

## **SOUTH WEST RECREATION HOCKEY LEAGUE CONSTITUTION 2019-2020**

### **A. LEAGUE STRUCTURE**

#### **1) *Registration***

The South West Recreation Hockey League is for minor age boys and/or girls who are registered on teams in south-western Manitoba and who are registered with Hockey Manitoba or the Amateur Hockey Association of the United States.

#### **2) *Area of the League***

Teams will be located in the Westman South region. The league will be bounded on the west by the Saskatchewan Border; on the South by the US border; on the north by the Trans Canada Highway; and on the east by Highway #5. Exceptions to this geographic boundary will be provided for all minor teams in Bottineau. Teams who are outside this region may be accepted by a vote of teams from within the region if application is made at the annual meeting and will be only for that playing season.

Any team that is outside the regional boundaries of the SWRHL and is a part of the Westman South region and has competed in the SWRHL for three consecutive years will be considered members of the league for purposes of annual competition.

#### **3) *League Philosophy***

It is the goal of the league to provide a structured schedule of games for teams within the league so that they may develop skills that are consistent with the game. Also, the league strives to provide a recreational concept that makes hockey a fun sport for the youth of the area to participate in.

### **B. OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE**

The league will consist of a Board of Directors and a Secretary-Manager.

#### **1. *BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

- a) The Board of Directors will consist of one representative from each of the towns within the established region having a team in the league.
- b) The role of the Board of Directors will be to provide input and direction to the league at its annual and semi-annual meeting. The Board will also act as a board of arbitration in the event of a dispute within the league. It will also act as an appeal board to deal with suspensions or decisions made by the league that have been appealed by bona fide members of the league through the normal appeal process.

#### **2. *SECRETARY-MANAGER***

The role of the Secretary-Manager is as follows:

- a) To call and chair the annual and semi-annual meetings.
- b) To record all minutes.
- c) To record game results in each category of play, recording wins, ties and losses and provide weekly updates on the website.
- d) To establish the schedule for all categories of play in the SWRHL.
- e) To act as registrar for the league.
- f) To act as treasurer.

- i) To collect all registration fees, bonds, and any entry fees due the league.
  - ii) To provide an annual financial statement.
- g) To initiate any bond removal as a result of:
  - i) Forfeited games
  - ii) Playing of illegal players
  - iii) Actions detrimental to the SWRHL
- h) The Secretary-Manager may invoke suspensions of coaches and managers of teams and of Associations within the SWRHL for Actions Detrimental to the SWRHL. In such a case, the Secretary-Manager will inform the Board of Directors of the suspension within a week.

### **C. MEETINGS**

1. The Annual Meeting will be held in late September or early October each year.
2. The semi-annual meeting will be held in late January or early February each year.
3. Any town that is member of the league in that season and does not attend a meeting of the league for general membership shall be fined \$100.

### **D. TEAM ROSTERS**

1. The league is open to Boys and Girls of minor age.
2. All players must be registered with either Hockey Manitoba or AHAUS.
3. All team registrations must be into the Secretary-Manager prior to commencement of the league. Any team that is not registered with league by this date will be assessed a \$25 fine per team not registered.
4. All players must play in their appropriate age category or an older age category unless otherwise approved by Hockey Manitoba.

### **E. LEAGUE FEES**

1. League fees will be established each year at the annual meeting.
2. Should no motion be put forward to change the fees, they will remain as set herein per year:
  - a) Fee per town                      \$ 65.00
  - b) Bond per town                   \$150.00
  - c) Fee per team per town       \$ 65.00
  - d) New Town Entries             \$ 65.00 non-refundable (payable if not in the league last season)

### **F. PLAYING RULES**

1. The league will follow the rules and regulations of Hockey Manitoba. One supplement to these rules, if a player receives a 10 minute misconduct in the final 10 minutes of a game, they will receive an additional one game suspension.
2. The league will consist of the following age group categories as set out by Hockey Manitoba:
  - i) Novice      ii) Atom      iii) Pee Wee      iv) Bantam
3. Length of games for each category will be 50 minutes, consisting of two - 15 minute periods and one -20 minute period for Atom, Peewee and Bantam. Novice will play 2 – 24 minutes straight time periods (as per Hockey Manitoba Guidelines).
4. Player suspensions: Any suspensions including Match penalties will be handled through Hockey Manitoba Regional Director and the Secretary-Manager.
5. Mercy Rule: If at any point during the third period, a team is ahead by 8 goals, the clock will start and the remainder of the game will be played as straight time.

## G. GAME SHEETS

1. The home team is responsible for returning all game sheets to the Secretary-Manager within two days of the game. Teams will be fined \$10.00 per game sheet for non-compliance.
2. Game sheets will be sold to the teams at the going rate from the printer.

## H. OFFICIALS

1. All officials must be registered with Hockey Manitoba or AHAUS.
2. Referees must be a Level I official plus three years older than the teams they are refereeing.
3. In Bantam games, at least one of the officials must have a level III certificate.
4. We will use a 3-man system in bantam hockey.

## I. SCHEDULING

1. Teams will provide the secretary-manager ice allocations at the fall annual meeting.
2. Teams that do not provide enough adequate time slots to play their home games will have those games scheduled as away games.
3. Pee Wee and Bantam teams provide at least two mid-week dates for scheduling home games.

## J. GAME CHANGES

1. Any league team that postpones a league game, without the approval and consent of the opponent and the secretary manager, to make another hockey commitment will be fined \$100.00.
2. Any league team that postpones a league game, without the approval and consent of the opponent and the secretary manager, will be fined \$50.00.
3. Any team that does not fulfill its league schedule in its entirety will be fined \$150.00 per game that is not played. If any of the games are away games, 50% of the fine will be turned over to the minor hockey association of the team that was to host the cancelled game(s).
4. Teams that do not reschedule a postponed game (due to weather) within one week and play the game within three weeks will be fined \$25.00 each and may be suspended. If one of the teams is the cause of the delay then only that team will be fined the amount of \$50.00.
5. Any team that refuses to play a league game will be fined \$150.00, the league bond.
6. A team must receive league approval for all game changes once the schedule is approved.
7. The league will charge a \$10.00 fee for changing scheduled games for reasons other than weather.
8. Teams may not be charged the \$10.00 approval fee if games are changed and played within one week or played in advance of the regularly scheduled game. Game changes that will be charged the fee are those that are changed to allow teams to:
  - i) play in tournaments
  - ii) play Hockey Manitoba playoffs
  - iii) allow players to affiliate with other teams.
9. Any team that reschedules a game to play in a tournament hosted by a community in this league will be assessed a \$50.00 fine.

## **K. LEAGUE PLAYOFFS**

PLAYOFF structure, either a league tournament or a draw format will be established each year at the spring meeting. The following will apply:

1. Dates and format for each playoff structure will be established at the semi-annual meeting.
2. The winning team in each of the categories will be awarded a league pennant.
3. Any trophies or other awards will be the responsibility of the hosting community.
4. The draw for each category is to be established by the Secretary-Manager.
5. All teams will be obligated to play in the league playoffs or risk forfeiture of their bond.
6. The playoffs must be completed by the 15th of March or an alternate date agreed upon at the semi-annual meeting.
7. Teams will be assessed an entry fee of \$75.00 per team per day for a one day tournament.
8. Teams will be assessed an entry fee of \$150.00 per team for a two day tournament.

## **L. APPEALS PROCESS**

In the event of any dispute over a decision by the Secretary-Manager, an appeal can be made to the Board of Directors for the league. Said appeal must be made in writing to the Secretary-Manager who will distribute the appeal to the Board of Directors. A fee in the amount of \$150.00 must accompany the appeal in order for the appeal to go forward to the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors in the matter will be final.

## **M. AFFILIATION: see: Hockey Manitoba Handbook Page 66 (2014-15)**

Teams competing in the same divisions and/or categories within the same league are not permitted to affiliate between themselves for league play.