

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 and Playoff games.
- b. Referee(s) 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 1st.
- f. 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, 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 Hockey Alberta approval for any exhibition and tournament 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. 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.
- c. 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 – Appeals

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

107 – 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.

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. (107b)
- 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 eight 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 Alberta 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. (Example: a 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.
- e. The Team with the best standing in league play will always have venue.

111 – 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.

112 – 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.

113 – 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.

114 – Public Relations

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

115 – Procedure for Rescheduling and Cancellation of Games

- a. All rescheduling must be made and approved by the Vice President of Operations prior to canceling a game.
- b. The Vice President of Operations 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 2)
- c. All rescheduled games must be communicated by the League Vice President of Operations to all League teams via the website.

116 – Responsibilities at Home Games

- a. The home team for League games is responsible for coordinating all on-ice and off-ice officials and will ensure Referee(s) and two Linesmen to do the games. The home team Manager will check 30 minutes prior to the game start to ensure the Referee(s) 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 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 three twenty-minute stop-time periods.
- h. Teams must shake hands following games unless otherwise instructed by the Referee.

117 – 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.

118 – Schedule

- a. Divisions are as follows:

Metro North Conference

Metro Red Division

Edmonton CAC Imperial Equities
Edmonton CAC Think Green Alberta
Edmonton KC Shamrocks
Edmonton KC Voyageurs
Edmonton MLAC Alumni
Edmonton MLAC TRAXX
Edmonton SSAC Innovation Physio
Edmonton SSAC Pro Hockey Life

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 Blues

Rural North Conference

Rural White Division

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

Rural Black Division

Fort McMurray Barons
GPAC AA1 Storm
GPAC Higson Dental Group Storm
NEBC Yukon Trackers
Peace River Sabres
TRAC Wolverines

119 – Coaching Certification

Hockey Alberta Bylaws & Regulations

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

APPENDIX 1

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 found them in proper order.

Auditing Person(s) – Address and Phone Number

APPENDIX 2

RESCHEDULED GAME REPORT

ORIGINAL GAME NO: _____

ORIGINAL GAME DATE: _____ **ORIGINAL GAME TIME:** _____

HOME TEAM: _____ **ARENA:** _____

VISITOR TEAM: _____

HOME AUTHORIZATION: _____

VISITOR AUTHORIZATION: _____

**** ALL GAMES TO BE CHANGED****

PROPOSED GAME NO: _____

DATE: _____ **TIME:** _____

HOME TEAM: _____ **ARENA:** _____

VISITOR TEAM: _____

HOME AUTHORIZATION: _____

VISITOR AUTHORIZATION: _____

VP OPERATIONS APPROVAL: _____

After signing distribute to:
President
Team 1
Team 2

APPENDIX 3

NAHL TEAM AND FAN UNSPORTSMANLIKE 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 4

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.

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 always have an up-to-date HCR-generated roster with you.
- 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.
- Scan and email are 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.

APPENDIX 5

PLAYOFF OVERTIME RULES

PLAYOFFS:

Semi-Finals & Finals.

* If either team declines to play in the necessary overtime period or periods, the game shall be declared a loss for that team.

- All Divisions will play Overtime according to Hockey Canada Rule #10.16 "Tied Game".
- Teams will play 4 on 4 hockey in Overtime.
- **Division Winners** will also play according to this rule.

APPENDIX 6

NAHL PLAYOFF TRAVEL

PLAYOFF TRAVEL: 300 kms. is to be used for travel for all playoffs.

- If a team is over the 300 kms. that team must travel to the higher seeded team and play all 3 games at that center. Costs will be covered by the higher seeded team here. The higher seeded team will be the home team for Games # 1 & 3. The lower seeded team will be the home team for Game # 2. Two sets of uniforms will be required. This applies to the best 2 out of 3 series. If the kms. don't apply, then home and home will then be played between the 2 teams.

COST EXAMPLES: Ice rental, On ice officials, and Off ice officials in the penalty box.

APPENDIX 7

NAHL WEBSITE/GAMESHEET PENALTY ABBREVIATIONS

Website/Game Sheet Penalty Abbreviations

AGGRESSOR	AGGR
BENCH PENALTY	BENCH
BOARDING	BOARD
BUTT-ENDING	BUTT
CROSS CHECKING	CCK
CHECKING FROM BEHIND	CFB
CHARGING	CHARGE
DELAY OF GAME	DELAY
ELBOWING	ELBOW
FIGHTING	FIGHT
GAME EJECTION (Three Stick infractions. Zero penalty minutes)	EJECT
GOALTENDER INTERFERNCE	GINT
GAME MISCONDUCT	GMISC
GROSS MISCONDUCT	GROSS
HEAD CONTACT	HEAD
HANDLING PUCK	HNDPUCK
HIGH STICK	HISTK
HOLDING STICK	HLDSTK
HOLDING	HOLD
HOOKING	HOOK
ILLEGAL EQUIPMENT (NECKGUARDS, BROKEN STICK)	ILLEGAL
INSTIGATOR	INSTIG
INTERFERENCE	INT
KNEEING	KNEE
MATCH PENALTY	MATCH
MISCONDUCT	MISC
PENALTY SHOT	PSHOT
ROUGHING AFTER THE WHISTLE	RAW
ROUGHING	ROUGH
SLASHING	SLASH
SLEW FOOTING	SLEW
SPEARING	SPEAR
TOO MANY MEN	TMM
TRIPPING	TRIP
UNSPORTMANLIKE CONDUCT	USC