

# Minor Hockey League

# **Manual of Operations**

May 6, 2009 Consolidated January 11, 2017

# Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League

Constitution

# CONSTITUTION of the MUSKOKA PARRY SOUND MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

INDEX		Page
	Definitions	2
Article 1	Name, Affiliation and Jurisdiction	3
Article 2	Organization	4
Article 3	Discipline and Appeals	4
Article 4	Amendments	5
Article 5	Membership	5
Article 6	Meetings	6
Article 7	Executive Committee	8
Article 8	President	8
Article 9	Vice-President	9
Article 10	Secretary	9
Article 11	Treasurer	10
Article 12	Standing Committees	10
Article 13	Referee Technical Director	11
Article 14	League Statistician	11

# **DEFINITIONS**

- a) "MPSMHL" means Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League
- b) "**Member Centre**" refers to a Minor Hockey Association under the jurisdiction of the Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League
- c) "**in good standing**" shall refer to a Member Centre that that has paid any dues or other fees owing to the Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League and who is not subject of a disciplinary action or sanction by the Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League or higher governing body.
- d) **"Regular Meeting"** refers to the monthly meetings held to discuss league business.
- e) **"Special General Meeting"** refers to a meeting of the Board of Directors called by the Executive Committee to deal with a specific issue.
- f) "Annual General Meeting" refers to a meeting held once a year to elect Executive Committee members and to discuss league business.
- g) **"Board of Directors"** refers to all members of the Executive Committee, the OMHA Regional Director and his/her Convenors or appointees, the Referee Technical Director, the League Statistician, each Member Centre President or his/her delegate and each Centre Contact.

# **ARTICLE ONE (1) - NAME, AFFILIATION AND JURISDICTION**

# 1.01 Name

- The organization shall be known as the "Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League", herein referred to as MPSMHL.
- The head office of the MPSMHL shall be in the Town of Bracebridge, in the Province of Ontario, or at such place as the Executive Committee may from time to time determine.

# 1.02 Affiliation

- The MPSMHL by virtue of its affiliation with the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) and the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) is a member of the Canadian Hockey Association (CHA), the governing body of amateur hockey in Canada.
- The MPSMHL shall abide by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the OMHA, the OHF and the CHA.

# **1.03 Jurisdiction**

- The MPSMHL shall have jurisdiction to govern all Minor Hockey within the bounds of the MPSMHL territory which includes all Centres that may from time to time be members of the MPSMHL.

# **1.04 Objectives**

- To provide a positive Minor Hockey experience for all members by organizing, coordinating and developing hockey programs for all age levels.
- To protect and serve the mutual interest of all its members and to place the players and the game at the forefront.
- To enhance the positive value of our hockey programs by providing leadership and initiatives to develop better citizens.
- To encourage and direct the fostering of a strong sense of community pride and participation for all communities large and small.
- To work with Regional (OMHA), Provincial (OHF) and National (CHA) governing bodies to promote the cooperative development of hockey programs and their effective administration.
- To recognize the integrity of local community programs and to encourage a strong sense of community pride and participation.
- To represent the interests of its members at the Regional, Provincial and National levels.
- To work with Regional, Provincial and National governing bodies to promote cooperative development of hockey programs and their effective administration.

- To enhance the positive value of programs by providing leadership and initiatives to develop players, coaches, officials and local volunteers.
- To ensure the enforcement of the rules of the sport as adopted by the MPSMHL and other governing bodies.

# **ARTICLE (2) - ORGANIZATION**

### **2.01 Board of Directors**

- The presiding officer of the MPSMHL shall be the President.
- The Board of Directors, who shall govern in a manner consistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations of the MPSMHL, OMHA, OHF and CHA, shall administer the business and affairs of the MPSMHL.

# 2.02 Executive Committee

- The Executive Committee of the MPSMHL shall consist of the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- The Executive Committee positions referred to in the Article shall be filled by May 31<sup>st</sup> each year by an election of officers.
- The term of office for persons occupying the Executive Committee positions referred to in the Article shall be one year.
- The Executive Committee shall in general be responsible for establishing the policy and strategic goals of the MPSMHL including player, coach, referee and trainer development programs.
- The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in its number.
- The Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend any member, referee, player or any official connected with any affiliated team or Member Centre for due cause, subject to the right of appeal as provided herein and subject to ratification by the Discipline and Appeals Committee.

# **ARTICLE (3) - DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS**

# 3.01 Authority

- The Discipline and Appeals Committee shall have the power to hear and finally decide all complaints of matters, which pertain to the propriety of or lack of Rule or Regulation, Constitutional By-law provision, or the alleged violation of the Constitutional By-Law, and/or Rules and Regulations.

- The Discipline and Appeals Committee shall have the authority to impose fines, assess damages, suspend voting privileges and impose other such penalties as it sees fit.
- The Discipline and Appeals Committee shall also have the power to conduct any investigation or hearing as directed by the Executive Committee from time to time.

# 3.02 The Committee

- The Discipline and Appeals Committee shall consist of at least three members the Executive Committee and one representative from each of two Member Centres not involved in the current dispute.
- The Committee shall be formed, rule and dissolve on a case by case basis.

# **ARTICLE FOUR (4) - AMENDMENTS**

# **4.01** Constitutional Amendments

- This Constitution may be amended on the recommendation of the Member Centre representatives of the MPSMHL at the Annual General Meeting.
- Any motion to approve an amendment must pass with a three-quarters majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors in attendance and shall take effect immediately.
- Spelling or grammatical errors that do not change the intent or purpose of a sentence or paragraph found within the Constitution may be corrected by the approval of the Board of Directors at any Regular meeting.

# 4.02 Amendments to Rules and Regulations

- The Rules and Regulations may be amended at any Regular General Meeting
- Any motion to approve an amendment must pass with a majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors in attendance and shall take effect immediately.

# **ARTICLE FIVE (5) – MEMBERSHIP**

# **5.01 Member Centres**

- Membership in the MPSMHL is granted to the following: The Almaguin Minor Hockey Association, Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association, Huntsville Minor Hockey Association, Muskoka Rock Minor Hockey Association, Parry Sound Minor Hockey Association, South Muskoka Minor Hockey Association, and such other minor hockey associations that are granted membership from time to time by the Board of Directors, provided that they remain members in good standing and agree to abide by the Constitutional By-law of the MPSMHL and comply with the Rules and Regulations of the MPSMHL.

# **5.02 OMHA Regional Director**

- The OMHA Regional Director and his/her Convenors and/or appointees shall be non-voting members of the MPSMHL with the exception of the Convenor assigned to the Local League who shall be a voting member.

# 5.03 Referee Technical Director

- The Referee Technical Director shall be a non-voting member of the MPSMHL.

# 5.04 Statistician

- The League Statistician shall be a non-voting member of the MPSMHL.

# **ARTICLE SIX (6) - MEETINGS**

# 6.01 Annual General Meeting

- The date and location of the Annual General Meeting of the MPSMHL shall be designated by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. The Annual General Meeting of the MPSMHL must be help prior to May 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

# 6.02 Meetings

- A Meeting of Members may be called at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

# 6.03 Notice of Meetings

- Notice of any Annual General Meeting shall be given to all members in good standing at least thirty (30) days before the meeting is to take place. Notice of any other Meeting shall be given to all members in good standing at least seven (7) days before the meeting is to take place and shall specify the purpose for which the meeting is called.

# 6.04 Quorum of Members

- A quorum for the transaction of business at any Annual General or Special General Meeting shall consist of not less than fifty per cent (50%) of the Executive Committee and not less that fifty per cent (50%) of the remaining Board of Directors for such annual general or special general meeting.

# **6.05 Voting Delegates**

 Each Member Centre in good standing shall be entitled to two (2) voting delegates, one being the Centre Contact Person and the second being the Centre President or his appointee. Each Member Centre in good standing may send additional non-voting delegates to such Annual General, Special General Meeting or Regular Meeting provided they pay the prescribed registration fees, if any. - Member Centres are required to send at least one (1) representative to regular meetings which will be called each month and/or at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Failure to attend such meetings without reasonable cause may result in the loss of voting rights at annual and/or special meetings and/or fines.

# 6.06 Voting at Meetings

- Members of the Executive Committee (except the President), and each voting delegate of a Member Centre of the MPSMHL, in good standing, who are in attendance at an Annual General Meeting, Special General Meeting or Regular Meeting shall be entitled to vote on any issue to be determined at such meetings.
- No person shall have more than one (1) vote.
- There shall be no proxy voting.
- All persons voting must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- Election of Executive Committee members shall be by secret ballot.
- Beyond this, voting may be either by show of hands or by secret ballot; but the latter will be used whenever it is so requested by a majority of the voting members and voting delegates in attendance.
- All questions shall be decided by a majority of votes of such members, unless otherwise stipulated herein, and in case of a tie vote the President shall be permitted to cast a deciding vote.
- Any question which, if carried, would result in changes to this Constitution shall require a twothirds majority of voting members and voting delegates in attendance. Any such vote can only take place at an Annual General Meeting.
- A quorum for Regular meetings shall consist of 50% of the Member Centre representatives plus 2 Executive Committee members.

# 6.07 Manual of Operations

- Any clause in the Constitution or Rules and Regulations may be clarified and defined at any time by a majority vote of a quorum at any regular or special meeting of the MPSMHL. All member organizations shall be notified in writing within 72 hours of such ruling. Any ruling under this section shall not serve to weaken any constitution, and/or rule, and/or regulation of a higher governing body.

# 6.08 Request for a Confidential Vote

- Any Member Centre in good standing, when seconded by another Member Centre in good standing, can request a confidential secret ballot vote on any item included in the meeting agenda.

# **6.09** Procedures

- All meetings will follow recognized parliamentary procedures

# **ARTICLE SEVEN (7) - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### 7.01 Executive Committee

- The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- The business and affairs of the MPSMHL shall be administered by the Executive Committee who shall govern in a manner consistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the CHA, OHF, OMHA and the MPSMHL.

### 7.02 Agreements

- The Executive Committee shall be empowered to make agreements, from time to time, with other CHA member organizations, provided those such agreements are within the general rules of organized hockey.
- The Executive Committee shall implement the wishes of Member Centres in participating as active, supportive partners of Regional and Provincial governing bodies reporting to the CHA.
- The Executive Committee shall have the specific responsibility, should the situation warrant a review, to properly inform, discuss and educate Member Centres about the ramifications of changing existing relationships before asking for approval to take action. At their discretion, or at the request of Member Centres, a Special General Meeting should be held before action contrary to the stated mandate is taken.

#### 7.03 Meetings of Executive Committee:

- The President shall call Executive Committee meetings and duly notify the Executive Committee of the time and place of any such meeting.

# 7.04 Executive Committee Meeting Procedure:

- All meetings will be conducted by approved parliamentary procedure.

# **ARTICLE EIGHT (8) - PRESIDENT**

## 8.01 President:

- The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, shall preside at all meetings of the MPSMHL and the Executive Committee, with the usual privileges of the office.

# 8.02 Eligibility

- In order to be eligible for the office of President, a member must have been on the Board of Directors a minimum of two years immediately prior. The President should not represent a Member Centre either as a contact person or a delegate.

# 8.03 Term of Office:

- The president is not eligible to serve more than four (4) consecutive one (1) year terms.

# **ARTICLE NINE (9) - VICE-PRESIDENT**

# 9.01 Vice-President:

- The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, shall preside at all meetings of the MPSMHL and the Executive Committee.

# 9.02 Eligibility:

- In order to be eligible for the office of Vice-President, a member must have been on the Board of Directors or on the executive of an MPSMHL Member Centre for a minimum of two years immediately prior.

# 9.03 Term of Office:

- The Vice-President is not eligible to serve more than four (4) consecutive one (1) year terms.

# 9.04 Duties:

- The Vice-President shall perform such duties as assigned by the Executive Committee from time to time.

# **ARTICLE TEN (10) - SECRETARY**

# **10.01 Election of Secretary:**

- A candidate for the position of Secretary will be identified by the Nominations Committee prior to the Annual General Meeting for election at that meeting.

# **10.02 Eligibility:**

- Nominees for the position of Secretary will have served at least one (1) year as a member of the MPSMHL or as an executive member of a Member Centre.

# **10.03 Duties:**

- Take and distribute minutes of all meetings.
- Distribute any other materials as requested by the Executive Committee.
- Notify all members of meeting dates, times and places with appropriate lead-time.

# **ARTICLE ELEVEN (11) - TREASURER**

# **11.01 Election of Treasurer:**

- A candidate for the position of Treasurer will be identified by the Nominations Committee prior to the Annual General Meeting for election at that meeting.

# **11.02 Eligibility:**

- Nominees for the position of Treasurer will have served at least one (1) year as a member of the MPSMHL or as an executive member of a Member Centre.

# **11.03 Duties:**

- Maintain a complete record of the finances of the MPSMHL.
- Ensure that a second party verifies the books at the end of each year.
- Present a financial statement at each Annual General Meeting.

# **ARTICLE TWELVE (12) - STANDING COMMITTEES**

# 12.01 Creation:

- The Executive Committee shall create such Standing Committees as deemed necessary for the orderly functioning of the MPSMHL.

# **12.02** Chairperson – Term of Office:

- No person shall hold the position of Chairperson for a specific committee for a term longer than three (3) years, without a special resolution of the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting.

# **ARTICLE THIRTEEN (13) - REFEREE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

# **13.01** Appointment of Referee Technical Director:

- Prior to the Annual General Meeting, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Referee Technical Director. This appointment must be presented to the Annual General Meeting for ratification.

# **ARTICLE FOURTEEN (14) - LEAGUE STATISTICIAN**

# 14.01 Appointment of League Statistician

- Prior to the Annual General Meeting the Executive Committee shall appoint a League Statistician. This appointment must be presented to the Annual General Meeting for ratification.

# Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League

# Rules and Regulations

# **CONTENTS**

#### **SECTION** Page **Definitions** 1.0 **Member Centre Obligations** General Obligations 1.01 1.02 Obligations to League Statistician, Referee Supervisors and Regional Director 1.03 Non-fulfillment of Obligations 2.0 **Fees & Finances** 2.01 Annual Fees 2.02 Damages 2.03 Expenses Clinics 2.04 3.0 **Residential Boundaries** 3.01 **Boundary Map Boundary Descriptions** 3.02 3.03 **Boundary Changes** 4.0 **Duties of the Referee Technical Director** 4.01 Responsibilities 5.0 **Duties of the League Statistician** Responsibilities 5.01 6.0 Appeals 6.01 Rights of appeal Appeal must be in writing 6.02 6.03 Fees 6.04 Matters that may be appealed 6.05 Matters that may not be appealed to the MPSMHL 6.06 Time allowed for an appeal Hearing date 6.07 Written notice of hearing date 6.08 Rights on hearing of appeal 6.09 Appeal hearing open to public 6.10 6.11 Notice of decision Appeal of a MPSMHL Discipline and Appeals committee decision 6.12 7.0 **Game Regulations** 7.01 Minimum game lengths Regular season schedule changes 7.02 7.03 Curfews 7.04 Double booked teams 7.05 On ice officials 7.06 **MPSMHL** Playoffs 7.07 All Star games

**OMHA** Playdowns 7.08

2

3

4

5

6

6

7

9

# DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are in addition to those found in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association's Manual of Operations.

- a) "MPSMHL" means Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League.
- b) "**Member Centre**" refers to a Minor Hockey Association under the jurisdiction of the Muskoka Parry Sound Minor Hockey League.
- c) **"Executive Committee"** refers to a group of members consisting of the President, the immediate Past President, the Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- d) **"RD"** refers to the OMHA Regional Director and his/her Convenors.

# **1.0 MEMBER CENTRE OBLIGATIONS**

# 1.01 General Obligations

a)	To assist in carrying out the objectives of the MPSMHL.			
b)	To abide by the Constitutional By-law and comply with the Rules and Regulations of the MPSMHL.			
c)	To ensure that at least one representative attends all MPSMHL regular meetings.			
d)	To inform the Executive Committee prior to August 15 <sup>th</sup> of each season of the number of teams they will be entering in league play.			
e)	To provide sufficient ice-time for each regular season, league playoff and OMHA playdown game that their Centre is involved in.			
f)	To provide game officials for each regular season and league playoff game that their Centre is involved in.			
g)	To ensure that all financial commitments pertaining to clinics hosted by other Centres are met in a timely fashion.			
h)	To ensure that all teams complete their regular season and playoff games as scheduled.			
i)	To pay all MPSMHL fees and fines as may be required.			
1.02 Obligations to Statistician, Referee Supervisors and Regional Director				
a)	To ensure that all teams competing in regular season league play report scores to the League Statistician within 24 hours of completion of those games.			
b)	To submit all MPSMHL Playoff Agreements to the appropriate Referee Supervisor and the League Statistician immediately after they are finalized.			
c)	To report to the appropriate Referee Supervisor immediately after the completion of any MPSMHL Playoff Series or any OMHA Preliminary Playdown series.			

- d) To report scores to the OMHA Regional Director within one hour of completion of each OMHA playdown game and OMHA playdown series.
- e) To ensure that all teams competing in MPSMHL playoffs and OMHA playdowns report scores of those games to the League Statistician within one hour of the completion of each game.

- f) To advise the League Statistician within 24 hours of any postponed or rescheduled game.
- g) To provide the Referee Technical Director with a list of phone numbers for each arena where their League home games will be played. The number provided must be one that is regularly answered by the staff at each arena.

#### 1.03 Non-fulfillment of Obligations

a) Any Member Centre that fails to fulfill their obligations may be referred to the Discipline and Appeals Committee.

# 2.0 FEES AND FINANCES

### 2.01 Annual Fees

- a) An annual fee per team as determined by the Executive Committee shall be assessed to each Member Centre at the beginning of each season.
- b) Prior to August 15<sup>th</sup> of each year, each Member Centre shall present a \$300 cheque to the MPSMHL as a guarantee bond
- c) The Executive Committee may assess additional fees as it deems necessary for the operation of the League.
- d) At the end of each season and upon written request to the Secretary, all Member Centres fulfilling their obligations to the MPSMHL shall have their guarantee bond returned.
- e) Any Member Centre losing all or part of its bond during a season must renew their bond for the balance of the season.

#### 2.02 Damages

- a) Any Member Centre may apply for damages caused by another Member Centre's failure to fulfill its obligations. An application for damages must be submitted to the Secretary within fourteen (14) days for a game related incident and sixty (60) days for any other issue. Receipt of such an application shall be confirmed in writing by the Secretary and a copy forwarded to the alleged offending Member Centre.
- b) All payments of such damages shall be made at the discretion of the Discipline and Appeals Committee of the MPSMHL.

### 2.03 Expenses

- a) All expenses of two hundred dollars and under shall be paid at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- b) All expenses over two hundred dollars require approval of the membership at a Regular Meeting.

### 2.04 Clinics

a) Any Member Centre that suffers a loss as a result of hosting a MPSMHL sponsored clinic may apply to the MPSMHL for re-imbursement.

# **3.0 RESIDENTIAL BOUNDARIES**

## 3.01 Boundary Map & Descriptions

The boundaries of the Almaguin Minor Hockey Association, Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association, Huntsville Minor Hockey Association, Muskoka Rock Minor Hockey Association, Parry Sound Minor Hockey Association, South Muskoka Minor Hockey Association are as shown on the map approved by the OMHA and filed at their office.

### **3.02 Boundary Descriptions**

- a) The boundaries of the Almaguin Minor Hockey Association, Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association, Huntsville Minor Hockey Association, Muskoka Rock Minor Hockey Association, Parry Sound Minor Hockey Association, South Muskoka Minor Hockey Association, the South Muskoka/ Muskoka Rock and the South Muskoka/Huntsville Shared Areas are as described in the written descriptions approved by the OMHA and filed in their office.
- b) If a worded boundary description does not conform to a boundary as depicted on the Boundary Map, the Map shall take precedence.

# **3.03 Boundary Changes**

- a) Any adjoining Member Centres may make a written request to the MPSMHL to have a boundary altered and, if deemed necessary by the President, a Boundary Committee shall be formed to review the request and report at the next Regular Meeting.
- b) Any approved boundary change will result in the Boundary Map being updated and a new copy being provided to each Member Centre. Drafting and printing costs for any updates shall be borne by the Member Centres requesting the change.
- c) Any boundary changes will take effect once ratified by the OMHA Boundary Committee.

# 4.0 DUTIES OF THE REFEREE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

## 4.01 The Referee Technical Director shall be responsible for:

- a) The implementation of the Referee Development program including clinics.
- b) Assisting the OMHA Regional Director and Member Centre Referee Supervisors in dealing with complaints about referees.
- c) Providing positive and corrective feedback to referees.
- d) Ensuring that any complaints or issues that referees may have are brought to the attention of Member Centre Executives and, if necessary, the MPSMHL Board of Directors.

# 5.0 DUTIES OF LEAGUE STATISTICIAN

#### 5.01 The League Statistician shall:

- a) Compile a record that is representative of the League games played and the results of those games.
- b) With the assistance of Member Centres, compile a list of contacts with each team playing games under the jurisdiction of the MPSMHL. Contacts reporting to the League Statistician shall be obligated by their respective Centres to report scores for all League, League playoff and OMHA playdown games that their team competes in.

- c) At each Regular Meeting beginning in November, provide a list of scores not reported and levy a fine of \$10.00 against the offending Centre for each regular season score not reported as required by Section 1.02a) and a levy a fine of \$25.00 against the offending Centre for each MPSMHL playoff and OMHA playdown score not reported as required by Section 1.02e).
- d) Report to the membership at each Regular Meeting and provide a detailed annual report.

# **6.0 APPEALS**

### 6.01 Rights of Appeal

Any member of the MPSMHL has a right of appeal against decisions or actions taken under any Constitutional By-law or other By-law, Rules or Regulations or the lack of an appropriate By-law, Rule or Regulation. Upon the receipt of an appeal, the President will examine the appeal to determine that the appeal falls under the jurisdiction of the MPSMHL.

## 6.02 Appeal must be in writing

A Member Centre, team, group, or individual must submit their appeal in writing. The submission is to specify the decision or lack of a decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal and the facts supporting the appeal. It is to be concise and to contain numbered paragraphs. The appeal shall be filed with the MPSMHL President.

### 6.03 Fees

- a) The fee for an appeal shall be \$100.00 payable by the appellant, all, part or none of which may be refunded at the discretion of the Discipline and Appeals Committee of the MPSMHL.
- b) Fees may be waived for appeals presented by an appellant's Member Centre.

#### 6.04 Matters that may be appealed

A decision of the Executive Committee, a MPSMHL standing committee or any officer, or Member Centre of the MPSMHL.

#### 6.05 Matters that may not be appealed to the MPSMHL

- a) Any suspension or matter that has been or is scheduled to be dealt with by the OMHA or higher governing body.
- b) Any matter deemed non-appealable by the OMHA.

#### 6.06 Time allowed for an appeal

- a) For a player's release an appeal can be filed at any time (house-league only).
- b) All other appeals must be filed within seven (7) days of the President receiving oral or written notice of an incident or decision being appealed.

#### 6.07 Hearing Date

Within five (5) days of an appeal being filed and the President ruling on the League's jurisdiction, the President shall either set a date for the hearing of the appeal or advise the appellant that the MPSMHL has no jurisdiction in the matter. The hearing date will be no more than fifteen (15) days after the filing date.

#### 6.08 Written notice of Hearing Date

The President shall notify all parties to the appeal as soon as the hearing date is set. This notice shall inform the parties of the date, time, place and purpose of the hearing. It will also advise that if the party does not attend the hearing the appeal may proceed in the party's absence and will void entitlement to any further notice in the proceedings.

#### 6.09 Rights on Hearing of Appeal

Counsel may represent a party to the appeal or agent, call and examine witnesses, present arguments and submissions, conduct cross-examinations of witnesses reasonably required for a full and fair disclosure of facts given in evidence.

#### 6.10 Appeal Hearing open to Public

The hearing shall be open to the public except where any party to the appeal requests it to be held in camera. If the hearer of the appeal is of the opinion that intimate financial or personal matters may be disclosed that would jeopardize the interest of any person, he or she may hold that part, or all of the hearing, in camera.

#### 6.11 Notice of Decision

The Discipline and Appeals Committee shall make a written report to all persons directly involved in the matter as soon as possible after the conclusion of the proceedings.

#### 6.12 Appeal of a MPSMHL Discipline and Appeals Committee Decision

An appeal of a decision of the MPSMHL Discipline and Appeals Committee must be made to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association Appeals Committee.

# 7.0 GAME REGULATIONS

#### 7.01 Minimum Game Lengths

The following is the standard for minimum game length and minimum times to be allotted for games in various age divisions.

Novice	10 10 15	no flood	1 hour 10 minutes
Atom	10 15 15	no flood	1 hour 20 minutes
Peewee	15 15 15	with flood	1 hour 35 minutes
Bantam	15 15 15	with flood	1 hour 45 minutes
Midget	15 15 15	with flood	1 hour 45 minutes

## 7.02 Regular Season Schedule Changes

- a) No League games will be permitted after the final date listed on the schedule. All teams will play the minimum number of scheduled League games as determined at the beginning of the season. Failure to fulfill this obligation may result in loss of bond.
- b) Teams wishing to reschedule games after the schedule has been posted on the OMHA website must do so through their OMHA Centre Contact or their designate and the change must be approved by both Centres' OMHA Contacts and submitted within 24 hours to the League Statistician.
- Any team wishing to reschedule a regular season game after October 10<sup>th</sup> of the current season, for any reason other than a weather related issue or for housekeeping purposes, shall be required to pay a fee of \$100 per game that must be rescheduled.
- d) Any teams wishing to compete in tournaments must re-schedule any conflicting League games through their OMHA Centre Contact at least 14 days prior to the date of the scheduled League game and receive approval of the President.
- e) If Centre Contact persons cannot arrive at a mutually acceptable re-schedule date, the President shall review the case and make a decision as to when the game is to be played or how it shall be re-scheduled.
- f) No Member Centre shall sign a tournament Permission to Participate form or Travel Permit for any team if participation in the tournament causes a League schedule conflict.
- g) If a team competes in a tournament rather than a scheduled League game, the Member Centre shall be fined an amount equal to the tournament entry fee.
  Failure to pay the fine shall result in forfeiture of the offending Member Centres' bond and suspension of all teams from that Centre. The incident shall be reviewed by the Discipline and Appeals Committee.

- h) Any expenses incurred by a Member Centre as a result of another Member Centre's team not appearing for a scheduled League game will be covered by the MPSMHL
- A Member Centre shall be fined \$250 if one of their teams fails to appear for a Regular Season game without due cause or cancels such a game without following an acceptable notification procedure.

# 7.03 Curfews

- a) A curfew, if any, shall be written onto the gamesheet and initialled by a team staff member from each team prior to the start of the game. Once the game has started a curfew cannot be added, changed or eliminated without the consent of both teams.
- b) When a curfew has been entered on a gamesheet it is the official timekeepers' responsibility to notify the referee at the first stoppage of play after the recorded curfew time. The referee shall end the game at this time.
- c) The MPSMHL Discipline and Appeals Committee shall review any reported incident where proper procedure is not followed.

# 7.04 Double Booked Teams

If the situation arises where a game is about to take place and two visiting teams arrive, the following procedure shall be used:

The visiting teams shall play an exhibition game. The scheduled game shall be re-scheduled. The Discipline and Appeals Committee shall review the incident.

# 7.05 On Ice Officials

- a) Qualified officials are those who have fulfilled the requirements set out in the OMHA Manual of Operations.
- b) If a situation arises where a game is about to take place and less than two of the assigned on ice officials have arrived, every effort will be made to find a qualified replacement official or officials.
- c) If less than two officials are available, the game shall be re-scheduled.
- d) Member Centres have the option of using either 2 or 3 on ice officials for Peewee games and below. Whenever possible, three on-ice officials should be assigned for Bantam and above.

# 7.06 MPSMHL Playoffs

- a) Divisions and Categories for League playoffs shall be established no later than the December Regular Meeting.
- b) A playoff shall consist of a minimum best 2 out of 3 game series, a suitable round robin format or a suitable tournament format.
- c) Trophies shall be awarded to the winners of each playoff division.
- d) Playoff trophies must be returned to the Secretary no later than the December Regular Meeting.
  - i) If a trophy is not returned by the December regular meeting the offending Centre shall be assessed a fine of \$150.
  - ii) If a trophy is not returned by the January regular meeting the offending Centre shall be assessed an additional fine of \$150 and shall be declared "not in good standing" until the trophy is returned and the fine or fines are paid.
- e) A Member Centre shall be fined \$250 if one of their teams fails to appear for a MPSMHL Playoff game without due cause or cancels a game without following an acceptable notification procedure.
- f) Not withstanding the provisions of Section 7.02(g) herein:
  - i) If a team under the jurisdiction of the MPSMHL qualifies for and attends the International Silver Stick Final by winning their assigned Regional Silver Stick tournament, said team shall be exempt from taking part in the MPSMHL Playoffs if said events fall on the same dates.
  - ii) If a team under the jurisdiction of the MPSMHL attends the International Silver Stick Final as a result of qualifying at the Regional qualifier other than that assigned to them by the Silver Stick organization, the Centre shall pay a fine of \$500 to the MPSMHL if attending the Silver Stick Final tournament results is said team missing the MPSMHL Playoffs.
  - iii) If a team under the jurisdiction of the MPSMHL attends the International Silver Stick Final as a result of being invited rather than winning their assigned Regional qualifier, the Centre shall pay a fine of \$1,000 to the MPSMHL if attending the International Silver Stick Final results in said team missing the MPSMHL Playoffs.

# 7.06.1 Series & Round Robin Format

- a) Home ice advantage shall go to the team that finished higher in the regular season league standings. If two teams are tied, the opposing teams Centre Contacts will find a suitable means by which to determine home ice advantage.
- b) If a team advances to the OMHA finals a MPSMHL final series may be decided by a 1 game playoff played in the opposing team's arena.
- c) Games that are tied after regulation time shall have a single five minute overtime period added where each team plays with 4 skaters and a goalie.

- d) Games that are tied after a five minute overtime period shall be decided by a shootout.
- e) Shootouts shall be three players with total goals deciding the winner. If the teams are still tied, the shootout will continue in a single player, sudden victory format with no player shooting again until every team member, except the goaltenders, have taken a turn.
- f) Completion dates for all MPSMHL playoff rounds shall be determined no later than the February Regular Meeting. A request for an extension of any series beyond the completion date set by the Board of Directors can only be approved by the President or Vice President.
- g) Playoff agreement forms provided by the MPSMHL shall be used by all Member Centres. If necessary the form shall be reviewed each season and approved for use during the playoffs.

# 7.06.2 Tournament Format

- a) The host centres for each division shall be determined no later than the November regular meeting.
- b) Host centre responsibilities and the event rules and guidelines shall be reviewed on an annual basis and finalized no later than the December regular meeting.

# 7.07 All Star Games

- a) All Star games shall be held at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- b) Centres shall ensure that every team playing in the MPSMHL regular season shall provide players for All Star games as requested by the Board of Directors.
- c) Centres failing to provide players in each All Star division as requested will be subject to a fine of \$250.00.

# 7.08 OMHA Playdowns

- a) Home ice advantage in any OMHA Playdown series between MPSMHL teams shall be given to the team that finished higher in the MPSMHL Playoffs.
- b) If an OMHA Playdown series between MPSMHL teams takes place prior to the MPSMHL Playoffs, home ice advantage shall go to the team with the best regular season record in head to head competition.
- c) If regular season head to head competition between teams is used to determine home ice advantage in OMHA Playdowns and two or more teams are tied, a coin toss or other such means shall be used to determine home ice advantage.

- d) Where a division has three teams competing in OMHA Playdowns, the top ranked team shall have the option of taking a bye or deciding who they play in the opening round.
- e) Where a division has four teams completing in OMHA Playdowns, the top ranked team shall have the option of deciding who they play in the opening round.