



Memorandum of Association
Bylaws, Regulations and Rules

Version 9.0

Document Revision Tracking

The official (most recent) version of this document is [always](#) posted on the DJHL website. The table below tracks the various revisions and will be used to identify the actual revision of printed copies.

Rev. No.	Date	Description
1.0	July 2012	Original revision J. Casey
1.1	July 2012	Minor revisions L. Hudson
1.2	August 2012	Committee review
1.3	November 2012	Minor edits following August review
2.0	December 2012	Final edits from Dec. 6 th meeting
3.0	August 2014	Change to 6 team pooled divisions
3.1	November 2014	General cleanup, Ice Time Allocation clauses.
3.2	February 2015	Playoff format
3.3	August 2015	Operating Committee Composition
3.4	August 2015	League fees and affiliates
4.0	September 2017	Revisions to Eligibility, Play-offs, Try-out Process, and Inclusion of PMHA where appropriate, etc.
4.1	October 2018	Revision to Regulation 12 on draft process and deletion of mandatory mouth guard clause in Regulation 13.
5.0	August 2019	Addition of AA and C Divisions, Past President Role, Voting clauses, etc.
6.0	April 2020	Switch Divisions from U11, U13, and U15 to U11, U13 and U15.
7.0	October 2020	Substantive changes to reflect COVID-19 Return to Play Plan
7.1	October 2021	Switch back to normal operating protocols and addition of Girls Pooled hockey
8.1	July 2022	Substantive changes to add Girls U15 AA, clarify fair play rules and simplify need for ongoing amendments
8.2	July 2023	Substantive changes to reflective new League staff positions and to align with Hockey Canada Pathways Model
8.3	November 2023	Tournament play-off text removed.
8.4	Nov. 2023	Edit to Rule 9 to align with HNL Policy
8.5	Feb. 2024	Edit to Time-out Rule
9.0	July 2024	Numerous changes due mainly to removal of Pooled Girls Hockey

Tribute



Donald Stewart Johnson 1930 - 2012

The Don Johnson Hockey League was named to honour the long-time hockey volunteer. Don was born in Halifax Nova Scotia in 1930 and moved to his adopted home in Newfoundland in 1959. Upon arriving in St. John's Don quickly became a member of the St. Pat's senior hockey team, having learned his trade as a member of the Fairview Aces of the Halifax Suburban Hockey League. As a player, Don became well known as a stalwart on defence for St. Pat's. During his two seasons with St. Pat's the team won the Boyle Trophy. As an Assistant Coach with the St. John's Capitals Don was a member of three Herder Memorial Trophy championship teams

However, it was in his volunteer roles with the Newfoundland Amateur Hockey Association ("NAHA") and the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association ("CAHA") that Don had his greatest impact on hockey in Newfoundland and Canada.

Don became President of the CAHA in 1976. During his term as President the use of hockey helmets was made mandatory, supporting Don's concern for player safety at all levels of hockey. Don was recognized as a life member of Hockey Canada in 1980.

Whenever he spoke to a group of minor hockey players, Don would always tell the children how lucky they were to be able to participate in such a great game. He would tell the children to make sure they thanked their parents for all they do to allow them to be hockey players. Don was keenly aware of the sacrifices minor hockey families make having supported his own children with their hockey dreams. Don was a great person who inspired many in the Newfoundland & Labrador hockey community.

"Hockey has been good to a great many Canadians, while Don Johnson was good to hockey."

ARTICLES

Article 1: NAME

This Association shall be known as the Don Johnson Hockey League ("DJHL" or the "League"), operating as a Minor Hockey League, based out of the Metropolitan St. John's Area and deriving its authority from Hockey Newfoundland & Labrador ("HNL").

Article 2: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the League are as follows:

- To foster and promote the development of young hockey players from participating minor hockey associations within the Metropolitan St. John's Area through a competitive hockey experience,
- To control and administer the playing of the game of hockey in accordance with the rules, regulations and etiquette of the game, and
- To promote sportsmanship and respect amongst the players, coaches, parents and fans of the League.

Article 3: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the League shall consist of the eight Metro based minor hockey associations that have historically participated in the League. More specifically:

Avalon Minor Hockey Association
Conception Bay Regional Minor Hockey Association
Goulds Minor Hockey Association
Northeast Minor Hockey Association
Mount Pearl Minor Hockey Association
Southern Shore Minor Hockey Association
St. John's Minor Hockey Association
Paradise Minor Hockey Association

Affiliate membership will be granted to Bell Island Minor Hockey Association to the extent that its individual players may try-out for pooled division teams (but not enter full teams in any non-pooled divisions). Other teams from outside the Metropolitan St. John's Area wishing to enter the league must adhere to the procedure outlined in Bylaw 11.

Article 4: GENERAL

The Memorandum of Association ("the MOA") shall conform to the Articles, By-Laws, and Regulations of HNL, HNL Minor Council and Hockey Canada. In the event any section of the MOA is in conflict with the Articles, By-Laws and Regulations of any of HNL, HNL Minor Council or Hockey Canada, the Executive Committee is empowered to make such changes as are required so that this MOA complies with the Articles, By-

Laws and Regulations of HNL, ~~HNL Minor Council~~, ~~HNL Female Council~~, or Hockey Canada.

Article 5: OPERATING COMMITTEE

The Operating Committee shall consist of one representative each of the participating minor hockey associations, two Members at Large, plus the League Director, League Scheduler. The duties of the League staff (which also includes a Registrar) are specified in an appendix to this document.

Within the Operating Committee will exist an Executive Committee, consisting of a President, Vice President and Treasurer elected from the members of the Operating Committee at the first meeting for the new season. The Past-President shall also sit on the Executive Committee in a voting capacity.

The positions of President, Vice-President and Treasurer are one-year terms. The various League staff cannot hold an Executive Committee position. The Members at Large are to be nominated by the members of the Operating Committee and appointed for a 2-year term.

Each association shall provide a qualified individual to represent their association on the Operations Committee for the duration of the hockey season. This individual should have responsibilities associated with the operation of the entire all-star program for their association as opposed to only coaching responsibilities with one team.

Article 6: BYLAWS, REGULATIONS AND PLAYING RULES

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

The Bylaws, Regulations and Playing Rules may be modified and added to during normal meetings of the Operating Committee as allowed for in Article 7.

Article 7: AMENDMENTS

All proposed amendments to the Memorandum of Association and Bylaws will require a two-thirds majority vote of the Operating Committee members in attendance at the meeting where the vote is taking place.

A minimum notice of 7 days is required for a meeting where an amendment to the Memorandum of Association or Bylaws will be discussed and voted upon. The agenda for the meeting and the proposed amendment must be provided at least 3 days in advance of the meeting.

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

Article 8: MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Operating Committee will be held as required. Meetings will be called by either of the Administrators, at the request of two or more members of the Operating Committee. Meetings of the Operating Committee will be chaired by the President, and, in his/her absence, the Vice President.

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

Matters discussed at meetings of the Operating Committee are sometimes confidential in nature. Further discussion of these confidential matters by Operating Committee members is restricted to subsequent discussion held at executive meetings of the member's home association. Executive members of the member's home association are also expected to respect the confidential nature of these matters.

Any member of the Operating Committee missing three consecutive meetings, without having an alternate representative in attendance, will be asked to remove themselves from the Operating Committee. The President, at the request of the Operating Committee, will seek a replacement representative from the sponsoring association.

Meetings of coaches and team managers with members of the Operating Committee will be held as required.

BY-LAWS

Bylaw 1: OPERATING COMMITTEE

The Operating Committee shall consist of one representative of each of the eight (8) participating minor hockey associations, two members at large, the Past President, along with the League Director, and Scheduler. Players come to the Pooled Program from member minor hockey associations. If parents or players have concerns to be addressed by the Operating Committee, they must contact the representative of their home minor hockey association who will bring their concern to the Operating Committee.

Bylaw 2: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, Vice President and Treasurer elected for a one-year term from the members of the Operating Committee. The immediate Past President will also sit on the Executive Committee in a voting role. The Executive Committee will be elected at the first meeting of the Operating Committee for the current season only.

The President's role will be to act as the chairperson of League meetings and as the public spokesperson for the League. The President will also act as the liaison with HNL.

The Vice President will support the President in his role by filling in whenever the President is unavailable to fulfill their duties.

The Treasurer role will be to act as the Chief Financial Officer of the League. The Treasurer and the League Director will prepare an annual budget for the League upon which player fees will be set. The Treasurer will present regular financial and annual statements to the Operating Committee.

The Past President role will be to provide advice to the Executive Committee on current League matters and to provide corporate history on past League business when necessary.

By-Law 3: DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

The League will convene a three-person Discipline Committee when required, under the direction of the Vice President. The members will be selected based on their hockey knowledge, familiarity with the League, and experience with minor hockey.

Other members of the Operating Committee and members of team management are prohibited from serving on the Discipline Committee. The exception being, if the Vice President is believed to be in a conflict of interest, the Operating Committee will select another member from within their ranks to act as chairperson of the Discipline Committee in place of the Vice President for those investigations where a conflict of interest may exist.

The Discipline Committee will make recommendations to the Operating Committee, who in turn will be responsible for imposing a disciplinary action upon a player, coach, parent,

staff members of teams, or other person referred to the Discipline Committee for consideration.

By-Law 4: PROTEST COMMITTEE

The League will convene a three-person Protest Committee when required, under the direction of the League Director. The other members of the Protest Committee shall include a member of the Operating Committee deemed to not be in a conflict of interest and a hockey volunteer outside of the Operating Committee selected for their hockey knowledge, familiarity with the League, and experience with minor hockey.

If the League Director is believed to be in a conflict of interest, the Operating Committee will select another member from within their ranks to act as chairperson of the Protest Committee for those investigations where a conflict of interest may exist.

The Protest Committee will make recommendations to the President, who, in turn, will be responsible for ensuring those recommendations are carried out within an appropriate timeframe.

By-Law 5: VOTING

All members of the Operating Committee, with the exception of the Administrators, will have one vote for all matters under consideration at meetings. This should result in 11 votes on all matters, 1 vote from each association and 1 vote each from the Members at Large and the Past President, if all 8 associations are represented at the meeting where the vote is taking place.

When a vote is called, all members of the Operating Committee are required to vote, with the exception of a member who has declared a conflict of interest with respect to the matter at hand. There will be no abstentions. Abstentions will be considered to be a vote against the motion. An abstention may be granted by the Chairperson for any member who is in a conflict of interest with respect to the matter voted upon. Abstentions granted by the Chairperson for a conflict of interest will not be considered as a vote against the motion.

In the event of a tie, the Chairperson for the meeting will cast a final deciding vote.

The DJHL Operating Committee recognizes that on matters related to the basic divisional structure of the League (for example whether a U15 AA division exists or not) it will defer any voting decisions to the Presidents of its member Minor Hockey Associations.

Association Reps will not be permitted to vote on matters pertaining to any non-pooled division in which their home Association does not have a team.

By-Law 6: LEAGUE STRUCTURE

At a maximum, the League will operate with the following divisions of minor hockey as established by Hockey Canada:

- Pooled U15 AAA and AA Minor

- Pooled U13 AAA or AA Minor
- U11 A, B and C Association based teams
- U13 A, B and C Association based teams
- U15 A, B and C Association based teams

The Operations Committee reserves the right to modify the scale of B and C divisions depending on member association interest.

By-Law 7: ASSOCIATION BASED TEAMS

Each association can enter a maximum of one (1) team per any Club division, with the exception of any C division levels, in which case two balanced teams could be approved by the League for larger Associations.

Prior to the start of the season, Associations must provide the Operating Committee with the list of Association based teams they wish to enter in each division. The Operating Committee will determine which division is most appropriate for each team. Where practical, a pre-season tournament or a series of exhibition games may be used to determine the appropriate division for teams from each association.

The Operating Committee reserves the right to relegate teams after the season has commenced. The transfer of teams between divisions will occur if the teams in question are not of a comparable calibre to the other teams in the division. Regulation 19 covers the procedure involving team transfers.

By-Law 8: POOLED TEAMS

Prior to the start of the season, the DJHL will complete a comprehensive tryout process to identify players for participation in the pooled AA program. The approach to be followed for this try-out process will be developed each pre-season by the League Director and approved by a majority vote of the Operations Committee.

By-Law 9: PLAYOFFS

At the end of the regular season there will be play-offs in every division to declare a champion. All teams in each division will advance to the play-offs. The Operating Committee will agree upon the format for the play-offs.

By-Law 10: SCHEDULE

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

Establishing the League regular season and play-off schedule will be the responsibility of the League Director. The League schedule will be posted to the League website and maintained daily by the League Scheduler.

The objective of the League regular season schedule is to minimize the number of schedule conflicts on a weekly basis. The League Director in consultation with the League Scheduler will determine which game slot is best assigned to which team.

Each Association will provide ice time to the League to schedule practices and games for the pooled divisions. The ice time commitment from each Association will recognize (i) the number of players participating from that Association and (ii) the availability of ice time in the Association's home rink or rinks.

The ice time allotment for the pooled teams will typically be 2 games and 2 practice hours per week.

By-Law 11: ENTRANTS FROM OUTSIDE METRO ST. JOHN'S

Other minor hockey associations wishing to enter association based teams in the DJHL must file a letter of application with the League President prior to August 15th of the year in which the team requests entry. The letter of application is to include a list of available ice time and the division of entry for the team. Applications are for one season only. Teams will be accepted to a non-pooled division with a two-thirds majority vote of the associations competing in the Club division in which entry is sought.

By-Law 12: SPONSORSHIP AND NAMING RIGHTS

The League will offer naming rights for the League and individual teams to sponsors interested in supporting minor hockey. Sponsors must be appropriate for the age of the children participating in the League and on sponsored teams. The amount and term of League and team sponsorship will be determined by the Operating Committee. There will be no individual player sponsorship allowed.

By-Law 13: LEAGUE WEB SITE

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

REGULATIONS

Regulation 1: PURPOSE

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

Regulation 2: AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

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

A notice of motion can be made at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Operating Committee that an amendment to the Regulations will be discussed and voted upon at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Operating Committee. The motion wording must be included in the minutes of the meeting where the notice was given, and the discussion and vote identified on the agenda of the meeting where it will take place.

Regulation 3: TEAM ROSTERS

Minor division teams will consist of a minimum of fifteen skaters and two goalies. Team rosters must conform to Hockey Canada Rule 2.2(a) and HNL rules for maximum number of players. The minimum number of players required for a League game is established in Rule 5.

No full-time player in the DJHL can be registered as a full-time player on another team outside of the DJHL, nor within the DJHL.

Regulation 4: TEAM COLOURS

Association based teams should have both dark and light coloured jerseys. The home team is to wear the dark coloured jersey and the visiting team is to wear the light coloured jersey.

Home team is to change colours in the event of a conflict of colours.

Regulation 5: FINANCES

The management of League finances is the responsibility of the Treasurer. The Treasurer will ensure a Budget is presented to the Operating Committee prior to the start of each hockey season. The Treasurer, in collaboration with the League Director, will also prepare financial statements and present them at meetings of the Operating Committee.

The financial year will be from July 1st to June 30th each season. A year-end financial statement as of June 30th will be presented to the Operating Committee each season.

The League will maintain a consolidated bank account at a recognized financial institution. Signing Authority for League accounts will be the President, Vice President, Treasurer and the League Director. Two signatures are required for every cheque issued for payment.

Regulation 6: FUNDRAISING

The League will establish a detailed fundraising policy. All fundraising for teams in the pooled program requires the approval of the Operating Committee. Fundraising involving lottery licenses require the signature of the League President and one other member of the Operating Committee. Teams will normally only be allowed to apply for one lottery license per season.

Regulation 7: LEAGUE REGISTRATION FEES

League Registration Fees apply to those associations registering association-based teams in all non-pooled divisions. League Registration Fees will consist of an association base fee plus an additional fee for each team entered in the DJHL. The association base fee and additional per team fee will be set each season and included within the budget approved by the Operating Committee.

Regulation 8: POOLED DIVISION TRYOUT FEES

Each season the League will hold tryouts to identify players that will participate on pooled League teams. The Operating Committee will determine a tryout fee to be paid by all players participating in the tryouts, including those players who have been granted an exemption from actually attending on-ice sessions. The tryout fee will be established based upon the following principles:

- All tryout fees are to be paid in advance of attending the tryout
- The fee will be based upon recovering all costs from those players registered for the tryouts
- Costs to be recovered include ice time, officials, evaluator fees and jersey laundry costs

Regulation 9: POOLED DIVISION PLAYER REGISTRATION FEES

The Operating Committee will determine a registration fee to be paid by all players participating in the Pooled Hockey Program. The registration fee will be established based upon the following principles:

- Every player in the same division will be charged the same registration fee
- The registration fee will be based upon recovering all applicable operating costs from pooled program players on an annual basis
- Registration fees for affiliated players will also be set out in the annual budget.
- Registration fees are to be paid in a maximum of two installments following the announcement of team rosters at a deadline set by the League.

At the discretion of the League Director, players with outstanding fees following any League deadline will be removed from team rosters following written notification from the League. Refunds on a pro-rated basis may be considered in cases of season ending injury supported by written confirmation from a medical doctor.

Regulation 10: POOLED DIVISIONS - PLAYER EVALUATIONS

During the tryout process, the League will use a group of external evaluators to provide a ranked list of players to be included in the team selection process, and to identify those players being released to return to their home association.

Copies of player evaluations or feedback will **not** be provided to the parents of released players.

Dedicated goalie evaluators will rank the performance of the goalies in consultation with the Head Evaluator.

The Operating Committee will assign Coordinators to oversee the Pooled Hockey Program evaluation and try-out process.

Regulation 11: POOLED DIVISIONS - TRYOUT PROCESS

Each season will start with a tryout process to identify players for the Pooled Hockey Program. Only those players in good standing with their minor hockey association will be permitted to participate in the Pooled Hockey Program tryout process. No player will be simultaneously allowed to try out for a DJHL Pooled Hockey Program and another team outside of the DJHL.

The format used for the Pooled Hockey Program try-outs must be approved by the Operations Committee prior to being announced to players and parents. The format must stipulate the number of practices and scrimmages planned, the minimum number of sessions guaranteed per player and how players are grouped for various stages of the process.

Players can be released to return to their association anytime following the 3rd on-ice tryout session.

Players requesting an injury exemption from the tryouts must do so in writing prior to the 1st on-ice session. Where practical, written justification from an attending medical doctor or other medical professional should accompany the written request submitted by the parent. Players injured during the tryout process will be automatically considered for injury exemption. The Operating Committee will review each request individually and if an exemption is granted, place the player in the appropriate position on the ranked list of players. Players requesting an injury exception must have a realistic expectation of returning to play early in the season.

Once the DJHL posts an announcement of the players selected to play in any of the particular pooled divisions, none of those players will be permitted to decline the offer and play in a lower DJHL division at the Association-based level.

Regulation 12: POOLED DIVISIONS - TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

League teams in the Pooled Program will be selected through a draft process. Prior to the player draft, the evaluators will provide the League with ranked lists of players in a manner directed by the League Director, as pre-approved by the Operating Committee.

In attendance at the draft per each division will be the Head Coaches and one other team staff member, the League Director (who will conduct the draft) and one Operating Committee member without a child participating in the draft.

The order of selection for the draft will be determined by a random draw. The order of selection will alternate from round to round in a sequence determined by the Operating Committee. Teams will be selected by the Head Coach and based on input from the evaluators. If the Head Coach has not yet been selected, then an evaluator will select the team.

The draft will proceed by position, with players eligible for selection in the various rounds restricted to a set of players of similar rank. However, the coach left with the final pick from a set of players has the option to select a player from the following set of players.

Pooled teams will also draft affiliated players after the main draft. Drafted affiliated players must be full-time rostered on their top Association-based team to qualify for the draft.

Regulation 13: POOLED DIVISIONS - UNIFORMS

The DJHL will provide appropriate team uniforms (game jerseys and socks). Game jerseys remain the property of the DJHL and players will be responsible for the cost of any damage incurred while the uniform is in their possession. Socks will remain the property of the player.

Game jerseys are to be worn only at approved team functions. Game jerseys may only be worn during games and not during practice sessions.

Team uniforms shall be returned to the League Director by the Team Manager no more than 7 days following the end of season. The Operating Committee reserves the right to impose financial penalties on players or teams should uniforms or uniform bags be lost or damaged.

Any player, who causes unnecessary damages to a team uniform or other loaned equipment, as determined by the League Director, shall be suspended from all activities, including future tryouts, until the replacement cost has been paid.

Players may wear a name bar on their jersey, which must be purchased through the Team Manager and be sewn on jerseys (not glued or heat applied). The Team Manager will ensure that name bars are applied by a professional seamstress.

Players are required to wear DJHL approved hockey socks so that they match the jerseys. One set of socks will be provided at the start of the season. Additional cost for replacement socks are the responsibility of the player.

Coaches are required to ensure all protective equipment is being worn by all players participating in games and practices. Players must wear all the equipment as specified and required by Hockey Canada and Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador while on the ice or bench.

Regulation 14: POOLED DIVISIONS - PLAYER/PARENT AGREEMENTS

Upon registering for the Pooled Hockey Program, players and parents will be required to acknowledge or sign a Parent/Player Agreement (as posted on the League website) to demonstrate their commitment to the League and to abide by the League's standard of conduct and sportsmanship.

Regulation 15: POOLED DIVISIONS – TEAM STAFF SELECTION

People interested in the positions of Head Coach, Assistant Coach and Team Manager must complete the current version of the volunteer application found on the league website. Selection of coaches and other team staff positions will be completed by the Operating Committee or its Sub-Committee.

Minimum qualification for the Head Coach position is Development 1 and Coach Stream for the Assistant Coach positions. All staff members must complete the Respect in Sport for Volunteers on-line course and the screening process as determined by HNL and the League. One member of the coaching staff must have the Hockey Canada Safety Person qualification.

The League encourages all coaches to advance their development through additional training. The League will pay all pre-approved coach training costs.

Team staff must reflect values and expectations which are appropriate for the age of the children under their charge. The Operating Committee will explain how coaches are expected to develop all players at a coaches meeting at the start of each season. **All team staff members will be required to sign a Code of Conduct agreement with the DJHL prior to the start of the season.** The Operating Committee can remove staff members from their duties for just cause.

Regulation 16: PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENTS

If expected by HNL, pooled program teams will attend the annual HNL provincial tournaments. Attendance for players and coaches at provincial tournaments is mandatory. Players or coaches failing to honour the commitment to attend the annual HNL provincial tournaments will be refused participation in the League for the following season

If requested by HNL, the League will host provincial tournaments for its various pooled divisions. Member associations will share the responsibility of providing ice time on a rotating basis to allow the League to host the annual HNL provincial tournaments. If necessary, the cost associated with hosting provincial tournaments for pooled program divisions will be recovered through player surcharges (if not already adequately included in budgeted player fees up front at start of season) to ensure the viability of each event.

Regulation 17: AFFILIATES

Teams in the pooled divisions will be assigned a set of affiliated players (APs) as outlined in Regulation 12. Teams will rotate opportunities for game call-ups amongst their pool of affiliated players. Where appropriate, affiliated players should participate in

practices with the pooled team prior to participating in games. No APs will be activated after a date as determined by the Operating Committee.

Affiliates are expected to play with the pooled teams when requested, but they are not to be pressured to do so. Should there be a scheduling conflict with the affiliated player's regular team it is recommended that the pooled team game take precedence over their association based team. Games take precedence over practices in all cases.

Regulation 18: OFFICIALS

Associations will arrange for all on ice and off ice officials for all League games played in their home arena. In all divisions except U15AA, the standard 3-man system will be used. At the discretion of the League Director, U15AA division may use a 4-man system.

Regulation 19: TRANSFERRING TEAMS BETWEEN DIVISIONS

Under Bylaw 7, the Operating Committee reserves the right to transfer an association based team to another division if they are not of a comparable calibre to the other teams in their original division.

When a team is transferred to a new division they will start with 0 points. There will be no points transferred from the original division.

All games involving the transferred team in the division from which the team was transferred will be removed from the game results for that division. It will be as if the team never played in the original division from the perspective of divisional standings.

When the transferred team is added to the schedule in the new division, on a go forward basis the transferred team (if possible) will play the same number of games against each team in the new division.

Regulation 20: PROTESTS

Protests of the interpretation of a League rule may be made in writing to the League Director within 24 hours of the initial interpretation of the rule. Protests are to be accompanied by a \$100 fee that will be refunded if the protest is successful. The \$100 fee will be credited to the League bank account for all unsuccessful protests.

Below the Pooled Divisions, all protests must be filed by the Association's Operating Committee representative. Coaches below the Pooled Divisions cannot file a protest directly. However, Head Coaches from the Pooled Teams can file protests directly.

Regulation 21: APPEALS

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

Regulation 22: POOLED DIVISIONS - AWARDS BANQUET

If approved in the annual budget, each season will conclude with an awards banquet for the pooled program divisions. The awards banquet cost for players and coaches will be included in the player registration fees, or recouped from teams that only pay a team fee.

Regulation 23: POOLED DIVISIONS - AWARDS

Depending on the scale of a Pooled division, the League may name First and Second All-Star teams (3 Forwards, 2 Defense, and one Goalie per Team). All-Star voting will be done by all Head Coaches in the respective divisions. The League Executive may also award Team Most Valuable Player and Team Most Dedicated Player awards at its discretion. Team Most Valuable Player awards will be selected by voting from all Head Coaches in a Division. Head Coaches will nominate three players for Team Most Dedicated Player and teammates will vote to decide the winner.

PLAYING RULES

Rule 1: PURPOSE

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

Rule 2: AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAYING RULES

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

Rule 3: LEAGUE PLAY

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

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

Rule 4: GAME DURATION

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

Games in the AA pooled minor divisions will be of 45 minutes duration with 3 periods of 15-minute stop time duration with an 80-minute provision of ice time. In back-to-back games, the ice will be resurfaced between the second and third period of the 1st game and between the first and second period of the 2nd game.

The referee may instruct the minor official to run the time clock in order to ensure the game will be concluded on schedule. However, there shall be no running of the clock for the last minute of the game. No additional time can be added to the game clock at the conclusion of the game.

Rule 5: DEFAULTS

As a minimum, teams must ice thirteen (13) skaters plus one (1) goalie in all levels of league play. The minimum number of players must be dressed and on the team bench before the start of the second period. Teams without the minimum number of players will forfeit two points to the opposing team. Games will be played to their conclusion with all penalties and suspensions applying as if the minimum number of players participated. A game will be halted if the Hockey Canada minimum player requirement as established in Playing Rule 2.2 is not met or if in the opinion of the referee it is unsafe for the players to proceed.

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

Any Association based team that defaults three (3) games shall be reviewed by the Operations Committee to determine whether or not the team should stay in the League.

If the League experiences extraordinary community health challenges due to Covid-19, influenza, etc., the League Director can issue a directive allowing for reduced minimum roster sizes until further notice.

Rule 6: GAME RESULTS

The Operations Committee will establish a protocol for reporting of game results from association based play. Team Managers at all levels are expected to participate in this process. All game results are to be reported to the League the same evening as the games are played.

Rule 7: TOURNAMENTS AND TRAVEL PERMITS

Association based teams traveling for tournaments or exhibition games must follow HNL regulations with respect to travel permits. Association based teams are responsible for advising the League Director of any scheduling changes required to accommodate the team's travel plans. The maximum travel period must not exceed the actual days of tournament play and 1 travel day prior to and 1 travel day following the actual days of tournament play. The League Director is not obligated to accommodate travel requests. Teams are requested to provide as much notice as possible to improve the likelihood of their travel request being approved. Association based teams traveling without League approval may have missed games defaulted, or the team can be suspended from League play for the remainder of the season.

Pooled teams traveling to tournaments and exhibition games must follow HNL rules, with all travel requests signed by the League President. Similar notification to the League Director as discussed above for association based teams is also required.

Rule 8: SANCTIONING ADDITIONAL ON-ICE & OFF-ICE ACTIVITY

Teams in the pooled divisions can offer optional on-ice and off-ice activities that are in addition to the League scheduled activities. Teams must clearly advise players and parents that these activities are optional. Teams cannot make these additional activities mandatory and there can be no repercussions for players that chose not to attend. These activities include, but are not limited to, tournaments, exhibition games, extra practices, team building events, team meals, workouts, and dry land training. The League recognizes the value of these activities, and encourages team staff to be sensitive when approaching players and parents regarding these activities.

Rule 9: ICE TIME ALLOCATION

The League follows HNL's Ice Time Allocation guidelines. These guidelines are intended to provide every player an equal opportunity to develop their skills as a hockey player. In the spirit of player development, all players are to be treated fairly and given the opportunity to contribute to team success.

It is recognized that the DJHL only has direct authority over enforcing HNL ice time allocation policy at the pooled hockey level with respect to teams therein that it operates. Member associations have to enforce the HNL ice time allocation with respect to each of their club teams.

The only situation where a protest can only be filed with the League regarding fair play is in relation to the DJHL-Specific Goaltender guidelines that follow herein. Any game in which upon protest review that the Goaltender fair play rules have not been followed will be replayed.

Any coach who is found upon investigation not to be following the HNL-specific ice time allocation rules will be subject to disciplinary action as per HNL guidelines.

Further to HNL Ice Time Allocation guidelines, the DJHL adheres to several distinct ice time policies. They are as follows:

Pooled Minor Division Play (U15AA Only):

In the 1st and 2nd periods all games are to be coached based on the principle of **equal opportunity** for all players. Coaches are expected to roll their lines in all 5 on 5 situations and to continue to rotate players in all special teams (penalty kill and power play) situations. All players are to be given the opportunity to play in **all** game situations.

In the 3rd period, coaches have the **discretion** to play selected players in all special team situations and in the last **three** (3) minutes of the third period and throughout overtime. Prior to using special teams in games situations coaches must include special teams training for all players in their practices.

Goaltenders (All Divisions, Except AAA):

Coaches have the option of having Goaltenders change at the mid-way point of each game or play full games. Besides the overall season, throughout the course of any tournament, and during the play-offs, the team's 2 goaltenders must strive for equal game time, and never have a differential of more than one game played. The Championship Game in a provincial tournament is excluded from this equal ice time requirement and the Head Coach can choose in this case to play either goaltender.

When an AP goalie is called up for a second time and has not appeared for at least one full period in the first call-up game, then that goalie must play at least two full periods of the second call-up game, regardless whether it is a play-off game or not. The scoring of five goals on the AP goalie in the second call-up game is the only way the two period rule can be disregarded.

Rule 10: TIME OUTS

At all levels of League play, and time permitting at the discretion of the referee, each team will be entitled to one 30 second timeout per game.

Rule 11: SCHEDULES

The League Scheduler, in consultation with the League Director, will be responsible for creating, posting and changing all division schedules. League schedules will be

completed in advance of the season and released in stages through the League web site.

All games are normally scheduled to start no earlier than 5:30pm weekdays, and must be concluded by 10:00pm, with the exception of the U11 divisions where games must be concluded by 9:00pm.

Changes to home game schedules require a minimum of 7 days notice with the exception of games being postponed due to adverse weather conditions or the unavailability of the host facility. Requests for schedule changes are to be made to the Scheduler **only** by the Operating Committee representative for association based teams or for the association providing the ice time for pooled league games and practices.

Coaches and managers cannot directly request changes to League schedules.

The Scheduler will determine if any schedule change request is bona fide and, if approved, will work with the two affected Associations to reschedule the game. Otherwise, the scheduled game must stand and if not played two points must be awarded to the opponent.

Postponed games must be added to the schedule as soon as possible after the original scheduled time.

Rule 12: PLAYOFFS

All teams make the playoffs. The format for play-offs in each League division must be approved in advance by the Operations Committee. The League playoffs are to start no later than two (2) weeks after the end of the regular schedule for a particular division.

Extending the season past Easter Sunday will require the approval of the Operations Committee.

The League will present gold, silver and bronze medals in all divisions with five or more teams. Only gold and silver medals will be awarded in divisions with four teams or less.

Rule 13: PLAYOFF SEEDING

Playoff seeding (if applicable) will be based upon the final standings at the end of the regular season.

Ties for seeding purposes will be decided by the following:

1. Record against each other
2. If still tied, most overall wins in regular season
3. If still tied, goals for and against percentage in games involving the tied teams as per HNL tie breaking rules
4. If still tied, a coin toss will occur.

Rule 14: OVERTIME & SHOOTOUTS

If teams are tied at the end of regulation time in a playoff game and a winner is required to determine the series outcome, the game will be decided by shootout.

The shootout procedure is as follows:

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

Rule 15: PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

Divisional play-offs will be done in a seeded bracket format.

The first two games of each playoff series will be scheduled according to the regular schedule of ice time used throughout the regular season. Therefore, the higher placed team may not always have the first game, but each team will host one game before either team hosts 2 games. If the higher placed team can provide ice time earlier in the week, before the regularly scheduled ice time for the lower placed team, then the first game will be held at the earlier time.

Typically, the odd numbered games in any series shall be played at the home rink and time slot provided by the higher placed team. The lower placed team will normally host the even numbered games in each series.

Forty-eight hours notice and the approval of the Scheduler will be required for any team requesting to reschedule any play-off game.

Rule 16: SUSPENSIONS

Players and coaches in the League are subject to the HNL Suspension Guidelines as the basis for suspensions. In addition to the HNL Suspension Guidelines, the League may add one additional game for suspensions given for fighting infractions.

Immediately following the completion of any game which included a suspension, gross misconduct or match penalty, the home team is responsible for sending a copy of the official game sheet to the League Director. A scanned copy of the official game sheet should be forwarded to the League Director' email account as cited on the League web site.

When a game includes a suspension that will carry over to future games, the home team is responsible for sending an email to the League Director immediately following the conclusion of the game advising of the nature of the suspension. This requirement is in addition to the transmission of the official game sheet to the League Director.

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

Any suspension received in the DJHL must be served in the DJHL. House league, exhibition, tournament or high school games cannot be used to serve a suspension issued in a DJHL game. However, HNL sanctioned tournaments and exhibition games scheduled prior to the awarding of a suspension, in which the player's DJHL team is previously scheduled to participate can be used to serve a DJHL suspension.

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

The onus is on coaches to ensure that all players on the game sheet are participating in the game and are permitted to play and are not currently under suspension. Any coach who uses a suspended player will be subject to the following disciplinary measures:

1. Two (2) game suspension to the Head Coach for a first offence,
2. Suspension of the Head Coach for a duration to be determined by the Discipline Committee for subsequent offences, and
3. Games where a team uses a suspended player will be forfeited to the opposing team.

Rule 17: GAME EJECTION

Players receiving 3 penalties (separate infractions) in any League game will receive a game ejection for the remainder of the contest. There is no carryover from the game ejection to the player's next game.

Rule 18: CALL-UP PLAYERS

Teams must use call-up players to ensure the minimum number of players, as established in Rule 5 – Defaults, are available for each game. With exception, pooled teams must call-up from their respective pool of affiliated players. Association based teams will follow the rules established by their home association.

For further guidance please see Regulation 17 – Affiliates.

Rule 19: COMMITMENT

As part of the player's commitment to their team, all pooled program players are required to attend all practices, games and team functions unless excused in advance by the coaching staff. Players are required to advise the coaching staff of his/her absence in advance of team functions. Excessive demands on players' time and expense will be arbitrated by the Operating Committee.



Appendix A - Duties of League Staff

Duties of the League Director

GENERAL

The League Director will be responsible for the overall direction and operation of the League from both a business, operational, and financial perspective. The League Director will answer to the Operating Committee and will work closely with the Executive Committee of the League and the leadership of the various Metro area minor hockey associations.

APPOINTMENT

The League Director will be appointed for a 2-year term that can be renewed with no limit on the number of terms served. The honorarium paid to the League Director will be set in the annual League budget, as agreed upon by the Operating Committee.

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

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The duties and responsibilities of the League Director include:

- Calling meetings on behalf of the Operating Committee or Executive as required
- Acting as recording secretary for all meetings
- Overseeing the League's planning process
- Prepare the League's annual Operation Plan
- Designing and delivering Pooled Try-outs
- Leading the recruitment of league and pooled team volunteers
- Supporting the President to fulfill the role as media spokesperson
- Undertaking the annual League Banquet
- Overseeing the League web site and Twitter account
- Managing the jersey inventory and purchase process
- Work with the Treasurer to establish an annual League budget
- Managing the DJHL bank account
- Conducting the daily financial business of the League (pay bills, purchasing, bank deposits, etc.)
- Managing the League General Ledger of accounts
- Supporting the Treasurer to fulfill their role, and
- Other duties as assigned

AUTHORITY

The League Director has the authority to act on behalf of the Operating Committee and the Executive Committee in the following matters: 1) interpreting of League rules and regulations, 2) purchasing of items in the approved budget, and 3) negotiating sponsorships and partnerships.



Duties of the Scheduler

GENERAL

Working within the parameters set by the League's annual Operations Plan, the Scheduler will be responsible for the schedules for all DJHL divisions. The Scheduler will report on a regular basis to the League Director and work closely with the League Executive.

APPOINTMENT

The Scheduler will be appointed for a 2-year term that can be renewed with no limit on the number of terms served. The honorarium paid to the Scheduler will be set in the annual League budget, as agreed upon by the Operating Committee.

The Operating Committee can use any method it wishes to identify candidates for the position of Scheduler. The appointment must be made prior to the start of the hockey season.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The duties and responsibilities of the Scheduler include:

- Creating schedules for all divisions of the DJHL
- Uploading all schedules to the DJHL web site
- Making changes to the posted schedules as required
- Negotiating schedule changes between various teams and associations
- Posting practice times for all DJHL operated pooled teams
- Creating play-off tournament schedules
- Other duties as assigned

AUTHORITY

The Scheduler has the authority to act on behalf of the Operating Committee and the Executive Committee in the following matters:

- Cancelling of games or pooled team practices for just cause
- Reschedule games and pooled team practices



Duties of the Registrar

GENERAL

The Registrar will be responsible for all registration matters pertaining to pooled hockey players from within the DJHL and the staff members of their respective teams. The Registrar will report to the League Director.

APPOINTMENT

The Registrar will be appointed for a 2-year term that can be renewed with no limit on the number of terms served. The honorarium paid to the Registrar will be set in the annual League budget, as agreed upon by the Operating Committee.

The Operating Committee can use any method it wishes to identify candidates for the position of Registrar. The appointment must be made prior to the start of the hockey season.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The duties and responsibilities of the League Director include:

- Set up and maintain the on-line registration process for DJHL pooled teams through the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR)
- Input all team, player and team official data into the HCR
- Oversee the volunteer screening process
- Oversee the Affiliate Player Program in consultation with the League Director
- Ensure all bench staff are fully compliant regarding their Hockey Canada credentials
- Other duties as assigned

AUTHORITY

The Registrar has the authority to act on behalf of the Operating Committee and the Executive Committee in the following matters:

- Suspending any team official for failing to complete any minimum coaching requirement or the RNC screening process
- Notifying a parent or guardian of a player's ineligibility