

WEST LORNE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Revised: April, 2014

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

This organization shall be known as the West Lorne Minor Hockey Association.

ARTICLE 2 – AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association shall be to provide a wholesome hockey experience, not only for the participants involved, but also for the coaches, managers, parents and league officials, believing that values derived will assist in the total development of all involved.

Our main interest shall be in the participants. This Association believes that amateur sport, administered in the appropriate doses, with the correct formula by competent people, can offer much to our youth. We believe that the basic need to play, in turn improves body and spirit through competition and the learning of skills.

Aims:

1. This Association will govern the game of hockey for participants within the minor age groupings.
2. The Association will endeavor to cultivate a true spirit of sportsmanship among all participants, spectators, coaches, and players alike and will promote fair play and friendly competition.
3. The Association will endeavor to promote and foster the belief that every participant will have an equal opportunity to play the game.
4. The Association will endeavor to help the participant understand that sport is not an end unto itself but is a way of preparing him or her for a happier and fuller life.

5. The Association will endeavor to promote, organize and control team competition, on the area of operation to the maximum of playing accommodation and financial resources, these to be administered by a group of elected volunteers.

6. The association or its members will not derive any gain from the association. Any profits will be only used to promote the association's objectives.

ARTICLE 3 – THE AFFILIATION

1. Any proposed affiliation of the W.L.M.H. A. with other leagues or tournaments will be discussed by the executive committee consistent with local practices and O.M.H.A. rulings and a policy adopted.

2. The W.L.M.H.A. shall have the authority to impose suspension on any player who affiliates with another league or playoff series without the sanction of the W.L.M.H.A. executive.

ARTICLE 4 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A Board of Directors shall be elected to administer the business of the W.L.M.H.A. and shall constitute as follows:

a) Executive Committee

1. President
2. Past President (not elected)
3. 1st Vice President – Travel Convenor
4. 2nd Vice President – House League
5. 3rd Vice President – Girls Sports Conveyor
6. Secretary
7. Treasurer

President must have served at least one year as a member of the board before becoming

president.

b) Directors

Directors to be nominated at large, not to exceed ten (10), voted by members at annual meeting.

All directors' positions to be filled by nominations from the floor at the annual meeting.

c) Outside Person

If necessary the board of directors may have an outside person assist with specific duties during the season. This outside person would be approved by the board of directors but would not have voting privileges.

ARTICLE 5 – DUTIES OF THE DIRECTORS

1. The President or his/her constituted delegate shall preside all meetings.

The President is a member ex-officio of all Committees. The President and his/her delegate will be appointed representative to the O.M.H.A. The President shall call meetings to handle urgent matters as required. He/she shall appoint standing committees, at discretion. A regular monthly meeting date shall be set for the Association to handle business matters.

2. The immediate Past President shall act in an advisory capacity to the Association with the power to vote.

3. The 1st Vice President will be the representative in charge of all travel teams. He/she shall perform such duties as are assigned by the President as required.

4. The 2nd Vice President will be the representative in charge of all local league teams.

5. The 3rd Vice President will be the representative in charge of all girls' league teams.

6. The Secretary shall record the minutes of the Executive and Association

meetings and shall conduct all correspondence of the W.L.M.H.A. Shall issue all notices of meetings and control the regular publicity releases and advertising. All correspondence should be submitted to the President prior to each meeting, when possible. He/she shall be responsible for registration with the Treasurer.

7. The Treasurer shall collect and properly record all finances involving the W.L.M.H.A. Shall pay all accounts upon Executive committee approval by cheque, countersigned by the President or the Secretary. Shall submit regular financial statements and monthly reports to the W.L.M.H.A. shall be responsible for having an audit of the W.L.M.H.A., financial transactions prior to the annual meeting and obtain copies of such audit for the executive committee. Shall be authorized to have a petty cash fund of up to \$150.00. He/she shall be responsible for registration with the Secretary.

8. Directors are responsible for obtaining any assistance monetary or otherwise, from their designated area. They have full voting powers at all Association meetings and will act on any committee when appointed to a committee by the President. They will assist the executive committee when required.

9. Additional duties will be assigned to the directors at the first meeting of the new board of directors.

ARTICLE 6 – COMMITTEES

1. Discipline Committee: The Board of Directors shall control, oversee, and discipline coaches, players, trainers, managers, and any representative of all teams if necessary.

2. Equipment Committee: The President shall appoint a chairman from the Board of Directors and two additional members. They shall be responsible for

equipment inventory, allocation of equipment, pre-season and after season repair; responsible for contracting any sources for donated equipment and sweaters and responsible for insurance of equipment. The purchase of any equipment shall be subject to approval from the W.L.M.H.A. Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 7 – BY-LAWS

Association/Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors will meet at least once a month throughout the year. No unauthorized bills will be paid without Board Approval.
2. When any member of the W.L.M.H.A. misses three regular meetings, he/she will be notified and removed from the Board of Directors and will be replaced by a person interested in the Association. In order for this committee to operate progressively, it is important that all members attend regularly. The only exception will be due to sickness or business and the Secretary must be notified.
3. The organization shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its members and any profits or other accretions to the organization shall be used in promoting its object(s).
4. In the event of dissolution or winding up of the organization, all its remaining assets, after payment of liabilities, shall be distributed to one or more recognized charitable organization in Canada (The beneficiary organization(s) may be named, but need not be), or to a Canadian Municipality.
5. The Board of Directors may at their discretion, alter the structure but not the content of the constitution in order to make it more readable.
6. When anyone comes before the Board of Directors or a committee they must state their case and then leave to allow the association or committee to dispose of their case.

7. Allotment of the ice time will be decided by the Board of Directors.
 8. Players in the W.L.M.H.A. will receive fair ice time, in so far as reasonable possible, regardless of their talent during regular season play.
 9. The playing time for all games and practices, paid for by the Association shall be reviewed annually to allow for increased participation. A letter requesting necessary ice time shall be forwarded to the Arena Board.
 10. Membership shall commence at registration each year and terminate the day prior to first registration the following year. Registration dates shall be determined by the Board of Directors. A request for refund of registration fees for a person who ceases to play hockey with the WLMHA prior to the end of the playing season must be submitted in writing to the President of the Board of Directors. Prior to the first skate/tryout, a full refund will be given. After the first skate/tryout, refunds will only be considered for individuals requesting a refund for medical reasons or relocation.
 - 1 month or less of season complete – refund of fees less 25% administration fee and 1 month of fees.
 - 2 months or less of season complete – refund of fees less 25% administration fee and 2 months of fees.
 - 3 months or less of season complete – refund of fees less 25% administration fee and 3 months of fees.After 3 months of season – NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN
- However, WLMHA will extend a grace period to November 1 of that playing year for all first year pre-atom boys and all first year pre-peewee girls not previously registered with the OMHA or OWHA. These players will be eligible for a prorated refund as stated above.

11. Any member of the W.L.M.H.A. whose membership is not considered to be in good standing, due to late or non-payment of fees, or as a result of disciplinary action, or any other valid reason, shall not participate in, or be involved with, any function of the W.L.M.H.A. and all other rights and privileges of membership shall be suspended and are revoked.

12. The Association shall enforce the ruling that every participant playing hockey within the Association must wear mandatory O.M.H.A. approved equipment during practice and at games. The Association may ask for proof that the participant is medically capable to play the game. A list of required equipment shall be available at registration day.

13. The rules of play as set down by the O.M.H.A. shall govern play in all series. Rules for the safety and protection of the participants may be instituted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors whenever necessary.

14. Players from outside the W.L.M.H.A. jurisdiction must abide by the O.M.H.A. rule #18 on page 59 of the Manual of Operations.

15. No team player will be advanced to a higher age group without the consent of parents and coach involved and the Board of Directors.

16. Affiliation with travel teams shall be governed by the O.M.H.A. Constitution.

17. Travel team members should play in their own age group until O.M.H.A. playoffs. During O.M.H.A. playoffs, with agreement between the parents, coaches concerned and the Board of Directors, travel team members may play in an older age group(s).

18. Player releases will be determined by O.M.H.A. rules. Release fee as per O.M.H.A. scale to be collected prior to release issued.

19. "The Board of Directors, at their discretion, may approve TEMPORARY rules and

regulations to cover any situation after checking with the Past President.

20. All Travel Teams shall sign not more than twenty players, except midget and juvenile (twenty five). Players may advance to play up an age if agreed upon by the Executive and Travel Team Convenor, Coaches, and Managers of both teams.

It is expected that Coaches and Managers will act in a manner acceptable to all parties and have the consideration of other teams in League play-offs, tournaments and O.M.H.A. play-offs. All teams entering tournaments will require the signature of the President or Convenor of their division. January 10th shall remain as the final date of decision re By-Law W.L.M.H.A.

21. Greater player participation between the travel teams shall be an agreement between the coaches of the Local League and the Travel Team. If a player has fulfilled his obligation to his local Local League game, he may participate with the Travel Team with an approved O.M.H.A. card. No suspension shall result, so as allowing the player to participate in his next Local League game.

22. No fundraising will be allowed by teams or individuals without the prior approval of the Board of Directors. Any lotteries held to benefit any W.L.M.H.A. players must have the approval of the W.L.M.H.A. All monies derived from these lotteries or any other sources shall be turned over to the W.L.M.H.A. Treasurer, to be spent as the Board of Directors see fit. Any violation of this motion should result in the coaches and managers of teams involved being brought before the Board of Directors of the W.L.M.H.A.

23. The Board of Directors may dispose of any old unused equipment at their discretion.

24. Anyone found in possession of W.L.M.H.A. hockey equipment when not issued to them by a coach or convenor shall come before the Board of Directors.

25. No equipment will be lent outside of the W.L.M.H.A. without the consent of the Board of Directors and only then with a deposit of no less than twenty five dollars.

Coaching Staff/Players

26. The decision of action taken by any coach, manager, or official will be supported by the Association if it complies with the constitution and by-laws.

27. The coaches and staff must be in control of the players in the dressing rooms.

28. Bench area shall be for coaches and bench staff only.

29. No one will be allowed in the dressing rooms except the team participating, team officials, and members of the Board of Directors when necessary.

30. All teams participating in inter-town competition shall be made aware of the fact that it is an honour to represent our community and their actions going to, at and coming from the game should be guided by the highest standards respecting their elders, equipment, dressing rooms, playing facilities and officials.

31. No player or official will be allowed to participate in the program for that evening if he has indulged in alcoholic beverages. All infractions of the rule must be reported to any of the W.L.M.H.A. Board of Directors.

32. Swearing and profane language will not be tolerated. The cooperation of all adults in this respect is requested by the Board of Directors.

33. Playing hockey and defacing arena property in the hallways and dressing rooms is prohibited.

34. The behaviour and conduct of all participants in the Association is the responsibility of every member, and any infractions shall be directed to the Board of Directors. However, the coach and manager of any team are responsible for his players during any game or practice.

35. Everyone must clear the ice immediately after their game or practice in order for

the flooding and scraping to be completed. There is absolutely no one allowed on the ice without proper protective equipment except team officials going to the respective benches or returning. No one is allowed on the ice while it is being scraped or re-surfaced.

36. Sweaters and equipment will be distributed by the Equipment Committee at the beginning of the season and returned by the coaches at or before the Annual General Meeting.

37. Coaches will be responsible for sweaters. Players will return sweaters to coaches after each and every game and sweaters will not be used for practices.

38. Team managers, trainers, coaches, and assistant coaches if applicable and their team, if their name is on the official roster will be allowed free entry for the particular night, if their team is participating in a game on that night.

Annual Meeting

39. The annual meeting of the W.L.M.H.A. shall be held not later than 60 days after the completion of the hockey season. All interested people are to be informed one week in advance of the annual meeting by notice, which shall be published in the local weekly newspaper.

40. Notices of motion, correspondence, constitutional amendments and other matters for consideration at a general meeting shall be in writing and sent to the Secretary fourteen days in advance of a general meeting.

41. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President not less than three and not more than five to present a slate of officers and directors. The chairman of the nominating committee shall ask for further nominations from the floor. Voting to be by secret ballot. This committee will be appointed two weeks prior to the annual meeting.

42. Voting at the annual meeting will be restricted to two votes per registered family with W.L.M.H.A. The voters must be present at the annual meeting and be of legal voting age.

43. Honorary members will be allowed to vote at the annual meeting with the advance approval of the Board of Directors.

44. Any previous motion, constitution or by-law presently in force upon passage of this constitution, is hereby rescinded.

45. No article of this constitution shall be altered rescinded, or new ones made except at the annual meeting and then only by two-thirds majority vote of the eligible members present or a quorum of 50% of the Board of Directors.