



**NB MINOR HOCKEY COUNCIL  
OPERATIONS MANUAL  
2025-2026**

# NBMHC OPERATIONS MANUAL

AS AMENDED: **June 7, 2025**

## TABLE of CONTENTS

|            |                                              |    |
|------------|----------------------------------------------|----|
| SECTION 1  | OBJECTIVES                                   | 3  |
| SECTION 2  | GENERALITIES                                 | 3  |
| SECTION 3  | FINANCIAL                                    | 4  |
| SECTION 4  | CERTIFICATION                                | 5  |
| SECTION 5  | MEMBER DISCIPLINE                            | 6  |
| SECTION 6  | PROTESTS, HEARINGS, APPEALS                  | 7  |
| SECTION 7  | RISK, CONDUCT AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT          | 8  |
| SECTION 8  | SPECIAL EVENT SANCTIONING                    | 9  |
| SECTION 9  | CODE OF ETHICS                               | 9  |
| SECTION 10 | CONDUCT                                      | 9  |
| SECTION 11 | CONFLICT OF INTEREST                         | 9  |
| SECTION 12 | ADMISSION OF A MEMBER                        | 10 |
| SECTION 13 | ASSOCIATIONS / CLUBS                         | 11 |
| SECTION 14 | LEAGUES                                      | 12 |
| SECTION 15 | TEAMS                                        | 13 |
| SECTION 16 | GAME PRE-REQUISITES                          | 18 |
| SECTION 17 | PLAYERS                                      | 18 |
| SECTION 18 | PLAYER RELEASE                               | 22 |
| SECTION 19 | AFFILIATION                                  | 23 |
| SECTION 20 | FORFEITURE POLICY                            | 25 |
| SECTION 21 | TRAVEL PERMITS / EXHIBITION GAMES            | 26 |
| SECTION 22 | TOURNAMENTS                                  | 27 |
| SECTION 23 | ZONE AND PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS | 28 |
| SECTION 24 | MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR DISCIPLINE             | 28 |
| SECTION 25 | COMMUNITY HOCKEY GUIDELINES                  | 28 |
| SECTION 26 | EQUIPMENT                                    | 29 |
| SECTION 27 | SPECIAL PLAYING RULES                        | 29 |
| SECTION 28 | FEMALE APPENDIX                              | 30 |

# NBMHC OPERATIONS MANUAL

AS AMENDED: **June 7, 2025**

## SECTION 1 – OBJECTIVES

- 1.0 To foster, encourage, promote and improve all male and female organized minor hockey within the Province of New Brunswick in the following divisions: U21, U18, U15, U13, U11, U9, U7. *6.4.16*
- 1.1 To provide, promote, organize and maintain competition for all who desire to participate in minor hockey and to provide provincial championships for players competing at the development and competitive levels in accordance with Zone and Provincial Championship Regulations. *6.13.15*
- 1.2 To exercise a general supervision and direction over the playing interests of its minor hockey players, coaches, managers and executives with emphasis on the enhancement of good character and citizenship. *8.11.06*
- 1.3 To continue to develop a Minor Council Officials' Division in co-operation with the NBHOC. *6.13.04*

## SECTION 2 - GENERALITIES

- 2.0 **COMMITMENT**  
By joining HNB and HC as a member, a person willingly accepts to abide by and conform to HNB's and HC's Constitutions, Regulations and Playing Rules. *9.20.04*
- 2.1 **PRINCIPLES**  
Hockey New Brunswick, as the governing body for Minor Hockey within New Brunswick may, through their Minor Council, impose sanctions on Minor Hockey Associations, teams and/or members who do not abide by the NBMHC Operations Manual which consists of additions to or clarifications of HNB Constitution Articles, By-Laws and Regulations and Hockey Canada Constitution Articles, By-Laws and Regulations and Playing Rules. *6.4.11*
- 2.2 **RESTRICTION OF ACTIVITIES TO MEMBERS**  
Only members who have registered with a NBMHC association, club, league or team and for whom an insurance premium has been paid for the current season may take part in HNB Minor Hockey Council activities. Conversely, no member may participate in activities where non-members, who have been so identified by HNB, are involved, unless previously approved by HNB's Risk, Conduct and Safety Management Committee. *6.11.06*
- 2.3 **HOCKEY SEASON**  
Obligations by a member and the granting of privileges resulting from their membership with HNB and NBMHC remain in force from June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>. *6.2.18*

- 2.4 No breweries, distilleries, wineries, cannabis or tobacco companies shall be permitted to display advertising or any connotation of the aforementioned on uniforms or equipment of any team. *11.10.18*
- 2.5 Community Club- An organization consisting of HNB members with an executive that are responsible for organizing, registering, and financing all competitive and "C" hockey programs within a defined area.  
District Association- Is a group of community clubs within a District's geographical boundaries. *6.7.14*

### SECTION 3 – FINANCIAL

- 3.0 Each association, club or league seeking membership with the NBMHC must pay annual fees as per HNB's Fiscal Policy. *6.13.04*
- 3.1 Membership dates must be followed: *9.20.04*
- a. Associations/clubs must be registered as per Section 13.2. *9.20.04*
  - b. Leagues must be registered as per Section 14.1. *9.20.04*
  - c. Players must be registered and paid as per Section 3.4a. *9.20.04*
  - d. The last day to register a development or competitive player with an association or club is January 10. *6.11.06*
  - e. The NBMHC Executive Committee may entertain membership of players between January 11 and February 10. *9.20.04*
- 3.2 The fiscal year end of the Council shall be March 31. *6.13.04*
- 3.3
- a. Associations, community clubs and leagues must submit a Financial Statement to their respective district director at the end of each hockey season, no later than 7 days before the HNB annual general meeting. Failure to do so may result in sanctions and loss of membership privileges, including voting. *8.25.20*
  - b. All associations, clubs and leagues must have all outstanding accounts to HNB settled prior to registering for the upcoming hockey season. If their accounts have not been settled 7 days before the annual General Meeting, there will be an overcharge of \$500.00, for offending associations, clubs and leagues. Notification of outstanding accounts will be forwarded to the District Director monthly of each season. *5.28.22.*
- 3.4
- a. Billing schedule, as follows:
    - September 1 Associations and clubs will be invoiced on their previous year's membership numbers. *6.13.04*
    - November 30 Associations and clubs must ensure that all monies for all players, coaches, bench personnel and volunteers are registered and insured with HNB and paid or they will lose their competition privileges. Late membership fees must be forwarded to the HNB office, together with all monies, owing, immediately following their membership application. *6.10.07*

January 31 The HNB office will prepare a comparison by association/club of membership numbers and membership/insurance monies submitted and invoice the associations for the balance outstanding with a deadline to submit payment on February 15. 6.15.08

- 3.5 Fundraising activities should adhere to Hockey New Brunswick/Hockey Canada policies and regulations. Any monies raised by teams on behalf of the Minor teams shall remain property of teams and/or Minor hockey association and shall not be returned to individual parents or organizations. 11.10.18

## SECTION 4 – CERTIFICATION

- 4.0 a. December 15 of the current season shall be the deadline for all persons requiring certification to obtain their certification, as follows: 6.11.06
- b. Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches in U7 and U9 require Coach Level 1. 6.2.18
- c. Head coaches and assistant coaches in U11, U13, U15 and U18 competitive and recreational divisions require Coach Level 2. 6.2.18
- d. All volunteers, bench and on-ice personnel 16 years and older, registered with Hockey New Brunswick, require Speak Out or Respect in Sport for Activity Leader. All volunteers, bench staff and on ice helpers 18 years of age and older must have a cleared criminal record check and vulnerable sector check. If they have not submitted a cleared Criminal record check and vulnerable sector check by the required date, they will be deemed ineligible on the team roster and will be unable to participate on the team until they provide a copy of the required documents. 8.25.20
- e. All volunteers of HNB must complete a Criminal Record Check / Vulnerable Sector Check every 3 years. This/these document(s) must be submitted to the member's Minor Hockey Association or club. Each association/club is responsible to designate a person who will compile the sealed clearance checks and submit them to the HNB office. A Criminal Record Check / Vulnerable Sector Check submitted during the season in progress applies for this specific season and the following two seasons. 5.28.22
- f. All HNB registered minor hockey teams must have a bench staff member that has successfully completed the Hockey Canada Safety Program and is currently certified. Their certification will expire five years after the date of the program certification course. 6.2.12
- g. Deadline to add bench staff is February 10<sup>th</sup>. In case of emergency, the District Director will deal with requests on a case-by-case basis. Any bench staff team member that cannot show proof of qualifications and has not obtained their certification as outlined in 4.0 A-H, will not be eligible to participate, and therefore must be released from the team roster. 6.8.19
- h. All adults supervising the Community Hockey Program must have HC Speak Out! or Respect in Sport for Activity Leader certification and have a cleared criminal check and vulnerable person's check. 8.25.20

- i. One parent, guardian or HNB volunteer (in any capacity) of an HNB registered player born after 2005, excluding the HNB community hockey program, must successfully complete the parent Respect in Sport program certification or provide proof of certification no later than December 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season. Should the parent, guardian or HNB volunteer not complete the certification by December 1<sup>st</sup>, their child will not be able to participate in games or practices until the certification is completed. The uncertified player's Association/Community club will be responsible to notify the family of the player's ineligibility to participate in practices and games without proof of certification, and this ineligible player's name shall be released from the team roster in the HCR until proof of certification appears on the player's profile in the HCR. 8.25.20
- ii. Following the December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, a head coach who allows a player who is uncertified in Respect in Sport for Parent participate in games and practices shall be considered as having used an ineligible player. 8.25.20

Definitions:

Coach or Assistant Coach – a person who is both on the bench during games and is on the ice during practice. 6.2.18

Trainer – A person who is on the bench during the games to attend to any injuries. This person is on the bench or in the rink during practices as well but does not go on the ice to assist with practices. 6.2.18

Manager – A person who assists with booking ice time, submitting tournament applications, making travel plans, coordinates team budgets and acts as a liaison between the coaches and parents. This person is permitted to be on the bench during games but does not go on the ice to assist with practices. 6.2.18

On-ice volunteer – A person who is on the ice during practice to help set up stations and aid in efficient delivery of practice. This person may help move coaching tools, pucks, or players between stations and drills throughout the practice. On-ice volunteers are permitted in the U7 and U9 divisions. In U11, U13, U15 and U18 divisions; on-ice volunteers are only permitted if the team already has a Head Coach and two Assistant Coaches on their roster. On ice volunteers are not permitted to be on the bench during games. 6.2.18

## **SECTION 5 – MEMBER DISCIPLINE**

- 5.0 a. Any violation of the NBMHC Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations or decisions of the Executive Committee by any member of the NBMHC shall render such member liable to suspension by a 2/3rds vote of the NBMHC Executive Committee. 6.13.04
- b. Any player suspended in Minor or Minor Female Hockey at the end of a season must serve his/her remaining suspension at the start of the next regular season scheduled games. At the discretion of the HNB District Director, EDZA Chair or designate, the player may be permitted to participate in training camps and exhibition games that are part of the tryout process. Once the team is picked the

player will not be permitted to play further pre-season exhibition games until his/her suspension has been served. 6.4.16

- 5.1 In the event of a violation or non-compliance with a HC, HNB, NBMHC constitution and operating procedures of leagues, associations, clubs and/or teams will be restricted to play within the geographical boundaries of their respective Districts. In addition, they will forfeit their privilege to participate in all Zone tournaments and provincial championship play as sanctioned by the NBMHC. 8.25.20
- 5.2 Responsibility for issuing suspension as per Minimum Standards of Discipline: 6.4.16
- Development league/playoff games League President
  - Competitive league/tournament/exhibition games HNB Suspensions Coordinator, NBMHC District Director, or designate
  - Conduct/Code of Ethics NBMHC Chair/HNB President
- 5.3 A Suspension Report shall be posted on the HCR 6.2.12
- 5.4 All Game incident reports and game sheets must be forwarded to the coordinator of Suspensions at the following email: [suspensions@hnb.ca](mailto:suspensions@hnb.ca) not later than 48 hours after the incident. 6.8.24

## SECTION 6 – PROTESTS, HEARINGS, APPEALS

- 6.0 PROTESTS:  
A verbal protest must be made by the captain of the aggrieved team to the referee at the first reasonable opportunity after the action or decision, complained of, 5 minutes after the close of the period in which such action or decision is made or within 5 minutes after the end of the game and said protest must be noted on the Official Game Report by the referee. 6.13.04
- 6.1 Hearings dealing with Maltreatment will be dealt with through the policies outlined in the Safe Sport Policy Manual. 5.28.22
- 6.2
- a. Members incurring suspensions in excess of the Minimum Standards of Discipline shall be permitted a hearing by the District Director or League President. 6.10.23
  - b. This hearing is to consist of an interview in person or by phone of the member that has been assessed the suspension. 1.26.08
  - c. The member that has been assessed the suspension can defend himself at this time. 1.26.08
  - d. The District Director or League President may choose to consult with the officials, coaching staff or any other member in attendance of the game in which the infraction occurred. 1.26.08

- e. The District Director or League President is to render the suspension within 24 hours following the hearing. 6.10.23
- f. The member may appeal the suspension to HNB. Their appeal must be filed with HNB within 48 hours of receiving the District Director or League President's ruling. 1.26.08
- g. Suspensions issued through the Video Review Policy are not required to have a hearing. 6.07.25

## **SECTION 7 - RISK, CONDUCT AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT**

- 7.0 The responsibility for managing risks related to the game of hockey lies with every person involved in the game. Every member should follow these general guidelines: 9.20.04
- always be conscious of potential risks
  - do not sign any agreements that transfer unnecessary responsibility to yourself or your league or association/club
  - use common sense
  - try to minimize risks, even though all cannot be eliminated
  - practice risk management in such a way as to add to the enjoyment of the game

Good risk, conduct and safety management includes four principles: 6.11.06

- identifying
- measuring
- minimizing and avoiding
- financing

### **7.1 IMPORTANCE OF RISK, CONDUCT AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT**

The primary concern of most administrators is to reduce the frequency and severity of hockey injuries. When an injury occurs, Hockey Canada's insurance program may have to respond. If administrators are successful in managing the risks confronting the association, then injuries, claims and increased premiums can be minimized. 9.20.04

### **7.2 AREAS OF CONCERN 9.16.06**

- . the arena contract: always read the rental agreement carefully and forward to HNB's office for Hockey Canada approval prior to signing
- . the arena: emergency exits, roofing, scoreboard, ventilation
- . the rink: boards, ice, nets, glass.
- . the verbal contract
- . bus contracts
- . equipment
- . billeting
- . child abuse
- . fundraisers 9.10.06

### **7.3 ARENA SAFETY INSPECTION**

Available at Arena Safety Inspection 6.11.06

- 7.4 **ARENA AGREEMENT**  
Available at [Forms](#) 6.11.06

- 7.5 **HNB HARASSMENT AND ABUSE POLICY AND PROCEDURES**  
Available at [Complaint Intake Form](#) 6.11.06

## **SECTION 8 – SPECIAL EVENT SANCTIONING**

- 8.0 a) Hockey Canada adopted an online special event sanctioning program. Teams must submit an online Certificate of Insurance Request via the link provided below. The branch will review all eligible online requests. The insurer will issue the Certificate of insurance for eligible requests. Once approved by insurer, the certificate of insurance will be sent to the branch who will forward it to the CLUB/TEAM/ASSOCIATION. The process can take up to 5 business days. <https://sportscert.bficanada.ca/?BRANCH=HNB> 06.10.23  
b) Only eligible hockey-related events/activities, including dry-land training will be sanctioned as per Hockey Canada guidelines. 8.25.20

## **SECTION 9 – CODE OF ETHICS**

- 9.0 Code of Conduct and Ethics policy is defined in the Safe Sport Policy Manual. 5.28.22

## **SECTION 10 – CONDUCT**

- 10.0 The membership shall adhere to the NBMHC Fair Play Policy. 9.20.04
- 10.1 The NBMHC Minimum Standards for Discipline shall be enforced by the HNB Suspensions Coordinator, District Directors and League Presidents for all discipline under the NBMHA. 6.4.16

## **SECTION 11 – CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- 11.0 A potential conflict of interest is deemed to arise when any elected or appointed member of the NBMHC Executive Committee is involved: 6.10.23
- As a member of or holds any position within an amateur league, club or team. 6.11.06
  - In receiving remuneration of any amount for any position within an amateur hockey league, association/club or team. 9.20.04
- 11.1 When a potential conflict of interest is deemed to have risen, the member involved: 6.11.06
- Shall immediately notify the NBMHC Executive Committee. 9.20.04
  - Shall not participate in discussion and shall absent themselves from the meeting when any item is being discussed by the Executive Committee or any of its Committees which the presiding Chair considers a conflict. 9.20.04
  - Shall not solicit information on any item. 9.20.04

## SECTION 12 - ADMISSION OF A MEMBER

### 12.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Association, Club and League presidents are responsible for ensuring that deadlines and membership procedures outlined in HNB's Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations are fully respected. *6.13.10*
- b. Association Registrars are responsible to maintain all of their association member and team information using Hockey Canada's Hockey Registry System ("HCR"). League Presidents are responsible to forward their membership application to HNB's office. *9.20.04*
- c. Conditional refusal – at all times, HNB and the NBMHC maintain the right to refuse a member's membership and shall make its reasons known. *9.20.04*
- d. Team Roster Forms must be approved by the NBMHC District Director or designate. *6.10.23*
- e. Within the geographical boundaries of their respective district, each District Director has the responsibility of determining clearly the recruiting territory available to each team in order to provide balanced competition. *6.7.14*

### 12.1 RESPONSIBILITY OF PROVING THE ELIGIBILITY OF A MEMBER

- a. Team officials have the responsibility of proving the eligibility of their players. *9.20.04*
- b. Any player proven guilty by his Branch, or HC of falsifying a birth certificate, association application form or forging and playing under an assumed name, or of having had knowledge that same had been falsified, or of playing on other than his own birth certificate, shall be automatically suspended from playing hockey with any team affiliated with the HC for a period of up to three years from the date of his suspension. *9.20.04*
- c. Any team official, executive member of a team, club or association, proven guilty after a proper hearing by his Branch or HC of having been party to, or having had knowledge of the playing of an ineligible player, shall be suspended for a period of not less than 3 years from playing or holding office with any team, club or association affiliated with HC. *6.11.06*
- d. An ineligible player may also be defined as any player deemed suspended, not properly rostered or affiliated with his team or not having met the requirement of the NBMHC Operations Manual and shall be immediately suspended until dealt with by the District Director/Executive Committee/Minor Council. *6.10.23*
- e. If a team participates with a player deemed ineligible, all games played with the ineligible player shall be declared a forfeit and the team shall be denied any participation in provincial playoffs during the current season. *1.26.08*
- f. Any games played with an ineligible Team Official will be declared a forfeit. An ineligible Team Official is defined as an individual that was released from the team roster on or after December 15<sup>th</sup> for not having the certification requirements. *6.8.24*

### 12.2 DISTRIBUTION OF FORMS

HNB's Coordinator of Membership Services is responsible for the distribution and collection of membership application forms. *6.2.12*

### 12.3 MEMBERSHIP DEADLINES *6.13.10*

- |    |                                  |                                                                                                               |
|----|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| a. | 7 days prior to AGM              | Association / Club (in order to vote at the AGM)                                                              |
| b. | 7 days prior to AGM              | League (in order to vote at AGM)                                                                              |
| c. | 7 days following start of season | Players pre-registered in the HCR and payments must be submitted to HNB's office                              |
| d. | October 15                       | League membership deadline                                                                                    |
| e. | November 1                       | U9 games shall commence                                                                                       |
| f. | November 30                      | HCR membership complete and payment submitted to HNB office                                                   |
| g. | November 30                      | Provincial team roster forms submitted to District Director                                                   |
| h. | December 1                       | Deadline for Parent Respect in Sport certification                                                            |
| i. | December 15                      | Certification deadline                                                                                        |
| j. | January 10                       | Last day to roster a development or competitive player                                                        |
| k. | January 10                       | Deadline to add bench staff and rosters are to be approved by District Director or designate. <i>06.10.23</i> |
| l. | January 15                       | Competitive playoff schedule submitted to respective District Director and HNB office                         |
| m. | January 15                       | Last day to sign a Special Affiliate Player in HCR                                                            |
| n. | 7 days prior to Semi-Annual      | Submission deadline to host Provincial Championships to District Director and HNB Office. <i>06.10.23</i>     |
| o. | February 10                      | Last day to register a recreational player.                                                                   |
| p. | February 15                      | Final date to submit outstanding payments for season                                                          |

## SECTION 13 - ASSOCIATIONS / CLUBS

- 13.0 Associations and clubs shall enforce the Hockey Canada Co-ed Dressing Room Policy. *6.13.10*
- 13.1 Required Membership Information *9.20.04*
- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| a. | Elite Hockey Commission Application for membership duly signed by the President, Secretary of the association and the EH Commission Chair. <i>6.13.10</i>                                                                                          |
| b. | Association/Club Application for Membership, duly signed by President, Secretary and respective District Director. Female Association/Club applications for membership duly signed by President, Secretary and Female Commissioner. <i>5.27.21</i> |
| c. | Annual membership fee <i>9.20.04</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| d. | Current constitution, by-laws and regulations <i>9.20.04</i>                                                                                                                                                                                       |
- 13.2 Associations and clubs must submit the above information 7 days prior to HNB's annual general meeting held in June. *1.24.09*
- 13.3 Associations and clubs which fail to register by this deadline must submit their application information to the NBMHC's September meeting for consideration. *9.20.04*

- 13.4 Associations/clubs are mandated to use the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) for all memberships. *6.13.10*
- 13.5 For membership purposes, the following shall apply:
- a. District Association *6.2.12*      ♦ U21 *6.4.16*
  - b. Community Club *6.13.10*      ♦ U18 AA, A, B, C *6.13.10*  
                                          ♦ U15 AA, A, B, C *6.13.10*  
                                          ♦ U13 AA, A, B, C *6.13.10*  
                                          ♦ U11 AA, A, B, C *6.13.10*  
                                          ♦ U9 Program *6.13.10*  
                                          ♦ U7 Program *6.13.04*  
                                          ♦ Female AA, A, B *6.8.24*
- 13.6 All minor associations/clubs and leagues must have a general meeting before the HNB Annual General Meeting. *6.10.23*
- 13.7 Female Associations shall have governance and authority to provide female teams. HNB shall support the formation of Female Associations. In districts that do not have a female association, associations/clubs must facilitate the registration of female players that wish to play on all female teams. Associations/Clubs must provide a female team where the numbers are warranted. *5.27.21*
- 13.8 ROC Female Hockey representatives will be responsible for approval Female teams into the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR). *6.8.24*

## SECTION 14 – LEAGUES

- 14.0 REQUIRED MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION *6.11.06*
- a. League Application for Membership, duly signed by President and Secretary
  - b. Annual membership fee
  - c. Current constitution, by-laws and regulations
- 14.1 October 15 is the deadline to register a league for the current season. *9.20.04*
- 14.2 The NBMHC Executive Committee only shall approve all-star games within a single league structure. *6.13.04*
- 14.3
- a) Any team failing to complete their obligations or present themselves for a scheduled game in their league shall not be allowed to participate in Zone tournaments and provincial championships.
  - b) Any team whose association intends on applying to host a zone tournament or provincial championship must submit a copy of their league classification to their respective district director and association president no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> *8.25.20*

## SECTION 15 – TEAMS

- 15.0 Team official(s) includes all or any of the persons involved in the management and operation of the team, which includes the coach, assistant coach, manager, safety person; or any other duly registered team personnel. It does not include the club or association president. 6.15.08
- 15.1 Team officials shall be held responsible for the conduct of their players before, during and immediately following a game. 6.13.04
- 15.2 A competitive team shall be composed of a minimum of 12 players, excluding affiliate/associate players, 1 of whom must be a full-time goaltender, except U13 and below. A 'C' and a female AA, A or B team shall be composed of a minimum of 8 rostered players, excluding affiliate/associate players, 1 of whom must be a full-time goaltender, except U13 and below. 6.8.24
- 15.3 Clubs shall register with their District Director their provincial team rosters, no later than midnight November 30 of each year. No team membership shall be accepted after that date without approval of the NBMHC Executive Committee. 6.13.04
- 15.4 Team classification procedure shall be as per the NBMHC Zone and Provincial Championship Regulations. 5.2.15
- 15.5 The following definitions shall apply:
- a. Division: U7, U9, U11, U13, U15, U18, and U21. 6.4.16
  - b. Category: AAA, AA, A, B and C. 6.15.08
  - c. Classification: Development, Competitive, and C. 6.8.13
  - d. Checking hockey includes U15 division and above AAA, AA, A, and B categories. Non-checking hockey includes U11, U13 and 'C' classification. 6.8.13
  - e. For female hockey:  
 Division: U7, U9, U11, U13, U15, U18  
 Category: Female AAA, Female AA, Female A, Female B 6.8.24  
 Classification: Development, Competitive and Female  
 All female hockey is non-checking. 6.2.18
- 15.6 Re-categorization of club teams must be done 7 days prior to Semi Annual by the District Director for ratification by the NBMHC Executive Committee at their semi-annual meeting. It would be the responsibility of each association/club to advise the appropriate District Director of possible changes to consider, prior to the semi-annual meeting. 6.10.23
- 15.7 For the purpose of AA, A, B and C teams shall draw players from within their District following criteria established by the Associations. 6.13.10
- 15.8 Teams can roster a maximum of 20 players. U18 C teams may register 25 players on their roster, but only dress 20 at a time. The remainder of the U18 teams may roster 21 players but only dress 20 at a time. 6.8.24

- 15.9 NBMHC U21 C teams may register 25 players on their roster. For provincial championships and tournaments any 20 of the 25 can play in any game provided they are officially registered. 6.8.24
- 15.10 Goalkeepers
- a. Player Roster Forms upon which goalkeepers are registered shall be clearly marked as goalkeeper, except U13 and below. 6.13.04
  - b. No replacement can be made for an ill or injured player, except the goaltender. (Refer to HNB Regulation 106.g). 6.8.13
  - c. For "C", Female AA, Female A and Female B teams, a replacement for an absent goaltender may come from the same category, in the division or lower division, provided permission is obtained from the District Director and the goaltender's team. For Female, permission may be obtained from the Female Commissioner or Female Representative to Minor Council 6.8.24
- 15.11 HNB U7 Program/U9 Program  
In all cases, NO ALL-STAR and NO ELITE TEAMS – NO EXCEPTIONS 9.20.04
- a. HNB U7 Program/U9 Program shall be implemented. This program is based on a child who starts hockey at 4 years old and spends 5 years in hockey before entering U11, shall be implemented by all clubs as follows: 6.2.12
  - b. Year 1 4 & 5 years old – U7 Program 1 = U7 Skill Manual 6.2.12
  - c. Year 2 6 years old – U7 Program 2 = U7 Skill Manual 6.13.10
  - d. U7 will be restricted to a total of 20 modified games. All individual scheduled events will count toward the 20 game total. 6.13.15  
Years 1 and 2 allowed a maximum of 20 modified games with a start date of the first Friday in December and will apply to any jamboree modified game structure. 6.07.25
    - Fulltime designated Goaltenders will not be permitted in the U7 Program.
    - There needs to be a certified coach for every 10 players or major fraction of (16 players require 2 coaches).
    - Small area modified games are strongly recommended.
    - For the purpose of these guidelines, the definition of modified game versus practice would be any ice session with less than 60% practice time is classified as a modified game.

On a yearly basis, the Minor District Director will review with their Minor Associations the U7 and U9 Guidelines outlined in the Minor Operations manual 6.7.14
  - e. Minor Hockey Associations will have the option to tier teams in the U9 division.  
  
Level 1 – Developmental : The developmental level will be for players who are new to the game or players who need further development on the basic skills of the game (skating, shooting, passing, and puck control).

Level 2 – Intermediate : The intermediate level is for players who possess many of the basic skills, however, can still improve and refine those skills to actively participate in a more competitive environment. This will allow them to continue to develop those skills in an environment that will build confidence and success.

- Associations that will be tiering at the U9 level must allow players 4 skates prior to evaluations and must allow players 3 evaluation sessions. No evaluations shall take place during the first week of school or during the off-season as per the Hockey Canada U9 Player pathway.
- Associations that are tiering will be required to have 50% of their teams in each level. At both levels teams can consist of players who are 7 & 8 years of age. The main goal is to have players playing with other players of like skill to ensure players are having fun every time they are on the ice.
- Seasonal structure:
  - Half ice games permitted as of November 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Teams can transition to full ice games as of January 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Max of 40 games permitted (includes jamborees)

Rules for U9 half-ice and full-ice games are posted on the Hockey New Brunswick website. 6.10.23

- f. Modified games, will be set-up as follows: 8.25.20

U7 games :

Playing Surface – Cross-Ice

- The maximum size of the ice surface is 100 feet by 60 feet (100x60).
- U7 games will be played cross-ice for the entire season.

U9 games :

Playing Surface – Half-Ice

- The maximum size of the ice surface is 100 feet by 85 feet.

One net should be placed on the goal line and the other net placed inside the red line in the same end.

- g. The Criteria for modified games are:

- i. Played on Cross-Ice or Half-ice 6.2.18
- ii. Format modified to encourage fun and fair play. Example of this would be not keeping score, using more than one puck, more than 6 players on per team. 6.13.10
- iii. Use of a light weight puck. 6.13.10
- iv. For U9 Half-ice games, see HNB U9 Playing rules. 6.2.18

## 15.12 HNB U11 Program 6.8.19

Minor Hockey Associations shall implement the following seasonal structure for U11 teams:

**Try-out phase:**

Refers to the time period prior to the season starting -typically when prep camps and / or tryouts are held.

- No try-outs prior to the start of the school year
- No try-outs in off-season (April / May / June / July / August)
- No try-outs during the first week of school
- Try-outs must be a minimum of 3 formal tryouts / evaluation sessions. Recommendation is 1 skill session, 1 small area game session, 1 formal game.

**Development phase:**

Refers to the time period following tryouts or evaluations prior to the start of the regular season starting.

- Must have a minimum of three weeks following team selection and prior to the start of regular season. Focus of the development phase is Skill Development.

**Playoff phase:**

Refers to the time period from the end of the regular season through to the end of the Playoffs.

- Must be tournament style versus elimination rounds.

**Additional requirements :**

- Limit position specific specialization – rotate all players through all positions
- Goalies not playing, are permitted to play out as a skater
- Maximum of 50 games per season, includes all tournament games and exhibition games, but exclude league and provincial playoffs. 6.07.25
- Fair / Equal ice-time

### 15.13 a. U11 Team Classification

**Team Registration Guidelines:**

The following numbers are based upon the association's total registration numbers at the U11.

**AA Teams:**

- 1 AA team for every 60 players (with a +/- 10 player flexibility).
- Maximum of 3 AA teams per association.

**A Teams:**

- For 24-59 players (with a +/- 10 player flexibility).

**General Rules:**

- Associations must have A and AA teams based on the player count.
- Additional teams are optional.
- If associations combine to make an A or AA team, registrations from associations will be used to determine classification.

Special Cases:

1. U11 AA/A/B teams can be formed with neighboring associations, if associations do not meet the minimum registration numbers. Final approval for teams will be made by the local District Director in consultation with the boards of both associations.
2. Associations can request to play at the highest level without meeting player count requirements. Requests are made to local District Director.
3. More than one team in the same division is allowed, but teams must be balanced. (This supersedes league rules)
4. If no U11 AA team exists in their district, players can transfer to another district.
5. It's recommended that no more than 50% of teams in an association are at the recreational level exceptions are to be approved by the local District Director 6.07.25
- b. Players will be permitted to transfer to a neighbouring association if their home association doesn't offer U11AA. If the player is unsuccessful in making the U11AA team they return to the home association, if the home association offers a competitive level program. 6.07.25

15.14 Membership of a Member from Outside the New Brunswick Branch

- a. Any team operating under the jurisdiction of a Branch other than New Brunswick and wishing to play in New Brunswick must present a written request to their original Branch or the one under which they operate. Upon receipt of written approval from such Branch, they will then forward same for approval from HNB and the League where they intend to play. 6.2.12
- b. Any player, whether from another Hockey Canada branch, or from another country (regardless of whether or not that country has ice hockey), who is residing in NB and wishes to play hockey on an HNB registered team must acquire a written release from his former team and branch/federation and must apply to the HNB membership services person for an official transfer. A player may not participate in any program within HNB until their complete transfer is approved at the branch level. Border and commuter players must also have an approved transfer from their home federation to Hockey Canada. This rule applies even if their home association does not offer ice hockey in their respective division. The permission of a border or commuter player is granted on a seasonal basis and must be renewed each season prior to their participation in any HNB program. 6.4.16
- d. Any out of country player wishing to play in N.B. must provide the HNB membership services person a copy of proof of valid health insurance. 6.4.16

- 15.15 a. Travel teams may be permitted by the Female Commission on a case by case basis where circumstances warrant. Considerations may include but are not limited to location/geography of the players, travel distances and ice restrictions. Teams should expect to operate under restrictions deemed appropriate by the Female Commission, such as limited number of games or tournaments. 6.8.24

- b. Teams may be granted permission to attend provincials provided a predetermined number of games versus other female teams in the province have been played. 6.10.23
- c. The Deadline for travel team requests is December 15<sup>th</sup>. 6.8.24

## SECTION 16 - GAME PRE-REQUISITES

- 16.0 A minimum of 6 eligible players in uniform on each team shall be necessary to start a game [HC Playing Rule 2.2.a]. 9.20.04
- 16.1 Each team may dress a maximum of 20 players for a game, divided as follows: 18 players and 1 or 2 goalkeepers. 6.8.24
- 16.2 All associations/clubs will ensure that teams practice at least once for every game and encourage their teams to have a higher practice-to-game ratio where feasible. 9.20.04
- 16.3 On-Ice Officials
  - a. All on-ice officials must be registered with HNB through the NBHOC and must wear the NBHOA crest on his sweater (black and white striped) and may wear a HC crest on the left sleeve. Only these 2 such crests shall be worn. 9.20.04
  - b. The wearing of the black and white sweater is mandatory for all on-ice officials. 9.20.04
  - c. No coach or player may officiate as a Referee or a Linesman in the division of the league where he coaches or plays except as provided in HC Playing Rule 5.2. 9.20.04
- 16.4 The person acting as coach shall sign the Official Game Report before the commencement of the game and shall be deemed the responsible official in charge of the team before; during and after the time it is in the arena for the purpose of playing hockey games. It is understood that this person must be a registered coach, manager or an executive of the hockey team involved and will be held responsible for the conduct of his players immediately before, during and after all games. 6.11.06
- 16.5 Injured players adhering to 17.8, players in uniform and a maximum of 5 bench personnel on a provincial roster form shall be allowed in the player's bench. The Referee is authorized to remove all others. 6.4.16

## SECTION 17 – PLAYERS

- 17.0 The minimum age of player membership is 4 years old in the current playing season as defined by Hockey Canada. 6.2.12
- 17.1 All players must be on an HCR team roster prior to playing in a league game. All U7 and U9 Program players must be on an HCR team roster or an HCR team list. All player rosters must be entered into the HCR no later than November 15<sup>th</sup> of the current season. 5.27.21

- 17.2
- a. Players may not roster with more than one team at a time during the current season, this includes teams registered with SSNB. *06.10.23*
  - b. Any player participating in a league/team event, and not properly registered with HNB, is subject to suspension. Any team using an ineligible player is subject to suspension. *9.12.06*
  - c. Female players may dual register with a Minor co-ed and female team only if approval is provided by the ROC Female Hockey and the Minor Female Representatives. Females choosing to dual register will declare to both associations and coaches upon registration which team will be her primary team. (Female AAA and SSNB players are not eligible to Dual register). *6.8.24*
  - d. Dual registered female players are not permitted to affiliate under section 19. *8.25.20*
- 17.3 The movement of players from their age-appropriate division will only be permitted with the approval of the District Director. *6.8.24*

**For upward player movement to competitive division:** *6.8.24*

Registered non-AAA co-ed teams shall adhere to the following criteria with respect to the use of underage players in any division of minor hockey: *6.8.24*

- a. The upward player movement shall be available for second year players beginning in U9 including exceptional players with the movement to C or above with approval of District Director. Players in their second year of a division are eligible to be evaluated for player movement. It shall be at the discretion of the Minor Hockey Association and District Director to move players from U9 to U11 (competitive or recreational divisions). For player movement from U11 to U13, U13 to U15 and U15 to U18, players must rank in the top third of the highest category team in the next division or club. *6.8.24*  
For player movement related to AAA, please refer to the EHC Exceptional Player Status Guidelines. *6.10.23*
- b. Overall hockey ability. *6.13.04*
- c. Physical development. *6.13.04*
- d. Social development. *6.13.04*
- e. The Selection Committee must be independent of the coaching staff of the team and must be made up of a representative of both the NBMHC and NBEHC, or their representatives. *6.13.04*
- f. All players (aged and under-aged) must be evaluated objectively and ranked by the Selection Committee. *6.13.04*
- g. The District Director from whose area the under-aged player is coming, must approve the selection and file same immediately with the Executive Director. *6.13.04*
- h. The use of the player must remain consistent with this ranking during the playing season or his status may be revisited by the District Director responsible for his league. *6.13.04*
- i. To balance program requirements of the association/club. *6.13.04*

- j. A fee of \$250.00, payable to the Hockey New Brunswick District. 6.2.18
- k. All requests for upward player movement must be received one week prior to the Association try-outs starting, or at the discretion of the District Director 6.8.24

17.4 a. **For upward player movement to recreational division:** 6.8.24

Players must roster within their appropriate age division unless permission is granted by their District Director for a second year 'C' player to move up one division within the 'C' level. The District Director shall use the "Risk, Safety and Conduct Management" criteria for determining such movement. 6.8.24

b. **For downward player movement (female players playing co-ed):** 6.8.24

At the discretion of the district director, female co-ed players may be permitted to play down one division and play at the co-ed "C" level. Each request is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and the District Director shall use the following criteria for determining such movement: a. Risk and safety management. b. Medical. c. Compassion d. Development of the player. 6.8.24

First year Female players may play down one division in a co-ed competitive division if they reside in a district that does not have a female competitive team. 6.8.24

c. **For downward player movement (Male Players):** 6.8.24

At the discretion of the District Director, male players may be permitted to play down one division and play at the co-ed "C" level. Each request is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and the District Director shall use the following criteria for determining such movement: a. Risk and safety management. b. Medical. c. Compassion d. Development of the player. 6.8.24

The player must be evaluated to be in the bottom 50% of players on the lower category team that the player is to be rostered to. Once the overage player is approved on the roster they are permitted to participate in provincial playoffs..6.8.24

- 17.5 For Female players whose home club does not offer an all-female team, they are permitted to go to a neighboring club offering an all-female team within a district. If no all-female teams are offered in the district, the player would be allowed to go to the closest neighboring District to their residence. 6.10.23
- 17.6 The movement of female players from their age-appropriate female division will only be permitted with the approval of the Female Minor Council Representative. 6.8.24

**For downward player movement:** 6.8.24

At the discretion of the Female Minor Council representative, female players may be permitted to play down one division and play at the Female A level. Each request is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and the Female Minor Council representative shall use the following criteria for determining such movement: a. Risk and safety management. b. Medical. c. Compassion d. Development of the player. 6.8.24

**For upward player movement to competitive division:** 6.8.24

Registered non-AAA female teams shall adhere to the following criteria with respect to the use of underage players in any division of minor hockey: 6.8.24

- a. The upward player movement shall be available for second year players beginning in U9 including exceptional players with the movement to Competitive A or above with approval of Female Minor Council Representative. Players in their second year of a division are eligible to be evaluated for player movement to the highest category team in the next division of that Association or club. For player movement related to AAA, please refer to the EHC Exceptional Player Status Guidelines. 6.8.24
- b. Overall hockey ability. 6.8.24
- c. Physical development. 6.8.24
- d. Social development. 6.8.24
- e. Players must rank in the top third of their position of the upper level team (skill level). In the U11 division only, players must rank in the top third of all skaters. Goaltenders must rank as the top goalie in the evaluation. 6.8.24
- f. The Selection Committee must be independent of the coaching staff of the team and must be made up of a representative of both the NBFC and NBEHC, or their representatives. 6.8.24

- g. All players (aged and under-aged) must be evaluated objectively and ranked by the Selection Committee. 6.8.24
- h. The District Director from whose area the under-aged player is coming, must approve the selection and file same immediately with the Executive Director. 6.8.24
- i. The use of the player must remain consistent with this ranking during the playing season or the player's status may be revisited by the Female Minor Council representative. 6.8.24
- j. To balance program requirements of the association/club. 6.8.24
- k. A fee of \$250.00, payable to the Hockey New Brunswick District. 6.8.24
- l. All requests for upward player movement must be received one week prior to the Association try-outs starting, or at the discretion of the ROC Female Hockey Representative. 6.8.24

**For upward player movement to recreational division:** 6.8.24

Players must roster within their appropriate age division unless permission is granted by the Female Minor Council representative for a second year Female A player to move up one division within the Female A level. The Female Minor Council representative shall use the "Risk, Safety and Conduct Management" criteria for determining such movement. 6.8.24

- 17.7 For the purpose of the NBMHC "Usual Residence" is as defined by HC Regulations C-1 through 5. 6.8.18
- 17.8 For injured players, refer to Hockey Canada rule book, Section 1.9 (c). 6.2.18
- 17.9 Starting in U11, players whose home club does not offer competitive hockey within a division of play or all female team, those players wishing to play competitive hockey or on an all-female team are permitted to go to a neighbouring club offering competitive hockey or an all-female team within a District. If no competitive program is offered in the District, the player would be allowed to go to the closest neighbouring District to their residence. Players not making a competitive team must go back to their home club to play "C" hockey. These players have affiliation privileges to the competitive/development team as long as they tried out. The same shall apply to clubs that offer competitive hockey only and have players wishing to play "C" hockey. A player cannot use this regulation to play in a different category (i.e. AA, A and B). 6.10.23

## **SECTION 18 – PLAYER RELEASE**

- 18.0 **Release Procedure**
  - a. A player rostered for the current season and released before midnight on January 10 of the current season may roster with a C team prior to midnight of February 10 of the current season provided the new team has an opening. A competitive player

must be signed to a team prior to midnight January 10<sup>th</sup>. Such release must be signed and dated by the Association or League President of the team which is issuing the release. 9.4.16

- b. Minor players are automatically released from their current team at the conclusion of each hockey season. Releases are valid until the end of the current season or June 1<sup>st</sup>, whichever comes first. At such time, a released player returns to his Minor Hockey Association, as per Hockey Canada regulation 'G'. 6.2.18

#### 18.1 a. **Conditions to Obtain a Release**

A player may obtain his release by requesting it in writing from the Association/ Club President. The release is given by the President and his designate that holds office at the time of the request. 6.8.13

- b. A release is valid only when signed by the President or his designate of the association/club to which the player belonged and conditions approved by the Elite Hockey President or District Director. 6.8.13
- c. A player that obtains a release from a Minor Club without a change in residence with a parent or guardian is only eligible to request membership to the next neighbouring minor club who can accommodate the membership. 6.7.14
- d. District Directors will have the authority to approve player releases to a neighbouring association based on geography or compassion. 6.10.23

#### 18.2 **Final Date for Release**

Players released from HC teams after January 10 shall be ineligible to play with any other team in the current season. 9.20.04

- 18.3 a. Should a rostered player be released from his association team before midnight of January 10<sup>th</sup>, and subsequently register with a lower category club team, the player registration must be approved by the District Director or EDZA President. The club does not have to issue further membership or insurance fees as this player has only been released from a higher category team to a lower category team. 6.2.12
- b. Failure to notify HNB of this change in membership will deem the player ineligible for all further play and Hockey Canada's insurance program shall not be in effect until notice has been received by HNB's office. 9.20.04

#### 18.4 **Releasing a Suspended Player**

A suspended player, at the discretion of the Branch and HC, may be authorized to be released provided it is arranged with the Branch(s) that the player will serve his suspension with the new club, team, association, Branch. 9.20.04

- 18.5 It shall be the responsibility of the NBMHC District Director or EDZA President to release a U18 aged player for the purpose of registering in the NB Junior League. The respective Director shall inform the Executive Director and NBMHC Chair within 48 hours of his decision and the rationale for such. 6.2.12

## **SECTION 19 – AFFILIATION**

- 19.0 a. Affiliation privileges shall be applicable for all divisions of U9 and above. 6.10.23
- 19.1 Teams may choose 1 of 2 affiliation systems: 6.11.06
  - a. team to team affiliation

- b. special affiliation with 19 players at large

## 19.2 **Deadline**

January 15 – All development, Minor Junior, and competitive teams applying for team to team affiliation and/or affiliating 19 special affiliate players, must be identified in the HCR prior to the player being used in a game, no later than January 15. 6.7.14

- 19.3 a. Players shall be permitted to affiliate with only 1 team, except a player 16 years of age or older may be selected as an affiliate with two of the following in the same season: a) A Major Junior team, b) a Junior A team, c) a Junior B team and d) a Junior C team. 11.10.18
- b. Goalies can affiliate with an unlimited number of teams. 5.28.22
- 19.4 a. First year players in a division may affiliate to a higher category within their division. Second year players in a division may affiliate to a higher category within their division or to the next division. 6.11.06
- b. In the U15 and U18 divisions, players may affiliate to a higher category within their division, or a higher division. 6.11.06
- c. Female players registered in Female Associations who are first year or second year players in a division may also affiliate to a higher female category within their division or to the next female division. Female players rostered to Minor teams are not eligible to affiliate to female association teams. Female Association players are not eligible to affiliate to Co-ed Association teams. Exceptions may be granted from the female representative to minor council and the district director. 6.07.25
- d. The NBMHC shall not allow rostered development players to play as affiliate players for competitive level teams. Rostered competitive AA, A, B level players may not play as affiliates for 'C' level teams. 6.8.13
- e. Players may affiliate to a higher division or category (i.e. B to A, A to AA) provided the teams are not playing in the same league schedule. 6.15.08
- f. Players can only affiliate within the association that they're rostered to. Should the community club not offer a competitive team in that division, the player may affiliate to a competitive team in a neighboring community club. 6.07.25
- g. Goalies can affiliate laterally to a team in the same classification that they are rostered. Example: U18 C goalie can affiliate to another U18 C team. 5.28.22
- 19.5 All affiliate players, excluding approved lower category rostered affiliates for U18 Major AAA, U18 AAA, and U15 AAA teams must be an active player for the team on which they are rostered. Active is defined as participation in one league game, with the team on which the player is rostered. 6.2.12
- 19.6 Minor players affiliating to a higher division or category (including Junior) team must have their Association/Club President's, EDZA Chair, or designate and coach's written approval. If an affiliated player is needed, the Association/Club President's, EDZA Chair, or designate of the affiliate player's team must give his consent before asking the affiliated player to participate in a game or practice. 6.10.23

- 19.7 Approval of Special Affiliate Players *6.2.18*
- Higher level or category team coach send an email to the parent of the lower level or category team player asking the permission to affiliate the player
  - The parent accepts by answering the email. The higher level or category team coach then forward the email to the lower level or category team coach asking for his approval
  - The lower category coach approves by answering the email. The higher level or category team coach then forwards the email to the Community Club or EDZA President for the final approval of the affiliation
  - The Community Club or EDZA President approves the affiliation by answering to the higher level or category coach and enters the affiliation into the HCR (Hockey Canada Registry)
  - HNB Minor Council District Director approves the affiliation in the HCR (Hockey Canada Registry)
- 19.8 Number of Games
- A player of a team of a lower Division or category of the same club, or of an affiliated team, or a specially affiliated player, may affiliate to a team or teams of higher Divisions and categories at any time, to a maximum of fifteen (15) games. However, if the player's registered team completes its regular season and playoffs before the player's affiliated team or teams, the player may thereafter affiliate an unlimited number of times. For goaltender exceptions see HNB Regulation 106g. For affiliated goaltenders, specifically in call-up situations, teams and off-ice officials must ensure that during games, it is clearly identified on the game scoresheet that the affiliated goaltender did play (was inserted in the game at some point). *6.8.24*
  - Exhibition and/or tournament games, which are not part of regular league games or playoff games, are not counted in the number of games in which an affiliate player participates. *6.11.06*
  - A suspended player, whose team has been eliminated from further competition for the year, may serve his suspension with his higher category affiliate team provided he has played a minimum of 1 game as an affiliate. A player who receives a suspension with his higher category affiliate team, and that team is subsequently eliminated from further competition for the year before the full suspension has been served, may complete his suspension with his own lower category team. If a player is suspended with his higher category affiliate team, the player must serve the suspension with the higher category affiliate team. If a game counts toward the serving of a suspension, then it in effect counts as a game played. *6.8.13*

## SECTION 20 - FORFEITURE POLICY

- 20.0 A game is forfeited when: *9.20.04*
- A team does not appear for that game. *9.20.04*  
When a game is declared forfeited due to the non-appearance of the team (HC Rule 10.14.d), the team in attendance shall be declared the winner and the score recorded as 5-0. The incident shall be reported to the league/association/club president to take any further actions as may be authorized in their constitution. *9.20.04*

- b. A team refuses to start play (HC Rule 10.14) 9.20.04  
When a game is declared forfeit in accordance with HC Rule 10.14.c, the non-offending team shall be declared the winner and the score shall be recorded as per the Official Game Report if the non-offending team was in the lead at the time of the infraction or as 5-0 if the non-offending team was not in the lead. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned to the time the forfeit was declared. The incident shall be reported to the league/ association/club president to take any further actions as may be authorized in their constitution. 06.10.23
- c. When a team is unable to place the exact number of players on the ice to which they are entitled whether due to penalties or injuries, the Referee shall suspend the game and report this incident to the President. (HC Rule 2.5d) 6.13.15  
The non-offending team shall be declared the winner and the score shall be recorded as per the Official Game Report if the non-offending team was in the lead at the time of the infraction or as 5-0 if the non-offending team was not in the lead. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned up to the time the forfeit was declared. The incident shall be reported to the league/association/club president. 9.20.04
- d. Both teams are unwilling or unable to continue the game. 9.20.04  
When a game is declared forfeited due to both teams being unwilling or unable (insufficient players) to continue the game, the score shall be recorded as 0-0 with no points awarded either team. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned up to the time the forfeit was declared. The incident shall be reported to the league/association/club president. 9.20.04
- e. A team played a game with 1 or more ineligible players or Team Official. 6.8.24  
When a game is declared forfeited due to a team playing with 1 or more ineligible players / Team Official, the non-offending team shall be declared the winner and score shall be recorded as per the Official Game Report if the non-offending team was in the lead at the time of the infraction or as 5-0 if the non-offending team was not in the lead. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned up to the time the forfeit was declared. Should the game in question be part of a tournament, the offending team shall automatically be relegated to the final position in the tournament standings. The use of an ineligible player / Team Official shall be reported to the Branch Executive Director. 6.8.24

20.1 In games played under the direct jurisdiction of the Branch (i.e. Branch playoffs) all reports will go to the Branch Executive Director. 9.20.04

20.2 In games played under the direct jurisdiction of Hockey Canada (i.e. Regional or National playoffs), all reports will go to the appointed Hockey Canada Representative. 6.2.12

## **SECTION 21 – TRAVEL PERMITS / EXHIBITION GAMES**

- 21.0 a. Teams travelling within Canada for the purpose of participating in an out-of-province sanctioned tournament or exhibition game must receive a HNB Travel Permit from the NBMHC District Director. Teams from U11 to U18 travelling outside of Canada must apply through their NBMHC District Director to the HNB

Membership Services Person for a Travel Permit. Travel permit requests to the USA, other than Houlton and Presque Isle, Maine should be filed not less than 4 weeks and request to Europe should be filed not less than 6 months prior to the event. 6.13.15

- b. All out of province and out of Country travel permit requests must be accompanied by an approved team roster of the opposing team. Also, a copy of the completed USA or International Hockey Tournament Registration Form must accompany all USA or International travel permit applications. 6.13.15

- 21.1 No team shall be permitted to play exhibition or inter-branch games against a team which is not a member of Hockey Canada or its Branches. Violation of this rule may result in the suspension of the team's officials and/or players involved. 6.15.08

## SECTION 22 – TOURNAMENTS

- 22.0 a. A Tournament is a schedule of games played among three or more teams, which follows an inter-locking schedule and leads to an eventual winner. 6.10.07
- b. A jamboree is defined as a sanctioned event that does not inter-lock schedules and does not lead to a winner. 6.10.07

- 22.1 All tournaments/jamboree must be submitted on the prescribed form by September 1. Those not sanctioned at that time can only be sanctioned upon receipt of the NBMHC membership so long as the tournament/jamboree does not conflict with one previously sanctioned. This application must be accompanied by the appropriate fee as per HNB's Fiscal Policy. The NBMHC will send to all associations/clubs a list of registered tournaments/jamborees before September 30 of each season. 6.07.25

- 22.2 Team registration to all tournaments must include an HCR team roster, including affiliates. Approved HCR team rosters are not required for tournaments prior to the February 10<sup>th</sup> "C" player addition deadline. Teams should request their roster from their Association registrar. 6.8.19

- 22.3 TOURNAMENTS INVOLVING 4 OR MORE BRANCHES – Refer to HC Regulations, Section M. 6.13.04

- 22.4 All international tournaments or international games and tours overseas must be approved each year at the HC's Annual General Meeting. 6.13.04

- 22.5 All invitational tournaments and tours must be approved by the Executive Committee. 6.13.04

- 22.6 Associations/Clubs are to be notified by September 30 if their tournament or jamboree application has been accepted or refused. 6.10.07

- 22.7 a. No sanctioned tournament or jamboree shall accept entries from any team that is not a registered member in good standing. 6.10.07

- b. No minor tournament or jamboree will be sanctioned for commencement during Zone Playoffs, or provincial championship weekend. *6.07.25*
  - c. No minor tournament or jamboree will be sanctioned in a Minor District if it is in conflict with a previously sanctioned tournament or jamboree. *9.20.04*
- 22.8 The NBMHC Zone tournaments and Provincial Championship Regulations tie-breaker will be the official tie-breaking system for all tournaments sanctioned by the NBMHC. *6.10.07*
- 22.9 U7 Program and U9 players are only permitted to participate in Jamborees, a maximum of 5 jamborees will be permitted providing the number of games played does not exceed 40. *6.10.23*
- 22.10 An over-age hockey player, who plays as an overage on a C or Female A team playing in a registered C or Female A league, be allowed to participate in C or Female A tournaments including provincials within the province. *6.2.18*
- 22.11 So long as the league commitments are met, teams in U11 and above must obtain permission from their District Director to participate in more than five (5) tournaments. Not including League, Zone, or Provincial Tournaments. *6.4.16*

## **SECTION 23 – ZONE AND PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS**

- 23.0 The membership must adhere to the NBMHC Zone and Provincial Championship Regulations. Female teams must adhere to the NBMHC Female Provincial Championships Regulations. *6.2.18*

## **SECTION 24 – MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR DISCIPLINE**

- 24.0 The membership must adhere to the NBMHC Minimum Standards for Discipline. *6.11.06*

## **SECTION 25 – COMMUNITY HOCKEY GUIDELINES**

- 25.0 Community hockey programs shall be administered as per the NBMHC Community Hockey Guidelines. *6.14.09*

## **SECTION 26 - EQUIPMENT**

- 26.0 At all times during a game, warm-up or practice, all players including goalkeepers must wear the following protective equipment: A CSA approved hockey helmet, CSA approved full face mask and a BNQ Throat Protector must be worn by all players and goalkeepers. All goalkeepers must wear a throat protector that is attached to the face mask. *9.20.04*
- 26.1 It is mandatory that all NBMHC coaches and on ice personnel wear a CSA approved helmet (properly fastened) while on the ice during practice. *06.10.23*

- 26.2 In a game where a team appears on the ice not properly equipped, the Referee shall not start the game. He will allow 15 minutes for correction of the deficiency and if the team cannot equip itself properly, then the game will be forfeited. If both teams are not properly equipped, the game is to be cancelled and not re-scheduled until complete assurance is given that both teams will be properly equipped. Referee(s) is/are to make detailed report on ill-equipped team(s) and the persons responsible will be dealt with by the Executive Committee. *6.13.04*
- 26.3 It is not permitted for cameras, or camera holders to be secured to a player's helmet for any HNB Minor Hockey sanctioned game. *6.2.18*

## **SECTION 27 - SPECIAL PLAYING RULES**

- 27.0 Checking shall be allowed in U15 and above divisions for those teams that play development (AAA) or competitive (AA, A or B) level of hockey except female hockey. In any games involving an all-female hockey team, no body checking is permitted. *6.8.13*
- 27.1 That on the approval of NBMHC District Directors, male minor hockey teams may be authorized to play against all-female minor teams of the same division or one lower division than the female team, in accordance to HNB rules and regulations. NBMHC District Directors may prohibit a female team from playing against a lower division male team if they consider the playing level of the female team is too high for the division category of the male team involved. *6.13.15*
- 27.2 A competitive AA, A, B team cannot play against a 'C' team. *6.8.13*
- 27.3 A Game Ejection will be assessed against a player receiving 4 penalties. The time of the 4<sup>th</sup> penalty to be served by the penalized team. No additional Minor Penalty for a game ejection will be assessed. A Game Ejection penalty assessed shall not make player ineligible for the next game. If at all possible, the player who has just received his 3<sup>rd</sup> minor penalty shall be warned by the referee or the timekeeper. *8.25.22*

## **SECTION 28 – FEMALE APPENDIX** (SECTIONS FROM THE HNB MINOR OPERATIONS MANUAL TAKEN VERBATIM)

## **SECTION 13 - ASSOCIATIONS / CLUBS**

- 13.0 Associations and clubs shall enforce the Hockey Canada Co-ed Dressing Room Policy. *6.13.10*
- 13.7 Female Associations shall have governance and authority to provide female teams. HNB shall support the formation of Female Associations. In districts that do not have a female association, associations/clubs must facilitate the registration of

female players that wish to play on all female teams. Associations/Clubs must provide a female team where the numbers are warranted. 5.27.21

- 13.8 ROC Female Hockey representatives will be responsible for approval Female teams into the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR). 6.8.24

## SECTION 15 - TEAMS

15.5 The following definitions shall apply:

- e. For female hockey:

Division: U7, U9, U11, U13, U15, U18

Category: Female AAA, Female AA, Female A, Female B 6.8.24

Classification: Development, Competitive and Female

All female hockey is non-checking. 6.2.18

### 15.10 Goalkeepers

- c. For "C", Female AA, Female A and Female B teams, a replacement for an absent goaltender may come from the same category, in the division or lower division, provided permission is obtained from the District Director and the goaltender's team. For Female, permission may be obtained from the Female Commissioner or Female Representative to Minor Council 6.8.24

- 15.15 a. Travel teams may be permitted by the Female Commission on a case by case basis where circumstances warrant. Considerations may include but are not limited to location/geography of the players, travel distances and ice restrictions. Teams should expect to operate under restrictions deemed appropriate by the Female Commission, such as limited number of games or tournaments. 6.8.24
- b. Teams may be granted permission to attend provincials provided a predetermined number of games versus other female teams in the province have been played. 6.10.23
- c. Teams may be granted permission to attend provincials provided a predetermined number of games versus other female teams in the province have been played. 6.10.23
- d. The Deadline for travel team requests is December 15<sup>th</sup>. 6.8.24

## SECTION 17 – PLAYERS

### 17.2

- c. Female players may dual register with a Minor co-ed and female team only if approval is provided by the ROC Female Hockey and the Minor Female Representatives. Females choosing to dual register will declare to both associations and coaches upon registration which team will be her primary team. (Female AAA and SSNB players are not eligible to Dual register). 6.8.24
- d. Dual registered female players are not permitted to affiliate under section 19. 8.25.20

17.4

b. **For downward player movement (female players playing co-ed):** 6.8.24

At the discretion of the district director, female co-ed players may be permitted to play down one division and play at the co-ed “C” level. Each request is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and the District Director shall use the following criteria for determining such movement: a. Risk and safety management. b. Medical. c. Compassion d. Development of the player. 6.8.24

First year Female players may play down one division in a co-ed competitive division if they reside in a district that does not have a female competitive team. 6.8.24

17.5

For Female players whose home club does not offer an all-female team, they are permitted to go to a neighboring club offering an all-female team within a district. If no all-female teams are offered in the district, the player would be allowed to go to the closest neighboring District to their residence. 6.10.23

17.6

The movement of female players from their age-appropriate female division will only be permitted with the approval of the Female Minor Council Representative. 6.8.24

**For downward player movement:** 6.8.24

At the discretion of the Female Minor Council representative, female players may be permitted to play down one division and play at the Female A level. Each request is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and the Female Minor Council representative shall use the following criteria for determining such movement: a. Risk and safety management. b. Medical. c. Compassion d. Development of the player. 6.8.24

**For upward player movement to competitive division:** 6.8.24

Registered non-AAA female teams shall adhere to the following criteria with respect to the use of underage players in any division of minor hockey: 6.8.24

a. The upward player movement shall be available for second year players beginning in U9 including exceptional players with the movement to Competitive A or above with approval of Female Minor Council Representative. Players in their second year of a division are eligible to be evaluated for player movement to the highest category team in the next division of that Association or club. For player movement related to AAA, please refer to the EHC Exceptional Player Status Guidelines. 6.8.24

b. Overall hockey ability. 6.8.24

c. Physical development. 6.8.24

d. Social development. 6.8.24

- e. Players must rank in the top third of their position of the upper level team (skill level). In the U11 division only, players must rank in the top third of all skaters. Goaltenders must rank as the top goalie in the evaluation. 6.8.24
- f. The Selection Committee must be independent of the coaching staff of the team and must be made up of a representative of both the NBFC and NBEHC, or their representatives. 6.8.24
- g. All players (aged and under-aged) must be evaluated objectively and ranked by the Selection Committee. 6.8.24
- h. The District Director from whose area the under-aged player is coming, must approve the selection and file same immediately with the Executive Director. 6.8.24
- i. The use of the player must remain consistent with this ranking during the playing season or the player's status may be revisited by the Female Minor Council representative. 6.8.24
- j. To balance program requirements of the association/club. 6.8.24
- k. A fee of \$250.00, payable to the Hockey New Brunswick District. 6.8.24
- l. All requests for upward player movement must be received one week prior to the Association try-outs starting, or at the discretion of the ROC Female Hockey Representative. 6.8.24

**For upward player movement to recreational division:** 6.8.24

Players must roster within their appropriate age division unless permission is granted by the Female Minor Council representative for a second year Female A player to move up one division within the Female A level. The Female Minor Council representative shall use the "Risk, Safety and Conduct Management" criteria for determining such movement. 6.8.24

- 17.9 Starting in U11, players whose home club does not offer competitive hockey within a division of play or all female team, those players wishing to play competitive hockey or on an all-female team are permitted to go to a neighbouring club offering competitive hockey or an all-female team within a District. If no competitive program is offered in the District, the player would be allowed to go to the closest neighbouring District to their residence. Players not making a competitive team must go back to their home club to play "C" hockey. These players have affiliation privileges to the competitive/development team as long as they tried out. The same shall apply to clubs that offer competitive hockey only and have players wishing to play "C" hockey. A player cannot use this regulation to play in a different category (i.e. AA, A and B). 6.10.23

## **SECTION 19 – AFFILIATION**

- 19.4 c. Female players registered in Female Associations who are first year or second year players in a division may also affiliate to a higher female category within their division or to the next female division. Co-ed female players are not eligible to affiliate to female association teams. Female Association players are not eligible to affiliate to Co-ed Association teams. Exceptions may be granted from the female representative to minor council and the district director. *6.07.25*

## **SECTION 22 – TOURNAMENTS**

- 22.10 An over-age hockey player, who plays as an overage on a C or Female A team playing in a registered C or Female A league, be allowed to participate in C or Female A tournaments including provincials within the province. *6.2.18*

## **SECTION 23 – ZONE AND PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS**

- 23.0 The membership must adhere to the NBMHC Zone and Provincial Championship Regulations. Female teams must adhere to the NBMHC Female Provincial Championships Regulations. *6.2.18*

## **SECTION 27 - SPECIAL PLAYING RULES**

- 27.1 That on the approval of NBMHC District Directors, male minor hockey teams may be authorized to play against all-female minor teams of the same division or one lower division than the female team, in accordance to HNB rules and regulations. NBMHC District Directors may prohibit a female team from playing against a lower division male team if they consider the playing level of the female team is too high for the division category of the male team involved. *6.13.15*