Conduct of Meetings	19
3.6 Rules of Order	19
3.7 Agenda Preparation	19
3.8 Business and Decision Making	19

4.0	OFFICERS	
4.1	Appointment	21
4.2	Vacancies	21
4.3	League Commissioner	21
4.4	Administrative Officer Responsibilities	22
4.5	Executive Director Responsibilities	22
4.6	Removal of Officers	22
5.0	STAFF	
5.1	Appointments	
	a) Statistian	22
	b) Director of Officiating	22
	c) Webmaster	23
5.2	Honorariums	23
6.0	LIFE MEMBERSHIP	23
7.0	COMMITTEES	24
8.0	RIGHT OF APPEAL	24
9.0	LEAGUE ASSESSMENTS	24
10.0	TERRITORIAL RIGHTS	24
11.0	ENACTMENT	
11.1	League Protocol	25
11.2	Good Conduct	25
12.0	TEAMS IN ORDER OF SENIORITY	25
13.0	ADOPTION	27
14.0	AMENDMENTS	27
15.0	ENDORSEMENT	27
16.0	DISSOLUTION	28
	<u>REGULATIONS</u>	
100	AMENDMENTS	29
101	GENERAL PROVISIONS	29
102	OFFICIAL BUSINESS	29

103	NOJHL STAFF	29
104	ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS	
	a) Generally	30
	b) Suspension of Players	30
	c) Previous Registration	31
	d) Affiliated Players	31
	e) Onus On Team To Prove Eligibility of Player	31
	f) Territorial Boundaries	32
105	REGISTRATION OF COACH, MANAGER, TRAINER	32
106	TAMPERING	32
107	PROTESTED GAME	32
108	SECURITY	
	a) Protection – Referees – Teams	33
	b) Confrontation – Officials	33
	c) Dressing Room – Visiting Team	33
	d) Security	33
	e) Penalty for Violation	33
	f) National Anthems	33
	g) Ceremonial Face-Offs	34
109	SPECIAL RULES	
	a) Game Sheets	34
	b) Ice Facilities	34
	c) Exhibition Games	35
	d) Player Rosters	35
	e) Minor Officials	35
	f) Late – No Shows	35
	g) Changing Games	36
	h) Training Camp	36
	i) Dress Code	36
110	GENERAL	36
111	INTERPRETATION	37
200	RULES OF PLAY	38
201	PLAYER ANNUAL NOJHL REGISTRATION FEES AND FORM	38
202	HC PLAYER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES AND NOJHL CARDING PROCEDURES	38

203	MEMBER CLUBS	
	A) Drafting of Tentative Schedule	39
204	NON-AVAILABILITY OF HOME ARENA	39
205	LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP	
	A) Final League Standing	39
	B) Tie in Standings	40
206	SCHEDULE OF PLAYOFFS	
	A) Playoff Format	41
	B) Choice of Ice	41
	C) Overtime	41
207	PLAYING RULES	41
208	TEAM LINEUPS	
	A) Complete Official Game Report	41
	B) Starting Lineup	42
	C) Changes in Starting Lineup	42
209	WARM UPS	
	A) Provisions of Practice Pucks	42
210	APPOINTMENT AND FEES FOR REFEREES & LINESMEN	
	A) Appointment	42
	B) Authority of Referees	42
	C) Payment	43
211	OFFICIATING	
	A) Inappropriate Conduct	44
	B) Officiating Complaints	44
212	PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT	
	A) Condition	44
	B) Protective Equipment	44
	C) Colours – Regular Season and Playoffs	44
213	MEDICAL ATTENDANTS	44
214	EXECUTIVE PASSES	45
215	LEAGUE TROPHIES	
	A) Custody	45
	B) Schedule of Trophies	45
	C) Banners	45

216	POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS	45
217	FINES	
	A) Fines to any outside Governing Organization	46
	B) Payable to NOJHL	46
	C) Payment of Fines	46
218	COMPETITIVENESS	46

Please refer to documents for:

REGULATION 300	CJHL JUNIOR A SUPPLEMENT
REGULATION 301	NOJHL PRIVACY POLICIES
REGULATION 302	CODE OF CONDUCT
REGULATION 303	NOJHL HOCKEY ADMINISTRATION GUIDE/POLICIES

DISCLAIMERS

Gender Disclaimer: Within these Regulations, the alternating of gender in grammar is utilized. Any masculine reference shall also apply to females and any feminine reference shall also apply to males.

Any Changes in the Articles, By-Laws and/or Regulations, which have been adopted, amended or revised in the manner herein set forth, shall not be negated by reason of any error or omission which may occur in the periodic printing of the Articles, By-Laws and / or Regulations of this Association.

Any amendments or changes in the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations or playing rules of Hockey Canada, Ontario Hockey Federation, Northern Ontario Hockey Association or the Canadian Junior Hockey League shall automatically amend or change the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations or Playing Rules of the NOJHL in accordance therewith.

CONSTITUTION

NAME OF THE LEAGUE

The name of the League shall be known as the NORTHERN ONTARIO JUNIOR A HOCKEY LEAGUE (NOJHL).

PRINCIPLE OFFICE

The Principle office shall be designated as the location recognized by the Northern Ontario Junior A Hockey League or at such a place as may be designated by a majority of the League members.

MISSION

To provide Junior A Hockey in Northern Ontario, so that players have the opportunity to develop at an elite level while maintaining their amateur status and while striving to achieve their educational and career goals.

LEAGUE GOALS

- a) To guide and assist player enhancement by assisting in their personal growth and development in advancing their careers in education, amateur hockey and individual professions.
- b) To provide an opportunity for each and every player to be successful on and off the ice.
- c) To promote and protect the economic interests of the members of the League.

- d) To administer the operations of the League in the most efficient, most effective and most economic manner.
- e) To assist the individual member and/or membership in increasing fan support by offering the best brand of hockey entertainment.
- f) To promote the values and benefits of having a Junior A hockey program in Northern Ontario.

LEAGUE PRINCIPLES

- a) That the League has a strong sense of purpose with goals that are shared by all League members.
- b) That the members of the League take an active role in developing appropriate objectives that will ultimately achieve the goals and purposes of the League.
- c) That the League continually monitors consumer needs and is aware of what our competition is providing.
- d) That the League has developed a business plan that is founded on the importance of planning.
- e) That the League places a great deal of emphasis on the importance of the people who are ultimately responsible for the direction of the League and Junior hockey in Northern Ontario.

NOJHL PURPOSES

- (a) perpetuate, improve and promote the game of Junior A hockey;
- (b) expand and elevate public awareness and profile of Junior A hockey;
- (c) enhance athletic-academic development of, exposure for and opportunities presented to, NOJHL Players;
- (d) foster discussion, cooperation, collaboration and agreement among members on the administration, governance and business of the NOJHL and Junior A hockey;
- (e) unite members on matters of common interest and thereafter represent, advocate and advance such common interests on a Regional, Provincial and National level;

(f) Complement, support and initiate relationships with mutual stakeholders and partners of the NOJHL and Junior A hockey; and

(g) adopt such By-Laws, Rules, Regulations or Policies as may be considered necessary from time to time for the administration, governance and business of the NOJHL and Junior A hockey, including for the mediation, arbitration and settlement of disputes between or among members.

ADOPTION

The Member teams agree to conform to and be bound by the Constitution, which shall be adopted to conform to the provisions of this agreement by a 75% majority vote of the Member teams.

AMENDMENTS

Notwithstanding By-Law 14, Regulation 100 of the NOJHL Constitution, the giving of notice provided therein maybe waved at any Board of Directors meeting by three-quarters (3/4) majority vote of the Directors present at the meeting and the Board of Directors may make amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the NOJHL which will be effective until the next Annual General Meeting of the NOJHL. All amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations made by the Board of Directors must be ratified at the next Annual General Meeting of the NOJHL.

BY-LAWS

1.0 MEMBERSHIP

1.1 EXISTING MEMBER AND/OR MEMBERSHIP HOLDERS

Existing members of the League are those members who are currently in possession of team memberships duly authorized by the League. New members may be admitted hereafter, once having met all the requirements of the League and having obtained the prescribed League approval.

An individual, owner or otherwise can be associated with no more than one team at any given time unless approved by the League Directors through a Preferred Resolution.

Subject to the provisions of these Rules and Regulations and the playing rules of the League, each Member Club shall have the right to regulate its own affairs, including the suspensions of its Directors,

Officers, Agents, Employees and Players. Such right to self-regulation shall extend to all matters as the Member Club may consider in its own opinion to be proper for its own self-interest.

All teams must register/notify the league in writing on/or before the first day of February of that playing season for the following playing season. The said letter shall be accompanied by a (non- refundable cheque) in the amount of two thousand five hundred (\$2500.00) dollars PLUS HST payable to the NOJHL which will be credited to the teams following season fees.

1.1 THAT ALL MEMBERS. IF APPLICABLE, MUST SUBMIT AND PROVIDE TO THE LEAGUE OFFICE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS THE FOLLOWING:

- (A) MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR AGM.
- (B) A COPY OF THE PREVIOUS YEARS NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT.
- (C) WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF ANY CHANGES TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE MEMBER
- (D) LEAGUE STAFF IS TO UPDATE THE BOARD ON COMPLIANCE OF ALL MEMBERS.

1.1A) SCREENING PROCESS FOR ANY NEW DIRECTORS

- Directors shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older, and reside in the Province of Ontario.
- Name, Address, Date of Birth and contact information must be supplied.
- A Criminal Record Check with a Vulnerable Sector Screening must be supplied.
- A Club submitting the request for the new Director shall abstain from voting on any resolution pursuant to the By-Law.
- the NOJHL must accept the change, consent and approve the new director(s)
- A signed statement that upon being accepted by the League that the Director agrees to be bound by the NOJHL Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Policies and Amendments thereof.
- No public announcement of any new director(s) until approved by the League.

1.2 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Each applicant for membership shall make a written application to the Commissioner and it shall contain the following information;

1) The names and addresses of all persons who own or shall own any interest or stock in the applicant, together with a statement that such persons will not own or hold such interest or stock for the benefit of any undisclosed person or organization.

2) A detailed balance sheet of such a company as of the date of organization and a pro forma statement as of the time it shall commence actual operation. A written financial statement shall be required from the applicant including stockholders and partners.

3) If the application is a Corporation, a certified copy of the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and share certificate shall accompany the application, provided, however, that if the organization of such a corporation has not commenced, or completed, a detailed statement summarizing the proposed plan of operation and the capital structure thereof shall be furnished.

4) If the applicant is a Partnership, Unincorporated Association or an entity, a certified copy of the Articles of Co-Partnership or organization shall accompany the application.

5) Upon any application for membership, each proposed owner or holder or any interest in the membership, including stockholders in any corporation, members of a partnership and all other persons holding any interest in the applicant, must be individually approved by the Board of Directors.

a) This team must supply a 5 year business plan including financial information for the operation of this team.

b) Applications for new teams must be submitted to the NOHA by January 20th to be eligible for competition the following season.

c) The team must disclose whether the team is a Not for Profit organization or a private business. Corporation or Incorporation information must be supplied.

d) The team must disclose its principle operators or Board of Directors.

e) Must supply a Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations for the team or Articles.

- f) Letters of support from other Hockey Associations and/or Teams within the NOHA District in which the team is located.
- g) Desired game nights and team colours.
- h) Letter from arena(s) they will play out of showing ice time is available.
- i) Must submit all financial/logistical information such as sponsor, budget, player fees, etc.
- j) Must submit a plan in regards to player recruitment.
- k) Must supply an Educational plan for the players.
- l) A list of the Team Staff must be submitted – Manager, Coach and Trainer.
- m) Prevention Services Appointee.
- n) Verification of Team personnel approved Criminal Record Checks
- o) Record of Affiliation – if applicable.
- p) A signed statement that upon being accepted in the League that the team agrees to be bound by the Constitution and Amendments thereof.
- q) The Board of Directors makes the determination on the membership fee, terms and conditions. In addition, when filing the application to the league a minimum non-refundable Five Thousand (\$5000.00) dollar PLUS HST deposit by a certified cheque, bank draft and or wire transfer will be required. Based on the circumstances and situation of the application, the Board of Directors will make the final determination whether or not the minimum five thousand (\$5000.00) PLUS HST non-refundable deposit is sufficient.
- r) Full and complete disclosure of all documents, agreements must be provided to the league when applying. Failure to provide full and complete disclosure of all documents may result in forfeiture of membership as per By-Law 1.7 of the NOJHL Constitution.
- s) Copies of the Arena Lease must be received by the Commissioner, signed by all related parties prior to being approved for membership by the Board. Failure to provide full and complete disclosure of all documents may result in forfeiture of the membership as per By-Law 1.7 of the NOJHL Constitution.

1.3 ACCEPTANCE OR REFUSAL

- a) A (**Preferred Resolution**) of the Clubs already constituting the League shall be required to recommend to the NOHA Executive that the new Junior A club be accepted as a member and/or membership holder. Teams within the 80km radius would hold a veto vote.
- b) Once having been accepted, said team, in addition to the membership purchase fee, shall have no share in the assets and reserve account of the League for three years.
- c) All new entries shall agree to be on a one-year probation period. In the event that the said new entry does not abide by the League's Constitution and/or Regulations, etc., the League has the right to expel the entry from further participation prior to the beginning of the following season.

1.4 MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

Each member club in good standing shall be entitled to a member and/or membership certificate, certifying that the member holds a membership in the League. Such a certificate shall be non-assignable and non-transferable except as provided by NOJHL By-Law 1.5.

1.5 TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

- a. The membership of member club may be transferred or moved to another municipality or assigned in the same community on approval of a **Preferred Resolution** of the members of the group. Teams within 80km radius would hold a veto vote.
- b. When applying, the application must include a non-refundable FIVE thousand (\$5,000.00) dollar (PLUS HST) administrative fee.
- c. The application must be made to the League. The application must be authorized by the Club's President and Secretary.
- d. Each applicant for membership shall make a written application to the Commissioner and it shall contain the following information.
 - i) This team must supply a 5 year business plan including financial information for the operation of this team.

- ii) The team must disclose whether the team is a Not for Profit organization or a private business. Corporation or Incorporation information must be supplied.
- iii) The team must disclose its principle operators or Board of Directors.
- iv) Must supply a Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations for the Team or Articles.
- v) Letters of support from other Hockey Associations and/or Teams within the NOHA District in which the team is located.
- vi) Desired game nights and team colors.
- vii) Letter from arena(s) they will play out of showing ice time is available.
- viii) Must submit all financial/logistical information such as sponsor, budget, player fees, etc.
- ix) Must submit a plan in regards to player recruitment.
- x) Must supply an Educational plan for the players.
- xi) A list of the Team Staff must be submitted – Manager, Coach and Trainer.
- xii) Prevention Services Appointee.
- xiii) Verification of Team personnel approved Criminal Record Checks
- xiv) Record of Affiliation – if applicable.
- xv) A signed statement that upon being accepted in the League that the team agrees to be bound by the Constitution and Amendments thereof.
- xvi) Full and complete disclosure of all agreements must be disclosed to the League. Failure to disclose all of the documents and agreements may result in forfeiture of the membership as per By-Law 1.7 of the NOJHL Constitution.
- e) No Membership or any interest therein, may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred in whole or in part except in accordance with and subject to the following provisions;
 - i) Application for the Sale, transfer or assignment of a membership, or of any interest herein, must be made in writing to the Commissioner. Upon receipt of the application, the

Commissioner is empowered to require from the applicant and the applicant shall furnish the Commissioner such information, as the Commissioner deems appropriate including;

- ii) The names and addresses of each of the buyers, transferees or assignees thereof;
- iii) The price to be paid for such a sale, transfer or assignment and the terms of the payment including a description of the security for the unpaid balance, if any;
- iv) A banking reference for each buyer, transferee and assignee and
- v) If the buyer, transferee or assignee is a corporation, a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws thereof, together with a copy of the share certificates of each class of stock to be outstanding, the names, addresses, of the Directors and Officers thereof, the names and addresses of the stockholders therein, and the price to be paid or to be paid at the time of the payment of the said stock, a copy of the voting trust agreement and of any voting trust certificates.
- vi) If the buyer, transferee or assignee, is a Corporation, a certified copy of the Articles of Incorporation must be provided, with the names, residential address of all the shareholders.

1.6 SUSPENSION OF PLAYING ACTIVITIES

- a) Any member club may suspend its playing activities with the unanimous approval of all League club members, excluding the League club member applying for a leave of absence. If the member club is granted a leave of absence, all league dues, league assessments and/or payments and/or league fees must be paid while on the said leave to remain in good standing.
- b) A leave of absence shall only be granted for one season and this leave must be applied in writing to the League Office three (3) months in advance of the May 1st Deadline. If a further extension is required, the Board of Directors must unanimously agree. The Directors of said Club shall be allowed to attend League meetings and functions as non-voting delegate.
- c) When a team re-enters the League after a leave of absence, said team shall post a minimum of Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000.00) dollar performance bond, and/or what the Board of Directors deems appropriate. Said bond shall be in effect for a period of 5 playing seasons and shall not be returned until the conclusion of the 5th playing season upon their return.

- d) CJHL/HC rules state when a club is granted a leave, players are free agents.

1.7 FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership and Franchise may be terminated upon approval (**Preferred Resolution**) of not less than **75%** of the Directors present and entitled to vote and the following conduct is included in, but is not exhaustive of, grounds for termination pursuant to this By-Law:

- a) any action or acquiescence by or of any member that is detrimental to the best interest of the NOJHL and Junior A Hockey in Canada
- b) any action or acquiescence by or of any member that brings discredit to the NOJHL, Junior A Hockey in Canada or any other member; and
- c) Failure to pay dues and/or league assessments within 30 days following the deadline for payment from the League.
- d) if the Club fails to complete the playing season in any year
- e) or is suspended for any reason by the NOJHL and/or NOHA,OHF/HC/CJHL.

1.7.1 Any Club affected by the provisions of this By-Law and wishes to re-apply for applicant and membership in the League shall be treated as a new entry and will be required to apply and abide by all Regulations and By-Laws covered by this Constitution and format for new applicant.

1.7.2 INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION

- i) Membership in the League shall be subject to be automatically terminated whenever:
- ii) An individual or shareholder and/or corporate partner, not for profit organization, for profit organization and/or general partner therein makes an assignment for the benefit of his creditors or files a voluntary petition for bankruptcy or makes an application for a voluntary wind up or whenever a receiver and/or a trustee in bankruptcy is appointed for the property and assets of the member and/or general partner, shareholder, individual or not for profit organization and/or profit organization, whenever reorganizations proceedings in bankruptcy are instituted by or against the member and or by or against the general partner, shareholder, individual, not for profit organization, profit organization, who makes the assignment for the benefit of his creditors or who becomes or who becomes subject to any such bankruptcy proceedings and also provides for the continuation of the membership in any such event

and the remaining individuals, shareholders and/or corporate partners satisfy the requirements of By-Laws 1.2 and 1.5 of the NOJHL Constitution than this section shall be inoperative.

iii) All interests of the terminated member in and to any funds and/or assets and/or property of the League or any right or interest therein, shall cease.

1.8 TERMINATION PROCEDURE

- a) Any member of the League may prefer charges that a member has violated a provision of the Constitution. Said charges shall be made in writing and shall be filed by e-mail to the Commissioner. Said charges must state the member or members against whom such charges are being made.
- b) The member or members so charged shall, within two weeks after receipt of the charges, file with the Commissioner a written response to the charges. All charges responses shall be forwarded to all the League members. All League members must state their position in writing within one week.
- c) A majority of members must favor a hearing to present the charges or no further action shall be taken.
- d) If such a majority favors to hear the charges, the Commissioner must call a special meeting, no later than two weeks after the filing of the accused member's response.
- e) At said meeting, the Commissioner will preside and the final decision must be supported by a 75% vote of the entire membership.
- f) The decision of the League shall be submitted to the NOHA if applicable. The decision shall be final and binding.

1.9 FINING IN LIEU OF TERMINATION

Upon conviction of a violation of the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations of the League, a 75% majority vote (**Preferred Resolution**) of the entire membership may, in lieu of suspending the membership, impose a fine appropriate to the offence.

2.0 ADMINISTRATION

2.1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a) The League shall be governed by a Board of Directors who shall establish the Policies of the League and uphold the Constitution, By-Laws and the Regulations.
- b) Each League member shall appoint an individual to serve as a Board of Director and two individuals to serve as Alternate Directors.
- c) All said appointees are to be submitted in writing to the Commissioner.
- d) Any League member may, at any time, revoke the appointment of its Board of Director or Alternate Director and appoint another. This change must be made in writing to the League office at least one week prior to the next regular Board of Directors meeting.
- e) Any Board of Director, team or another person cannot obligate or bind the League or individual team, in any way, except when designated specifically to do so, by a majority vote of the existing teams.
- f) No member team or individual who is a part of a member team can be held severally responsible or liable to debts or obligations incurred in the name of the League.
- g) All League correspondence whether by letter or email, and/or its contents within the letters and/or emails, shall be confidential and private and shall not be distributed to any outside persons not a part of the NOJHL without the written permission from the Commissioner and/or by an approved motion of the Board of Directors. Minimum fine for violation is One Thousand (\$1000.00) dollars (PLUS HST) and subject to Appeal as per the NOJHL Appeal Policy.

3.0 MEETINGS

3.1 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

- a) The Board of Directors and the Commissioner shall meet at least four (4) times throughout the year at a location pre-determined by the League.
- b) The designated Director(s) and the alternate Directors shall be authorized with full power to represent the member at all meetings. At least one of the Directors must be present at each League meeting. Each member shall have one spokesperson and one vote. This will be determined at the beginning of each meeting.
- c) Representation by the Director or his alternate is compulsory at all League meetings, Notice of Meeting". Failure to have representation will result in the member being subjected to a minimum fine of two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars (PLUS HST). In the event any Director leaves during a meeting and does not return and the member team does not have any representation at the meeting, the member will be subject to a minimum fine of five hundred (\$250.00) dollars (PLUS HST). "**Extenuating circumstance may be considered**".
- d) All regular meetings shall start on time with a fifteen-minute grace period for late arrivals. Failure to comply MAY result in a late fine of One Hundred (\$100.00) dollars (PLUS HST).

3.2 SPECIAL MEETINGS

- a) Special meetings shall be called by the Commissioner upon receipt of support by a minimum of five (5) member clubs plus the Commissioner.
- b) Advance notice shall be given to each member of at least forty-eight (48) hours before a special meeting.
- c) Absentia or lateness penalties shall remain as per regular meetings.

3.3 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held during the month of June of each year and/or within 15 months of the previous AGM. This date may be flexible with a **Preferred Resolution** of the members.

- b) Any proposed amendments to the Constitution must be submitted in writing by the Director to the Commissioner at least thirty days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- c) The Commissioner shall in turn circulate such to all Directors at least (14) fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

3.4 QUORUM

A quorum shall consist of 50% plus one of the total Directors, except where the Constitution calls for a **Preferred Resolution** vote of the Board of Directors.

3.5 CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

- a) The Commissioner shall preside at all meetings of the League.
- b) Once a matter has been placed on the agenda and voted upon, such a vote shall be binding upon all members.
- c) Copy of the Minutes of Meeting to be distributed to Board of Directors within 16 days from when the last meeting concluded.

3.6 RULES OF ORDER

Parliamentary procedure to be followed at the meetings as described in ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

3.7 AGENDA PREPARATION

The Commissioner shall prepare agendas. Any official items of League business shall be given to the Commissioner at least seventy-two hours prior to the called meeting.

3.8 BUSINESS AND DECISION MAKING

- a) Any motion and/or resolution shall be decided by either one of two methods of voting. A Preferred Resolution is a minimum of 75% of the Directors are in favor and/or against a motion. An Ordinary Resolution, a simple majority of the votes, (51%) unless a Preferred Resolution is required as

stated in the Constitution. The Commissioner shall have the casting vote in case of a tie.

- b) No Director or Alternate Director shall speak twice on the same subject without permission from the Chair, unless in explanation or the mover in reply.
- c) A Director or an Alternate Director desiring to speak or to submit a motion shall respectfully address the Chair and shall not be interrupted unless upon a point of order.
- d) Upon a point of order being raised while a Director or an Alternate Director is speaking, or when called to order by the Chair, when the point of order shall then be stated by the Director or Alternate Director, the presiding Chairman shall decide there upon without debate and the Director or Alternate Director may then proceed.
- e) No amendment to a motion shall be in order after an amendment to an amendment.
- f) When a motion is under debate, no motion shall be entertained except to lay on the table or to amend and these motions shall take precedence in order named.
- g) An amendment which entirely changes the subject of the original motion shall not be entertained as an amendment or substituted for a motion under debate.
- h) Once the Chair has stated the motion, it becomes the property of the League and is open for discussion.
- i) No Director or Alternate Director, except one who has voted with the majority, shall be allowed to move for a reconsideration and in the connection the word majority shall apply to the vote by which the questions was first decided.
- j) There shall be no debate upon any questions after it has been put by the presiding Chairperson.
- k) When a vote is called it shall be taken by a Director or Alternate Director holding up his/her right hand, or by a closed ballot or recorded vote, as may be requested by any Director or Alternate Director and/or the Chair of the meeting. Voting by Director or Alternate Director shall be at the request of the majority.

4.0 OFFICERS

4.1 APPOINTMENTS

Appointments shall take place as they are deemed necessary to conduct and carry out the business of the League upon receiving a resolution (Ordinary) passed by the Board of Directors.

4.2 VACANCIES

Should the position of Commissioner become vacant, an appointment for the balance of the existing term shall be made by the Board of Directors. Should any other positions become vacant, the Commissioner may hire and/or find a replacement but must have Board Approval (Ordinary Resolution) to be official.

4.3 LEAGUE COMMISSIONER

- a) The Commissioner is charged with the calling of all meetings, the general supervision and direction of all business affairs of the League. The Commissioner shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the League.
- b) The Commissioner shall present to the Board of Directors, whenever required, an account of all his transactions.
- c) The Commissioner and/or the Executive Director and/or the Administrative Officer will ratify all trades and player movements between member's teams before these players can play on other NOJHL teams.
- d) The Commissioner shall have the power to suspend, expel, fine or otherwise punish both non-playing and playing members of the member team(s), who in his opinion has been guilty of conduct prejudicial to the League and shall act as the arbitrator in any disputes between member teams. Such actions shall contain the right to appeal to the full Board of Directors.
- e) In addition to the above, the Commissioner shall be responsible for management of the League's finances and the League Office.

The Commissioner shall be responsible to provide the following;

- f) Monthly financial statements, through the Leagues Administrative Officer.

- g) Responsible for receiving and paying all accounts as passed by the Board of Directors.
- h) Prepare and present an Annual Financial Statement.
- i) Assign duties and supervise all League personnel, volunteers and others involved with the League.

4.4 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Commissioner and Administrative Officer will discuss and assign responsibilities of the Administrative Officer after the Annual General Meeting each year.

4.5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Commissioner and the Executive Director will discuss and assign responsibilities of the Executive Director after the Annual General Meeting each year.

4.6 REMOVAL OF LEAGUE EXECUTIVE PERSON

Any Employee may be removed from Office upon approval of not less than three quarters (3/4) of Directors present and entitled to vote at a Board meeting called for such purpose.

5.0 STAFF

5.1 APPOINTMENTS

a) Statistician

The League at the last meeting of the playing season shall appoint the Statistician. The Statistician shall be responsible to the Commissioner.

The Statistician shall be responsible to provide the statistics as per a prescribed format as well as provide a weekly update to the media, member clubs and the NOHA.

b) Director Of Officiating

The Director of Officiating shall be appointed by the Commissioner and be approved by the Board of Directors and shall report to and work with the Commissioner on all League officiating matters.

The Director of Officiating shall be responsible for ensuring that qualified and competent game officials are assigned to each

and every game including exhibition, regular season and playoff games.

The Director of Officiating primary responsibilities shall include; advising the League of any rule changes, interpretation of rules, supervision of Officials, and assignment of Officials for all exhibition, regular season and playoff games, complaints from member clubs relating to game officials, complaints from game officials relating to the conduct of club members. There shall be no contact by any Team member directly and/or indirectly with the NOJHL Director of Officiating at any time, without the consent of the NOJHL Commissioner. League Protocol for dealing with the Director of Officiating is at any and all times through the NOJHL Commissioner.

c) **Webmaster**

The League at the last meeting of the playing season shall appoint the Webmaster. The Webmaster shall be responsible to the Commissioner.

The Webmaster shall be responsible to maintain and update the NOJHL website.

5.2 HONORARIUMS

Honorariums shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting and shall be made payable as follows;

Commissioner, Executive Director, Administrative Officer, NOJHL Communications – will be payable at the end of each month in equal installments.

Statistician, Director of Officiating, Webmaster and NOJHL Historian – will be payable in two installments, 50% at mid-season and 50% at the conclusion of the season.

6.0 LIFE MEMBERSHIP

6.1 The Board may, from time to time, designate persons ("Life Members") who have, in the opinion of the Board, made an outstanding or extraordinary contribution to the growth and development of the NOJHL.

6.2 Life Members may, from time to time and at the request of the Commissioner, act in an advisory capacity to the Commissioner.

6.3 Life Members shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and speak at the Annual General Meeting and shall have all other rights and privileges as the Board may, from time to time, decide. For

greater certainty, Life Members shall not be entitled to vote at any Board Meeting.

6.4 Life Members shall be designated upon approval of not less than three-quarters (3/4) of the Directors at an Annual General Meeting which is attended by not less than three-quarters (3/4) of the Directors entitled to attend and vote at such meeting.

6.5 Nominations for Life Membership must be submitted in writing to the Commissioner along with the endorsement in writing of at least three (3) members.

7.0 COMMITTEES

The Commissioner shall sit on all committees. The Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting and/or any regular scheduled meeting as it deems necessary, shall appoint members to sit on committees, with such powers as may be declared by the Board of Directors and approved by Ordinary Resolution appointing such committees.

8.0 RIGHT OF APPEAL

Each member team shall have the right to appeal to the full Board of Directors at the earliest opportunity. An Appeal can be heard and/or convened of any decision made by the Commissioner. Until an Appeal can be heard, the Decision of the Commissioner remains in full effect. Each Appeal must include an Appeal fee of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) dollars (PLUS HST), and refundable only if the team is successful in having the ruling overturned. If a member team does file an Appeal in writing to the Commissioner, a 75% majority vote shall be required to reverse, increase, decrease and/or adjust any part of the decision of the Commissioner. The member team will be invoiced by the League for the \$500.00 dollars (PLUS HST) if they decide to file an Appeal. The decision of the full Board of Directors shall be final and binding on all parties.

8.1 COMMISSIONER AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE DISCIPLINE FOR OFF-ICE CONDUCT.

Whenever the Commissioner determines that a Player has violated a League Rule applicable to Players (other than Playing Rules subjecting the Player to potential Supplementary Discipline for On-Ice Conduct), or has been or is guilty of conduct (whether during or outside the playing season) that is detrimental to or against the welfare of the League or the game of hockey, he may discipline such Player. Any discipline imposed by the Commissioner is subject to Appeal as per the NOJHL Constitution. s.

9.0 LEAGUE ASSESSMENTS

Franchise Members may be required to provide monthly assessments/fees for the operation of the NOJHL League Office upon approval by Ordinary Resolution by the Board of Directors at the AGM. The Schedule of payments for the assessment will be determined and approved by the Board of Directors. In the event of any unforeseen circumstances, subject to Board Approval, the Board may deem it necessary for additional assessments throughout the year.

10.0 TERRITORIAL RIGHTS

There shall be no territorial boundaries for any member team.

11.0 ENACTMENT

11.1 LEAGUE PROTOCOL

Member teams recognize the Sanctity of the League and the authority of the Commissioner's office and will not circumvent League protocol under any circumstances. This includes, but is not limited to, dealings with outside governing hockey bodies, organizations and the media. Exhibition game request, request for game change, playoff schedule and press release concerning the League has to be authorized by League's office before going to the media. Any members of the Board are not permitted to solicit other Board Members in writing or verbally, to undermine the Commissioner or other Board Members without notifying the League first of his/her intentions. The In-Camera Section of our meetings are confidential.

Member teams in default may be subject to serious disciplinary action and will be fined a minimum of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars (PLUS HST) by the Commissioner.

11.2 GOOD CONDUCT

(a) No member, member's representative, member's team or member's team's representative shall conduct itself, himself or herself in a manner that has or is designed to have a prejudicial or negative effect on the welfare of the NOJHL, another member, another member's representative, another member's team or another member's team's representative.

b) No member, member's representative, member's team or member's team's representative shall give, make, issue, authorize or endorse any statement having or designed to have a prejudicial or negative effect on the welfare of the NOJHL, another member, another member's representative, another member's team or another member's team's representative.

c) Members in violation(s) may be subject to serious disciplinary action, up to and including By-Laws 3.7 and 3.8 of the NOJHL Constitution and or fined a minimum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00) dollars (PLUS HST) by the Commissioner.

12.0 TEAMS IN ORDER OF SENIORITY

Timmins Rock
Rayside Balfour Canadians
Blind River Beavers
Soo Thunderbirds
Kirkland Lake Gold Miners
Cochrane Crunch
Elliot Lake Bobcats
Powassan Voodoos
Iroquois Falls Eskies
French River Rapids
Espanola Express
Soo Eagles

Notes:

The Timmins Golden Bears entered the League for the 1991-1992 season. The franchise was transferred to Iroquois Falls for the 1999-2000 season and became the Iroquois Falls Jr. Eskies. The Eskies changed their name to the Abitibi Eskimos for the 2002-2003 season. In 2015 the Abitibi Eskimos moved their franchise to Timmins and renamed the team the Timmins Rock.

The Elliot Lake Vikings were sold in 1998 and became the Elliot Lake Ice for the 1998-1999 season. The Elliot lake Ice transferred to the Sudbury Minor Hockey Association and the name was changed to the Sudbury Northern Wolves for the 2000-2001 season. In 2006 the name changed to Sudbury Jr, Wolves. In 2011 the name changed to Sudbury Cubs. In 2012 the name changed to Sudbury Nickel Barons. In 2015 the Sudbury Nickel Barons moved their franchise to Rayside Balfour and renamed the team Rayside Balfour Canadians.

The Nickel Centre Barons transferred from Espanola to Garson for the 1999-2000 season. Nickel Centre Barons transferred location to Blind River for the 2000-2001 season and their new name became the Blind River Barons. During the 2001-2002 season the team changed ownership and the new team became the Blind River Beavers.

The Soo Thunderbirds entered the League for the 1999-2000 season. The Thunderbirds changed their name to the Soo Junior Greyhounds for the 2002-2003 season. The Greyhounds went back to the Thunderbirds name for the 2003-2004 season.

The Kirkland Lake Gold Miners entered the League in January 2012.

The Elliot Lake Bobcats entered the League for the 2012 – 2013 season. At the end of season 2013-2014 the Elliot Lake Bobcats franchise moved to Cochrane and renamed the franchise the Cochrane Crunch.

In 2014 a new group bought a franchise from the league and called it the Elliot Lake Wildcats.

In 2014 a new group bought a franchise from the League and named it the Powassan Voodoos.

In October 2014 a new group bought a franchise from the league and named it Mattawa Hawks. In 2015 the Mattawa Hawks moved their franchise to Iroquois Falls and renamed the team Iroquois Falls Eskimos.

In 2015 a new group bought a franchise from the league and named it French River Rapids.

In 2015 a new group bought a franchise from the league and named in the Espanola Express.

In 2015 a new group bought a franchise from the league and named it the Soo Eagles.

The NOJHL has 12 teams in the League, a first in the history of the NOJHL.

In case of a dispute between teams, seniority will take precedence.

13.0 ADOPTION

The Member teams agree to conform to and be bound by the By-Laws, which shall be adopted to conform to the provisions of this agreement by a 75% majority vote of the Member teams.

14.0 AMENDMENTS

The By-Laws may be added, amended, repealed or replaced by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Member teams at the Annual General

Meeting. Any proposed alterations to the Constitution must be submitted in writing by the Director at least thirty days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. The Commissioner shall in turn circulate such proposed alterations to all Directors at least (14) fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

15.0 ENDORSEMENT

Each of the undersigned members of the NOJHL in the consideration of the promises and agreement similarly made by each of the other member, hereby, on behalf of the undersigned and its assigns, accepts and agrees to abide by the foregoing Constitution and each and every alteration, amendment and repeal thereof duly made, so long as the undersigned or its assigns are members of the League.

The foregoing Constitution is adopted in complete substitution for any Constitution previously adopted for the NOJHL and all amendments thereof, and such previous Constitution is hereby cancelled and annulled together with all By-Laws and Rules adopted pursuant thereto.

16.0 DISSOLUTION

The NOJHL shall continue until such time as it is dissolved pursuant to By-Law 16 hereof.

The NOJHL shall be dissolved upon approval of the Directors at a Board Meeting called for that purpose and which is attended by not less than three-quarters (3/4) of the Directors entitled to attend and vote at such meeting.

In the event of dissolution pursuant to By-Law 16 hereof, the assets of the NOJHL, after payment of all the debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to any one or more body Corporate, Society, Charity or Not-for-Profit organization or Association as the Board shall determine, which may include one or more members if such member or members qualify as a Not-for-Profit organization or Association.

REGULATIONS

99 RECOURSE TO THE COURTS

- 1) Any recourse to the Courts of any jurisdiction by any member, or by someone acting on behalf of a member, before all rights of appeal and all the rights and remedies of the Constitution and By-Laws of the NOJHL have been exhausted, shall be deemed a violation and breach of the Constitution and By-Laws of the NOJHL. This violation and breach shall result in the automatic indefinite suspension of such member from the NOJHL activities and games.

- 2) Any member who has sought court action before exhausting all proper procedures of appeal will be liable for all legal costs and disbursements incurred by the NOJHL until full legal costs are paid, by the member under Regulation 99, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the right of membership to participate in the NOJHL will be suspended.

3. Any member, club, player, coach, manager, trainer, volunteer who, having exhausted the appeal procedures, proceeds with Court action will be liable for all legal costs and disbursements incurred by the NOJHL, should the Courts rule in favor of the NOJHL, prior to reinstatement of said party's ability to participate with the NOJHL.

100 AMENDMENTS

The Regulations may be added, amended, repealed or replaced by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Member teams at the Annual General Meeting. Any proposed alterations to the Constitution must be submitted in writing by the Director at least thirty days prior to the date of the Annual general meeting. The Commissioner shall in turn circulate such proposed alterations to all Directors at least (14) fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

101 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 101.1 If any situation arises on or off the ice during Exhibition, League, Playoff Games, or during the off season, that is not covered by the NOJHL's Constitution, By-Laws or the Playing Rules and Regulations contained herein, the Commissioner may make a binding decision to cover such situation. Such decision shall be binding until such time as the Directors may direct that the situation be dealt with otherwise. The Commissioner's binding decision on any matter not covered in the NOJHL's Constitution or

By-Laws or the Rules and Regulations may be appealed to the NOJHL's Board of Directors for a final ruling.

102 OFFICIAL BUSINESS

- 102.1 No person other than the Commissioner of the League shall have the right to give out information concerning business transacted at League meetings or to reveal or make public any official business of the League except for the signing or releasing of players of their own Club, nor shall any person represent the League or speak on behalf of the League, whether in person, on the phone and or by email without written consent of the Commissioner of the League and/or by consent of a majority vote of Board of Directors.
- 102.2 The penalty for violation of this Regulation shall be set at the discretion of the Commissioner.

103 NOJHL STAFF

- 103.1 The Board of Directors may employ staff for the operation of the Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League Office at their discretion.

104 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

A) GENERALLY

Any persons whom have not attained his twenty-first (21st) birthday before the first day of January of the current season and is duly registered with Hockey Canada.

A player registered in a lower category and his/her team is duly recognized by the NOHA as a member of their club system.

B) SUSPENSION OF PLAYERS

Regular Season

A player, who has been expelled from the League or suspended by his team, Hockey Canada, Ontario Hockey Federation, NOHA or the Commissioner, shall not be eligible to play for a member team while such expulsion or

suspension remains in force. There shall be no buy back of suspensions for players during the regular season.

Any coach using a suspended player or an illegal/ineligible player in exhibition, league, play-off or tournament game shall automatically be suspended a minimum of two games and a minimum of a Five Hundred (\$500.00) fine PLUS HST. Any other person responsible for a team having used a suspended player shall also be suspended for a minimum of two games and a minimum of a Five Hundred (\$500.00) dollar fine PLUS HST. The team shall lose the two points for the game. The Organization will also be subject to a minimum fine of Five Hundred (\$500.00) dollars PLUS HST at the discretion of the Commissioner.

For any second offence, the Commissioner will take further disciplinary action to include an automatic five hundred (\$500.00) dollar fine (PLUS HST) to the Coach and Organization and whatever other action the Commissioner sees fit to take against the responsible parties.

C) PREVIOUS REGISTRATION

All players must be released by their previous team on the Hockey Canada Registry and registered and approved on the Hockey Canada Registry with the new team prior to being played in a League scheduled game. A copy of the player's registration certificate must be submitted to the NOJHL Office prior to being played in a League scheduled game.

D) AFFILIATED PLAYERS

An affiliated player is one who plays mostly with the minor team or a Junior B or C team.

NOHA – please refer to NOHA Regulation Seven (Affiliation) and Regulation Eight (Suspensions). Please also refer to the NOHA website under NOHA forms for the following:

Affiliation Letter to Membership

Affiliation Declaration

Affiliation – 19 at large

Player Affiliation Record

Ontario Hockey Federation Handbook – please refer to Regulation D – Affiliation and the Canadian Development Model.

Hockey Canada Handbook – please refer to Regulation E and Regulation F – variations for the Canadian Development Model

All approved Affiliation Documents from the NOHA must be submitted to the League Office.

Teams must file a Monthly Report to the NOJHL when an affiliated player is used.

E) ONUS ON TEAM TO PROVE ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

The individual team is responsible to acquire hockey players through the prescribed route by the HC, OHF, NOHA and the NOJHL. The players must be duly released with certificates in the hands of the Executive Director of the NOHA and a copy to the Administration Officer before a player is eligible to play in a scheduled game.

F) TERRITORIAL BOUNDARIES

There shall be territorial boundaries for any team in the NOJHL.

105 REGISTRATION OF COACH, MANAGER, TRAINER

Prior to participating in any League game, Coaches, Managers, Trainers and all other bench personnel must be registered with HC and **approved by the NOHA for the current playing season.**

106 TAMPERING

To preserve discipline and competition and to prevent the enticement of players, a member team shall not through a representative, negotiate with a player who is on a member team registered with HC and of all players deemed protected and

allowable under the HC and the NOHA to both the NOHA and the Commissioner.

(a) No member, team or team representative may seek any recourse, ruling or appeal whatsoever from a Branch or from the Courts of any jurisdiction with respect to any actual or potential inter-league dispute or any actual or potential decision or ruling made pursuant to the CJHL Constitution, Rules or Regulations.

(b) Any member, team or team representative that seeks recourse, ruling or appeal from any Branch or the Courts of any jurisdiction with respect to any actual or potential Inter-League dispute or any actual or potential decision or ruling made pursuant to the CJHL Constitution, Rules or Regulations, shall be subject to a fine, suspension and/or termination of membership.

107 **PROTESTED GAMES**

All protests must be made in writing and forwarded to the Commissioner and to the opposing member teams within twenty-four (24) hours from the end of the League game. The opposing member team shall file a defense with the Commissioner within forty-eight (48) hours from the end of the League game. All protests and defenses when filed must be accompanied with a cheque for Five Hundred (\$500.00) dollars PLUS HST.

108 **SECURITY – DRESSING ROOMS**

A) PROTECTION – REFEREES

Each member team shall provide at its rink a separate dressing room for the exclusive use of the Referees and the Linesmen. They shall take all of the necessary steps to ensure that no other person, without the permission of the Referees gains access to such dressing room.

B) CONFRONTATION – OFFICIALS

No Official, Employee or Player of the member teams shall enter such dressing room except with the permission of the Referees.

C) DRESSING ROOM – VISITING TEAM

The home teams' managers shall ensure that the visiting teams are given dressing room appropriate to health and safety of the teams.

D) SECURITY

Each member team shall provide adequate protection. The Commissioner may increase these requirements if deemed necessary.

E) PENALTY FOR VIOLATION

A member failing to comply with the provisions on subsection 5 (a) to (d) shall be liable to a fine of a minimum of two hundred (\$200.00) dollars (PLUS HST) to be imposed by the Commissioner.

F) NATIONAL ANTHEMS

All players and coaches must stand still to the completion of the National Anthem. The Commissioner shall have the discretion to investigate reports of teams and/or players who are showing disrespect of the National Anthem. Anyone found in violation of this By-Law will be fined a minimum of \$100.00 dollars (PLUS HST) for the first offence.

G) CEREMONIAL FACE-OFFS

Any player taking part in a ceremonial face-off shall treat the matter with the proper respect and ensure the home team player picks up the puck and presents it to the honored person who initiated the ceremonial face-off.

If any player shows disrespect for the event, he shall be issued a game misconduct and suspended a minimum of one (1) game.

109

SPECIAL RULES

A) GAME SHEETS

The League will only accept a **Scanned Game Sheet from a scanner in PDF FORM, not a picture in a PDF/or any from a mobile Device.** The Game Sheets are to be emailed to the Statistician the League Office, the NOHA, the NOJHL Director of Officiating, the League Historian, Webmaster, Executive Director and NOJHL Communications within 30 minutes of the conclusion of each game unless the Officials

require more time post game to complete their Due Diligence. A fine of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) dollars PLUS HST shall be levied by the Commissioner for the return of game sheets not in this format. The Commissioner will increase this fine if he deems there has been abuse of the Regulation. The home club is responsible to provide copies of the official game sheet as follows. (See Game Day Policies)

Original copy	Referee
Second copy	Home Team
Third copy	Visiting team

B) ICE FACILITIES

It shall be the responsibility of the home club to provide the best sheet of ice possible and it should be understood that there shall be no activity on the ice surface for at least one-half hour prior to the scheduled starting time. Resurfaced ice is required after the pre-game warm-up.

C) EXHIBITION GAMES

No team in the group shall arrange any exhibition game(s) after the schedule has been ratified by the group that would in any way interfere with the schedule, unless first having cleared such contest(s) with the Commissioner and the NOHA.

D) PLAYER ROSTERS

The number of players allowed per team is per Hockey Canada rules.

E) MINOR OFFICIALS

The home club shall be responsible to provide two goal judges, a timekeeper and a scorekeeper. It is understood that all goal judges, time keepers and score keepers shall be a minimum of eighteen years of age.

F) LATE - NO SHOW

Teams not ready to play at the regulation starting time will be fined five hundred (\$500.00) dollars (PLUS HST) unless they have good and sufficient reasons (weather related/road conditions/traffic conditions/mechanical issues). Any team not ready and prepared to play at the scheduled starting time must communicate with the Commissioner prior to any circumstances that may indicate they cannot start on time.

Teams failing to show for any scheduled game shall be fined five thousand (\$5000.00) (PLUS HST). This fine shall be deemed the property of the League. Two points shall be awarded to the other team.

The Commissioner shall assign the fine as follows: if the home team fails to show, the visiting team will receive traveling expenses, meal allowance up to five hundred (\$500.00) dollars and officiating fees and their travelling expenses shall be paid. If the visiting team fails to show, the home team shall receive three thousand (\$3,000.00) dollars, the officiating fees, their travelling expenses and ice time will be paid and the remaining monies will be deposited in the League's bank account.

Due to circumstances beyond control: weather, accident, road closures, etc., the traveling team must notify the home team immediately. Any discrepancies in this matter will be settled by the Commissioner. Any decisions made by the Commissioner, is subject to NOJHL Appeal.

G) CHANGING GAMES

Teams must request in writing to the Commissioner seven (7) days prior to a scheduled game if a League game is to be changed. Extenuating circumstances will allow shorter notice.

H) TRAINING CAMP

Training camps on ice sessions may be held at the discretion of the member teams but must follow the OHF guidelines. All member teams are to notify the Commissioner when any

training camps are going to be held, where they are going to be held and length of camp, in writing, 30 days before any training camp takes place.

I) **DRESS CODE**

All club members must wear business attire for special functions and special meetings. Coaches and Managers must be dressed in professional apparel during all games. Jeans and sweat suits are not considered appropriate wearing apparel.

The dress code shall be enforced for all Club Officials, Coaches, Managers and Players. The Commissioner, for abuse of the dress code, may levy an appropriate fine.

110

GENERAL

Whenever these By-Laws and Regulations do not contain any provisions for enforcing or maintaining any right or claim by one member team against another for deciding any dispute or controversy between member's teams, the decision of the Board of Directors not inconsistent with the provisions of the By-Laws shall determine the issue and be put into effect.

Should the Commissioner determine that a Member Club or any Official, Manager, Coach, Player or Employee/Volunteer/Associate of a Member Club has violated any of these By-Laws for the violation of which no penalty has been provided, he may impose a fine which, in the case of a member team shall be a minimum of Five Hundred (\$500.00) PLUS HST or, in the case of an Official, Manager, Coach, Trainer or Employee, shall be a minimum of Five Hundred (\$500.00) dollars PLUS HST.

111

INTERPRETATION

In the By-Laws and Regulations, the words Group, League or Association are used synonymously and shall always refer to the Northern Ontario Junior A Hockey League.

Words in the singular shall include words in the plural and words in the plural shall include words in the singular unless the context requires otherwise.

200 RULES OF PLAY

- 200.1 The Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League (NOJHL) shall play Hockey Canada (HC) rules. From time to time the NOJHL Board of Directors may entertain and vote on via motion(s) addition(s), deletion(s) or exception(s) to the HC Rules and Regulations. These addition(s), deletion(s) or exception(s) would be in place during NOJHL regular season and League playoffs only. Inter-Branch or HC championship play will be under HC Rules and Regulations. Should there be a rules conflict during regular season or league playoff NOJHL rules supersede those of HC.

201 PLAYER ANNUAL NOJHL REGISTRATION FEES & FORMS

- 201.1 The NOJHL Board of Directors will set a per player fee in the form of a team assessment that will be approved each year, via a League motion during the NOJHL Annual Budget review each year.

202 HC PLAYER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES AND NOJHL CARDING PROCEDURES

- 202.1 Each Team shall receive access to a maximum 40 Player Electronic Registration Certificates (and NOHA Cards) through Hockey Canada's (HC) Online Registration system on as soon as they are released by HC.
- 202.2 Only players that meet HC's eligibility requirements for Junior A may be registered.
- 202.3 Prior to a player playing any regular season or play-off game the registering team must register the player on the HC Registration system and needs to be approved.

If the player comes from OHF the registering team must:

- a) Transfer the player into their team via an Inter-Association Transfer (IAT).
- b) Once the IAT is approved on the team's HCR, access to the player's profile will be granted.

- c) The team must then roster the player to their team immediately.
- d) Have the player sign a copy of the NOHA card.

Keep a signed copy of the NOHA card in a player file in the team's office for proof of player agreement to sign. A scan copy of the card must be sent to the League Office, the NOHA Office and the original signed copy must be mailed to the NOHA office

Note: If the team cannot find a player profile in order to conduct an IAT, contact NOHA.

If the player comes from outside the OHF the registering team must:

- a) Transfer the player into their team via an Inter-Branch Transfer (IBT).
- b) Once the IBT is approved on the team's HCR, access to the player's profile will be granted.
- c) The team must then roster the player to their team immediately.

203 MEMBER CLUBS

A) Drafting of Schedule

Drafting of the schedule shall be finalized prior to the first of July.

204 NON-AVAILABILITY OF HOME ARENA

A Member Club unable to play a game in its home Arena during the schedule, shall play in any Arena that the home team chooses, not causing additional expenses to the visiting team or that home game shall be played in the arena of the **visiting team.**

205 LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

A) Final League Standings

Final League standings will be based on the number of points earned by each team during the regular season play with the highest number of points being awarded first place.

B) Tie in Standings

The following formula will be used in the event of a tie at the conclusion of the Regular Season games to determine the standings.

1. In the event that two teams are tied for a position, the team that won the most games between the two teams shall be awarded the higher position.
2. In the event that three or more teams are tied for position at the conclusion of Regular Season Schedule, the tie breaking procedure shall be as follows:

a. The team with the best win-loss record in games involving the tied teams gains the higher position

b. If 2 or more teams are still tied after 2a in the games involving the tied teams, add each team's goals for and goals against, divide this sum by the teams goals for:

$$(GF + GA) / (GF)$$

The team with the lower quotient gains the higher position in the standings. 2b establishes the team or teams with the highest position(s) based on the lowest quotient. If there are still teams tied, they go to the next step of the tiebreak procedures 2c the teams do not go back to the two team tiebreaker.

Example 1

- i. Team A – 1.71 = 1 seed from group
- ii. Team B – 2.00 = still tied with team C – move to next step 2c
- iii. Team C – 2.00 = still tied with team B – move to next step 2c

Example 2

- i. Team A – 1.71 = 1 seed from group
- ii. Team B – 2.25 = 3 seed from group
- iii. Team C – 2.00 = 2 seed from group

Example 3

- i. Team A – 2.00 = still tied with team B and C – move to step 2c
- ii. Team B – 2.00 = still tied with team A and C – move to step 2c
- iii. Team C – 2.00 = still tied with team A and B – move to step 2c

c. In all games played against each other, add each team's goals for and goals against, divide this sum by the team's goals for: (examples from 2b are transferable to 2c)

$$(GF + GA) / (GF)$$

The team with the lower quotient gains the higher position in the standings. **2c** establishes the team or teams with the highest position(s) based on the lowest quotient. If there are still teams tied, they go to the next step of the tie break procedures **2d**. The teams do not go back to the two-team tiebreaker.

d. If teams are still tied after 2c the team having the fewest goals scored against them in games involving the tied teams shall be awarded the higher standing.

e. If teams are still tied after 2d the team having scored the most goals in the games involving the tied teams shall be awarded the higher standing.

f. If teams are still tied after 2e the team having the fewest goals scored against them in all the games played against each other shall be awarded the highest standing.

g. If teams are still tied after 2f the team having scored the most goals in all the games played against each other shall be awarded the highest standing.

206

SCHEDULE OF PLAYOFFS

A) Playoff Format

A playoff format will be approved and adopted at the Annual General Meeting. This will determine the teams qualifying and the format for each playoff series.

B) Choice of Ice

In all group playoff series, the team with the highest number of group points at the end of the season shall have choice of ice for the first game, than all succeeding games shall alternate. Change of ice may follow an alternate format if agreed upon by both teams involved. If no schedule is agreed upon by both parties, the Commissioner shall decide the schedule.

C) If two teams cannot agree on a playoff format or schedule, the default schedule would be 2-2-1-1-1 format with the team with the higher point total having the first two games at home.

D) Overtime

Where teams are tied at the end of the game, the following shall take place:

a) Ice is to be resurfaced

b) Teams change ends

c) Teams will play 5 on 5

d) The puck shall be faced-off at center ice and play shall continue with 20-minute sudden victory overtime period.

e) If teams are still tied, play shall continue with twenty-minute sudden victory overtime periods until a winner is determined.

207 PLAYING RULES

All games in which a League member participates or plays shall be conducted in accordance with the playing rules of the HC and the NOJHL.

208 TEAM LINE-UPS

A) Completing Official Game Reports

The official scorer shall obtain from the Manager or Coach of each competing team, prior to the start of each game, the official game report on which the name and number of each player to be used in that game is listed, and designating the captain, the two assistant captains and the affiliated players. The game report shall be given to the referee prior to the start of the game. Any cases which do not comply with the rules, shall be drawn to the attention by the Official Scorer.

B) Starting Line-Ups

The Manager or Coach of the Visiting Team and the Home Team must provide their starting lineup to the Official Scorer

30 minutes prior to warm up (**the visiting team has to circle their starting line-up**).

C) Changes In The Starting Line-Ups

This starting line-up must be used at the start of the game unless due to an injury to any player on the starting line-up. No change can be made to the starting line-up on the ice until play is actually in progress.

209 WARM UPS

A) Providing Practice Pucks

It will be the responsibility of the home to provide the visiting club with a minimum of two dozen pucks for the warm-up.

210 APPOINTMENT AND FEES – REFEREES AND LINESMEN

A) Appointment

In all exhibition and scheduled League games the Referees and Linesmen will be assigned by the Director of Officiating of the NOJHL.

B) Authority of Referees

The Referees appointed to the game are the representative of the NOJHL and the NOHA at such game and shall have the authority and responsibility for the proper conduct of such game in accordance with the HC, CJHL and the NOJHL playing rules and shall have control of the players and officials of both Teams, the Linesmen and the Off Ice Officials.

C) Payment

The payment for the game officials is the responsibility of the home team. Game Officials will be paid their respective game fees at the conclusion of the 2nd period. On-Ice game Officials are to be provided 8 bottles of water, four (4) Milk 2

Go Sport on ice prior to the start of the warm-up. If any team is in violation of Regulation 8(C) the minimum fine is Fifty dollars (\$50.00) PLUS HST.

211

OFFICIATING

A) INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

A member club may file with the Commissioner, a written statement concerning the officiating of a Referee, Linesman or a Minor Official. Any Coach or Team Official who, at the sole discretion of the Commissioner, acts in a highly abusive or inappropriate manner toward an On-ice/Off Ice Official, NOJHL Official, Supervisor, Staff Member or Member of another Club, the individual shall be subject to a minimum fine of one thousand (\$1,000) dollars (PLUS HST) and/or three (3) game suspension at the discretion of the Commissioner.

Should the same individual repeat this particular offence in the same season, including playoffs, the Commissioner shall deal with the situation at his discretion. Reports of Inappropriate Conduct shall only be investigated when provided by an On-Ice/Off Ice Official, Supervisor of Officials, or NOJHL Official. Reports by Fans, Off-Ice Officials, Security personnel, or Officials of Member Clubs, may be investigated.

B) OFFICIATING COMPLAINTS

If any Coach or Team Official has a complaint about the Officiating of a game, the concerns shall be in writing and submitted to the Commissioner. It shall be at the sole discretion of the Commissioner to determine whether an appropriate response is required after speaking with the Director of Officiating over the concerns expressed.

a) Further to any complaint being sent in writing to the Commissioner, no team member will contact any League Executive, NOJHL Official by any social media (texting, BBM, etc) and emails regarding and or discussing, commenting, whether directly and/or indirectly, make any reference whether directly and/or indirectly to any media outlets about anything to do or pertaining to the Officiating of the game in question and/or any game in general.

b) The penalty for violation of this Regulation shall be set at the discretion of the Commissioner.

212 PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

A) Condition

In respect to the public and the League, each Member Club shall have its players dressed in neat, clean and well-conditioned equipment. There shall be a 14 day time period where teams shall be compelled to comply. The only exception will be where the player is registered as an affiliated player.

B) Protective Equipment

Protective equipment must be worn at all times during the playing of a game. Each player of a member club shall wear approved protective equipment as required by the HC Playing Rules. All players in the NOJHL must wear CSA approved half visor facial protectors, BNQ Throat Protectors and mouth guards.

C) Colours – Regular Season and Play-offs

The home team will be responsible for changing sweaters should the colours be the same or similar. Member clubs will wear their dark coloured sweaters until December 10th inclusive and wear their light coloured sweaters at home for the balance of the regular playing season. Teams will revert back to the dark coloured sweaters for all play-off games.

213 MEDICAL ATTENDANTS

It is recommended that the home club provide adequate medical aid for all players participating in its home arena.

214 EXECUTIVE PASSES

Each member club in the NOJHL will be entitled to a maximum of ten (10) Executive Passes. These passes will

be honoured for the admission to any League arena for all regular season and play-off games. Executive Passes are not transferable. These passes may not be honoured at any championships outside the NOJHL play; however, this policy will be reviewed annually. It is understood that all Team Managers shall ensure that their respective arenas are aware of the policy.

215 LEAGUE TROPHIES

A) Custody

The member club who is in receipt of any team or individual trophy or trophies shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the trophy or trophies. A member club wishing to keep a trophy or trophies for any period of time must first deposit at the League Office the sum of three hundred (\$300.00) dollars per trophy. The deposit will be refunded when the trophy or trophies are returned in satisfactory condition as determined by the Commissioner.

B) Schedule of Trophies

The League shall, as an addendum to the Constitution, maintain a list of trophies.

C) Banners

The League shall supply at the end of each season banners to the NOJHL League Champions and the NOJHL Playoff Champions.

216 POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITES OF MEMBERS

Subject to the provisions of the By-Laws and Regulations of the League, the NOJHL Guide, the HC and the NOHA, each member thereof shall have the right to regulate its own affairs.

217 FINES

A) Fines Payable to any outside Governing Organization

All fines imposed by any Governing Hockey Body, will be paid by the League and invoiced back to the Member team.

B) Payable to the NOJHL

All fines imposed by the League shall be directed to the League Office within the prescribed time period. The Commissioner shall have the authority to impose fines and/or sanctions to any member within the NOJHL.

C) Payment of Fines

All fines must be paid in full within twenty one days (21) of the assessment, failing to do so shall result in the fine being doubled within the same time frame and shall continue until the fine has been paid in full. If in the opinion of the Commissioner, the length of time is excessive and the fine has not been paid, a member team or an individual or individuals from a team may be suspended by the Commissioner until the Board of Directors makes a final decision. The member team(s) involved in the dispute shall not have voting privileges based on the final decision.

218

COMPETITIVENESS

In addition to their financial obligations to the league, member clubs recognize an obligation to provide a quality program with a demonstrated ability to win 20 per cent of their regular season games. Any team that does not meet this standard for any full season **may** be placed on probation for the ensuing season via a preferred resolution. Playing rights **may** be revoked and a leave of absence imposed via preferred resolution if said team fails to meet the standard for the probationary season. Probation period **may** be extended for one season only via preferred resolution.