

NORTHERN ALBERTA HOCKEY LEAGUE

U15 AA OPERATING DIRECTIVES

100 – Refereeing

- a. The Referee Assignors for the LMHA will do assignment of on ice officials for League games.
- b. Referee and two Linesmen will be paid as per the fee schedule defined by Hockey Alberta.

101 – Scheduling

- a. Scheduled League games have priority over exhibition and tournament games as provided by the Hockey Alberta Regulations.
- b. Back-to-back games against the same team are not to be scheduled unless necessary.
- c. Each team, by July 1st each year, will declare one weekend where they do not wish to have games scheduled for the purposes of traveling to a tournament.
- d. Each member is required to bring to the Annual General Meeting a minimum of 30 game slots per team for scheduling.
- e. The President will have a draft schedule sent to each member and team by August 30th and the final schedule completed by the September League meeting.
- f. No games are to be scheduled on the date of the All-Star Game.
- g. No games will be scheduled to begin after 9:00 p.m.

102 – Playing Rules

- a. The playing rules shall be provided in the official rulebook of Hockey Canada.

103 – Tournament, Exhibition and Pre-Season Games

- a. Hockey Alberta is ultimately responsible for granting permission for pre-season, tournament, and exhibition games and for the administration of discipline that is necessary arising out of those games.
- b. The Vice President of Discipline will correspond with Hockey Alberta as appropriate regarding NAHL suspensions.
- c. Teams must also obtain League approval for any exhibition and tournament games which conflict with league games.

104 – Game Sheets and Incident Reports

- a. The home team is responsible for emailing the game sheet and any write-ups to the Vice President of Discipline within two hours of the completion of the game. Non-compliance may result in a Head Coach suspension.
- b. The home team shall complete the game sheet on the website within 2 hours after the end of the game; if not, the coach may be suspended.

105 – Team Failing to Present Itself

- a. If a team fails to represent itself at the time and place appointed to play a game, the game or series will be awarded to the opposing team with a score of 1-0 for statistical purposes unless the failure was caused by an unavoidable accident or an unforeseen situation.

- b. A team failing to represent itself will forfeit the team's \$500 bond and will be suspended until the bond is repaid.
- c. The Manager, Coach or official and/or players of the team that is responsible for a failure to attend may be suspended for one year or more.
- d. Any team failing to represent itself twice in one season, the Coach, Manager and/or team may be suspended from all League activities for up to 12 months.

106 – Protests

- a. Protests of league decisions and all **supporting evidence** must be submitted to the President, Vice President of Discipline and Secretary in duplicate signed by the Coach, Manager and an Official of the LMHA within 48 hours of the completion of the game protested. All documentation must be accompanied by a money order or EMT in the amount of \$300 and delivered to the VP Discipline within 48-hour time frame. A copy of the protest must also be forwarded by email within 48 hours of the protested game to the Manager and the Association of the team protested against.
- b. Upon receipt of the protest, the Vice President of Discipline will appoint a three-person neutral committee in addition to the President.
- c. All protests require that the Vice President of Discipline contact the individual submitting the protest and the Manager of the team being protested against.
- d. If the committee (whose decision shall be final) dismisses the protest, the sum deposited with the protest will be forfeited to the League.

107 – Appeals

- a. Appeals to Hockey Alberta must follow the Hockey Alberta appeal procedure after it has followed NAHL protocol.

108 – Discipline Policy for League and Playoff Games

- a. For all discipline, the Vice President of Discipline will rule within 48 hours of being notified of an infraction. For the purposes of assistance, the Vice President of Discipline will appoint a three (3) person neutral committee whenever necessary outside League guidelines. (206b)
- b. All suspended players/personnel must be recorded on the game sheet as being suspended.
- c. The home team must email or send all referee write-ups to the Vice President of Discipline within 2 hours of the completion of the game.
- d. All automatic suspensions per the Hockey Alberta Regulations, Minor Hockey Minimum Suspensions shall apply to all league games, including playoffs.

In addition to the Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspensions, the League has the option of **increasing** the Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspensions.

- e. All suspensions will be carried forward for any Tournament, Playoff and Provincial games.
- f. Players are not to cross the center ice red line during the pre-game warm-up or before the start of any period. That is, they must stay on their side of center ice. Suspensions may be levied for non-compliance.

The League expects Coaches and Team Management to be responsible for the discipline of their team and actions of their fans. Where problems exist, appropriate action will be taken against the Coach in question if deemed necessary. Additionally, Coaches are always expected to exhibit model behavior.

NOTE: Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspensions are not appealable.

109 - Additional Rules and Regulations for Coaches

- a. All Coaches suspended for any reason will not be allowed in the dressing room areas for one hour before each suspended game and until after the game's conclusion.
- b. If a Coach gives or makes any offensive or obscene gesture to the fans, Referee, or opposition, that Coach will be automatically suspended for a minimum of two games.
- c. Coach will have no communication with the team, including electronic communication, from one hour prior to each suspended game until after conclusion of the game.

110 - League Regional Tournament Division Playoffs

- a. Metro North Red Division - The top nine teams in league play will qualify for the Metro North Red Division regional division tournament.
- b. Metro North Blue Division - The top eight teams in league play will qualify for the Metro North Blue Division regional division tournament.
- c. Rural North White Division - The top eight teams in league play will qualify for the Rural North White Division regional division tournament.
- d. Rural North Black Division - The top five teams in league play will qualify for the Rural North Black Division regional division tournament.

The procedure for determining standings in the event teams are tied during League play is as follows:

1. If teams are tied, the teams will be ranked with the team with the most wins in total League play finishing higher.
2. If teams are still tied, the team with the best win/loss/tie record in games played against each other will finish higher.
3. If still tied after 1 and 2, then the team with the best goal differential in games played against each other will finish higher, then fewest goals against, then most goals for, then fewest penalty minutes, all in games against each other.
4. If still tied after 1, 2, and 3, then the team with the best goal differential in total League play will finish higher. (I.e. team has 123 goals for and 81 goals against, their differential would be + 42), then fewest goals against, then most goals for, then fewest penalty minutes. Final tiebreaker is a coin toss.

111 – All Star Selection and Game

- a. All Star game hosts will be as follows:

1. 2010/11 - Sherwood Park
2. 2011/12 - Edmonton (MLAC)
3. 2012/13 - PAC Spruce Grove
4. 2013/14 - Whitecourt
5. 2014/15 - Lloydminster
6. 2015/16 - Edmonton (SSAC)
7. 2016/17 - Beaumont
8. 2017/18 - Lakeland Panthers
9. 2018/19 - Fort Saskatchewan
10. 2019/20 - Grande Prairie

11. 2020/21 - Edmonton (KC)
12. 2021/22 - Wainwright
13. 2023/24 - Camrose
14. 2024/25 - St Albert
15. 2025/26 - Fort McMurray
16. 2026/27 - Edmonton (CAC)
17. 2028/29 - Strathcona
18. 2029/30 - Leduc
19. 2030/31 - Sturgeon
20. 2031/32 - Peace River

b. All-Star Game Structure

1. Scheduled for the Saturday closest to December 15th annually.
2. The Red and Blue Division teams will be one All-Star team.
3. The White and Black Division teams will be one All-Star team.
4. Selection shall be as follows: (Attachment 1) the thirty NAHL Coaches will select one forward and one defenseman from their own teams and forward their names to the League statistician on December 7th. The League Executive and All-Star Coaches will finalize the two All-Star teams.
5. The Coaching Staff and Manager will be from those teams with the best winning percentage on December 7th. The top team's staff in the Red/Blue Divisions and top in the White/Black Divisions will coach their respective teams. Winning percentage will be points obtained over points possible. In case of ties in team standings for coaching or player selection, fewer penalty minutes per game played will be used to break the tie followed by a single coin toss.
6. All thirty teams will have representation at the All-Star game.
7. Goaltender selection will be as follows:
 - i. The three goaltenders selected for each All-Star team will be the goaltenders with the best GAA on December 7th.
 - ii. The goaltenders selected must have played a minimum of 420 minutes by December 7th.
8. The NAHL will purchase All-Star jerseys.
9. Players are to be selected and informed by each team's Coach by December 8th.
10. The host community will arrange for team pictures.
11. The host committee must arrange for Hockey Alberta to sanction the All-Star game.

112 – League Award Selection

- a. The following awards will be awarded annually:
 - o Top Goaltender
 - o Top Scorer
- b. Each winner will receive a keeper plaque from the League, which is purchased by the League and distributed by the Vice President of Public Relations.

113 – Player Movement

Player eligibility for teams will be as follows:

- a. Edmonton based teams must follow their respective policies.
- b. Hockey Canada guidelines for tampering will be followed.
- c. All teams must input their team roster on the League website a minimum of 24 hours prior to the first League game.

- d. Reference and acknowledge Hockey Alberta Player Movement Regulations.

114 – Risk Management

- a. Any injury resulting in a player injured seriously enough require emergency medical attention or to miss more than eight games must be reported to the Vice President of Discipline for information and perhaps insurance purposes, in addition to any Hockey Alberta notification required.
- b. All players while playing any games in the NAHL are strongly encouraged to wear mouth guards.

115 – Public Relations

- a. All teams are encouraged to report weekly game results to their local media's.

116 – Procedure for Rescheduling and Cancellation of Games

- a. All rescheduling must be made prior to canceling a game.
- b. The President must receive in writing from both teams an email confirming the rescheduled date, time, and location. Until received, the game will be considered scheduled in accordance with original schedule. (Appendix 3)
- c. All rescheduled games must be communicated by the League President to all League teams via the website.

117 – Responsibilities at Home Games

- a. The home team for League games is responsible to coordinate all on-ice and off-ice officials and will ensure one Referee and two Linesmen do the games. The home team Manager will check 30 minutes prior to the game start to ensure the Referee and Linesmen are present. If the officials are not present, the Manager will ensure that a back-up official is notified and will attend the game.
- b. The home team must provide a scorekeeper, a timekeeper and two penalty box workers for all games.
- c. Charging at the gate is discouraged.
- d. The home team must email a copy of the score sheet including all game write-ups and associated discipline information to the Vice President of Discipline and the League Statistician within two hours of the completion of the game.
- e. The home team supplies 25 pucks to each team for pre-game warm up.
- f. The home team must provide a program or line up sheet for each home game and include all League sponsors.
- g. The home team must provide ice for a five-minute warm-up before each game, ice cleaning between each period, and ice for full three twenty stop periods.
- h. Teams must shake hands following games unless otherwise instructed by the Referee.

118 – General Administration

- a. Travel permits are required by all teams (as per Hockey Alberta) for all out-of-province tournaments and games.
- b. No League monies shall be used to support any tournament.
- c. Team and League member information will be collected at the Annual General Meeting and the Secretary will distribute this information to all teams by September 15th annually.

119 – Schedule

a. Divisions are as follows:

Metro North Conference

Metro Red Division

Edmonton CAC Alumni
Edmonton CAC Think Green Alberta
Edmonton KC Shamrocks
Edmonton KV Voyageurs
Edmonton MLAC Alumni
Edmonton MLAC TRAXX
Edmonton SSAC Barbecue Country
Edmonton SSAC Pro Hockey Life
Edmonton SSAC Tommy Gun's

Metro Blue Division

Leduc Roughnecks
PAC Saints Green
PAC Saints White
Sherwood Park Leafs
Sherwood Park Sabres
St. Albert Bears
St. Albert Saints
St. Albert Elite Sportswear Blues

Rural North Conference

Rural White Division

Beaumont Braves
Camrose Bulldogs
Fort Saskatchewan Rangers
Lakeland Panthers
Lloydminster Blazers
Strathcona Warriors
Sturgeon Sting
Wainwright Polar Kings

Rural Black Division

Fort McMurray Barons
GPAC Dreger Racing Team Storm
GPAC Higson Dental Group Storm
Peace River Sabres
TRAC Wolverines

120 – Coaching Certification

Hockey Alberta Bylaws & Regulations

For information regarding coach education requirements go to <http://www.hockeyalberta.ca>

APPENDIX 1

ALL STAR SELECTION – NAHL

TEAM _____

FORWARD:

1) First Selection: _____

Phone # _____

DEFENSEMAN: _____

1) First Selection: _____

Phone # _____

SIGNED BY COACH: _____

Phone # _____

NOTE 1: THE PLAYERS WILL PLAY IN THE ALL STAR GAME AS PER 211 b)

NOTE 2: EMAIL TO THE Vice President of Public Relations and League Statistician BY DECEMBER 6th
– Note that winning % may yet to be determined but send anyway.

APPENDIX 2

NAHL FINANCES REVIEW

I authorize a complete review of all financial records of the NAHL from:

_____ (Date) to _____ (Date)

Treasurer's Name: _____

I have completed a full investigation of the financial statements of the League and find them in proper order.

Auditing Person(s) – Address and Phone Number

APPENDIX 3

RE-SCHEDULED GAME REPORT

GAME TO BE CHANGED:

GAME NO: _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

HOME: _____

ARENA: _____

VISITORS: _____

HOME AUTHORIZATION: _____

VISITORS AUTHORIZATION: _____

GAME TO BE CHANGED TO:

GAME NO: _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

HOME: _____

ARENA: _____

VISITORS: _____

HOME AUTHORIZATION: _____

VISITORS AUTHORIZATION: _____

PRESIDENT APPROVAL: _____

Distribution after signing: President, League Statistician, Team #1, Team #2

APPENDIX 4

NAHL BULLYING POLICY

The NAHL is committed to help reduce and prevent the bullying of participants (players, coaches, referees, parents, and fans).

Written, verbal, physical and cyber bullying is defined as harmful actions that are communicated via written, spoken or electronic media (the internet, interactive and digital technologies, mobile phones) and are intended to embarrass, humiliate, threaten, harm, or slander other NAHL participant(s). This includes individual players, coaching staff, game officials and teams. They are referred below as 'targets'.

Some examples of the bullying policy are:

- Continually criticizing the target's abilities.
- Blaming the target of the bullying for mistakes.
- Repeated insults or put downs of the target.
- Denying or discounting the targets accomplishment.
- Threats of and actual physical violence toward the target.

Written, verbal, physical and or cyber bullying in the NAHL will be dealt with as per the following (includes players, coaches, parents, and fans):

- Information will be gathered from sources pertaining to the incident and reviewed by the League.
- Directors may be called upon for input on an individual basis for certain cases.
- 1st offence under the policy is a 3-game suspension.
- 2nd offence is an indefinite suspension. The player will remain under suspension while the case is investigated and dealt with by the NAHL.

Note: Some types of cyber-bullying may fall within the Criminal code of Canada. Should there be a need for law enforcement involvement, all information will be passed to the local authorities.

APPENDIX 5

NAHL HARASSMENT POLICY

The NAHL does not tolerate players or team officials engaging in verbal taunts, insults, and intimidation towards other players based on discriminatory grounds (race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, language).

This constitutes harassment under Hockey Canada Rule 9.2(f). The NAHL does not accept or condone that harassment is part of the game of hockey. Any player or team official who is guilty of harassment will be issued suspensions above the Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspension Guidelines for the Game Misconduct or Gross Misconduct penalty called for Rule in 9.2(f).

APPENDIX 6

NAHL TEAM AND FAN UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT POLICY

The NAHL expects that teams and fans will follow the Hockey Alberta Respect in Sport model and will not display unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after NAHL games. Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct are:

- Spectators being loud and continuous in commenting on their perceived view of the refereeing during games.
- Spectators and players on the bench encouraging overly aggressive play i.e. calling for and celebrating the “big” hit.
- Ejected players or Team Officials not staying in the arena lobby to the end of the game.
- Suspended players and Team Officials are not permitted in the dressing room, timekeepers/penalty box or within 50 feet of the players benches during a game.
- Fans directing derogatory comments at the other team’s fans both in and outside of the arena.

Coaches are responsible for their team, team officials, and fans. Coaches whose team and/or fans are observed by NAHL Executive members, or found to be engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct, will be suspended for a minimum of two games.

APPENDIX 7

NAHL LEAGUE OPERATIONS

- The home team manager will check that referees are present at least 30 minutes before the game start time.
- Penalty boxes shall have an adequate number of people to man all stations such as penalty doors. All persons manning the penalty box/timekeeper stations are expected to act in a professional and impartial manner under the direction of the Referee.
- All players who have been ejected from a game should be escorted by a team representative to the dressing room to prevent further altercations.
- Ejected players or team officials must stay in the arena lobby for the remainder of the game.
- Suspended players or team officials are not permitted in the dressing room, timekeepers/penalty box or within 50 feet of the players' benches during a game.
- Coaches are responsible for the team players and fans. Unsportsmanlike conduct whether on the ice, in the stands or outside the arena will result in a coach suspension being issued.
- In the event of DAMAGE TO THE ARENA before, during or after a game, the coach is responsible for the team. If the individual player or players can be identified, they will be dealt with by the League. If they cannot be identified, the coach is responsible, and damages and/or suspensions may be issued.
- Harassment is not acceptable. Referees have been asked to have Zero Tolerance for harassment under the NAHL Harassment Policy.

Game sheets and Incident Reports

- A Game Sheet is documentation of the game and must show all players and coaches/bench staff present at the game and on the bench.
- If a player or coach/assistant coach/trainer is absent or suspended, mark "ABS" or "SUSP" beside his/her name and draw a line through the name.
- Mark all Affiliate Players present at the game and on the bench as "AP" next to their name on the game sheet.
- Mark a Substitute Goaltender as a "Substitute Goalie" next to his/her name on the game sheet. Note that Substitute goaltenders are only to be used as back-up and can only play in the game if the team's goalie or affiliate goalie is injured or ejected from the game.
- Only players, affiliate players, and coaches/bench staff listed on your HCR-generated roster may be listed on a game sheet. You should have an up-to-date HCR-generated roster with you at all times.
- Game sheets are to be filled in accurately and legibly. If pre-printed team labels are used, put a label on each page of the game sheet.
- Be sure to enter the proper NAHL game number on the game sheet.
- Use the NAHL Standard Penalty Abbreviations on game sheets.
- Game Misconduct penalties are to be entered on a separate line and shown as 10 minutes.
- Online game summary to be completed by the home team within 24 hours of game being played.
- Game sheets to be emailed within two hours of the end of the game to the VP Discipline and League Statistician.
- Scan and email is the preferred method of sending a game sheet.
- The home team is responsible to give or send a copy of the game sheet and any Referees Reports to the Visiting team by noon of the next business day.

Online Game Summary

- Game summary to be completed by the home team within 24 hours of game being played.
- Home team is responsible to ensure that all scoring stats, goaltending stats, and penalties are entered.
- If a team notices a mistake on the game summary, the home team must make the online correction. If advising by email, cc: the League Statistician.