

# Manitoba Female Hockey League U18 AAA

## Constitution (May 28, 2022)

### SECTION 1

#### Article 1 - Name

The League shall be known as the Manitoba Female Hockey League U18 AAA herein after referred to as the MFHLU18.

#### Article 2 - Purpose

The Manitoba Female Hockey League U18 AAA ("MFHLU18" or "League") shall exist to encourage and promote the development of Female U18 AAA Hockey within Hockey Manitoba based on Regional Team competition through a structured Provincial League leading to a Provincial Championship.

#### Article 3 - Membership

a) The MFHLU18 will consist of the following regions:

- 1) Central Plains (one team)
- 2) Westman (one team)
- 3) Yellowhead (one team)
- 4) Norman (one team)
- 5) Parkland (one team)
- 6) Pembina Valley (one team)
- 7) Interlake (one team)
- 8) Eastman (one team)
- 9) City of Brandon (one team)
- 10) Hockey Winnipeg (minimum 2 and maximum 5 teams)

The MFHLU18. may, subject to the permission of Hockey Manitoba, permit out-of-province Female U18 AAA teams to compete in the MFHLU18. Regions may also formally combine subject to terms and conditions outlined within a Memorandum of Understanding between the applicable regions, as approved by Hockey Manitoba.

b) A region shall be admitted into membership upon meeting the following criteria at the time of its application

- 1) The applicant tenders a certified cheque for the cost of their membership and for their performance bond.
- 2) That the application is made in writing before the spring league AGM.

- 3) In the case of out of province applicants and suspended members, all other conditions imposed upon it as a condition of membership.
- c) A membership shall be deemed forfeit for any of the following reasons and as determined by the Board of Directors.
  - 1) Actions deemed detrimental to the MFHLU18
  - 2) Non-payment of fees or assessment
  - 3) Failure to comply with the Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations.
- d) Any team whose membership has been suspended shall have ***NO*** claim to refund for membership costs or performance bonds and such teams effected shall be required to re-apply for membership in accordance with sub section b) herein.
- e) A region may request that a leave of absence for a one-year period for its team(s) be considered by the MFHLU18 President. The following shall accompany the request for a leave of absence:
  - 1) Rationale for the leave

The request for a leave of absence must be provided before August 1<sup>st</sup> of the year requested. The MFHLU18 President shall have 14 days from the date of receipt of the request, to consider said request and shall advise the region and Hockey Manitoba in writing of the result.
- f) Any team withdrawing from the League after the League Schedule maker has submitted the schedule would forfeit all monies paid to the league. In the event the team is re-admitted to the league, in accordance with subsection (B), it would have its performance bond doubled for the first SEASON after it returned to the MFHLU18 only.

#### **Article 4 - Board of Directors and Elected Officers**

- a) The Board of Directors of the MFHLU18. shall consist of the Executive Committee (The President, The Vice-Presidents (3), The Secretary Treasurer), the Past President and one Director from each team. Each member of the Board of Directors shall have one (1) vote.
- b) The President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected at the Spring AGM to a two year term (President and Secretary/Treasurer on odd years and Vice-Presidents on even years)
- c) The Three Vice Presidents shall be made up of the following people:
  1. One Vice President (West) shall be elected by the teams in the West Zone (defined as Westman South, Yellowhead, Brandon, Parkland, Norman, Pembina Valley)
  2. One Vice President (East) shall be elected by the teams in the East Zone (defined as Eastman, Interlake, Central Plains, Hockey Winnipeg)
  3. One Vice President (Media) shall be elected by the Board
- d) The team Directors of the rural teams shall be the Female Vice Directors of the Region. The Directors of the Winnipeg Teams will be appointed by Hockey Winnipeg.
- e) A team Director entitled to vote at a meeting may vote by proxy by appointing in writing a proxyholder, who is not required to be a Director, to attend and act at the meeting in the

manner and to the extent authorized by the proxy and with the authority conferred by it subject to the following: (i) a proxy is valid only at the meeting in respect of which it is given; and (ii) a proxyholder has the same rights as the Director by whom they were appointed.

- f) The President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary Treasurer shall not be permitted to represent an individual team at any meeting of the league.
- g) If any new member of the Executive Committee is a Team Director, that position will become open for the Region (for Rural teams) or the Team (for Winnipeg Teams) to appoint.
- h) Any honorariums paid to any member of the executive committee shall be approved by the board at the spring AGM and reviewed every 3 years.
- i) No team official may be a member of the Executive Committee.

#### **Article 5 - Meetings**

- a) The Annual Meeting of the MFHLU18. shall take place prior to the Annual Meeting of Hockey Manitoba.
- b) The President of the MFHLU18. shall be responsible for designating times and places for all General Meetings. A minimum of fourteen days' notice in writing shall be given to all board members.
- c) The Quorum needed for a meeting shall be one half plus one of eligible members.
- d) The board will meet annually before Feb 15 to discuss and bring forward motions for consideration at the Hockey Manitoba AGM.

#### **Article 6 - Amendments to the Constitution**

- a) The constitution may be amended by submitting notices of motion to the Secretary a minimum of thirty days prior to the MFHLU18. Annual Meeting. The Secretary shall circulate said notices of motion to the Board of Directors, fourteen days prior to the League Annual meetings.
- b) Two thirds vote of the Board of Directors can waive Article 6(a)

#### **Article 7 - Consistency**

Where the provisions of this Constitution, By-Laws and/or Regulations are inconsistent with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of Hockey Manitoba or Hockey Canada, the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of Hockey Manitoba and Hockey Canada shall prevail.

# Regulations

## SECTION 2

### A. Registration

1. Each Rural Minor Hockey region, as defined in the Minor Hockey Regulations shall form and operate one Female U18 AAA Team. Hockey Winnipeg shall operate a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 teams. Any Region, other than Hockey Winnipeg, wishing to form and operate more than one team must receive the approval of the League, The Chair of the Zone and Female Council. Leave of absence requests for a team(s) within a region shall follow Section 1, Article 3 Part E.
2. Each Team is responsible to its respective Region and operates within the Mandate granted by said Region. The team will be classified as “stand alone” in that the players only participate in the regional team.
3. Each **member** region shall determine the location of the teams within each region. **Member** regions must contact the league to indicate the intention to operate by June 15 and the League must inform Hockey Manitoba by Aug 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. The teams may roster a maximum of 20 players, two of whom must be goaltenders. All players must be properly rostered prior to the first league game, tournament.

**CLARIFACATION:** Tryouts may consist of a maximum of three exhibition games. To participate, players are not required to be on an approved Hockey Manitoba roster as long as the games are used to assess and evaluate the players' skills. Thereafter, players must be properly rostered to play further exhibition, league or tournament game.

### B. Player Eligibility / Transfers / Affiliation

1. All players who reside within a region are eligible to attend tryouts for the regional team.
2. A player moving into another region must get a release from her previous region before she is able to try of for the regional team. This release must be signed by the Regional Director or Female Vice-Director of the region the player is departing from. Said release must be presented to the receiving region by August 15<sup>th</sup>. The release request must be dealt with by the region following the Hockey Manitoba release guidelines.
3. A U18 aged player who attends a training camp and whom her regional team releases is eligible to try out for another AAA regional team. The release is required in writing but under the aforementioned circumstances, cannot be denied. Said release must be signed by the Regional Director and/or the Female Vice-Director of the region.
4. Any region releasing a player must notify the League of said release by providing the League with a copy of said release.

5. Any U18 Aged player who attends her region's U18 AAA tryout camp and is not rostered as one of the 20 eligible players by the first game that region plays in league or tournament play by October 1st, shall be released and deemed eligible to tryout for an AAA team in another region. **Note: By-Laws B (2) and B (3) for eligibility.** Any player, who has been requested to sign on a regional roster by her AAA regional team and refuses to do so, is ineligible to transfer from one region to another region. Failure to successfully tryout and be offered a roster spot in another region required the player to return to her home region.
6. Any 3<sup>rd</sup> (17 year old) year player released as per B (3), and who played in another region for the previous season as a 2<sup>nd</sup> year player, shall have the option of tryout for the regional team she played on with last season or with the region in which she resides. In either case, should she not make either team, she is released to tryout with another team as per B (3).
7. Any 2<sup>nd</sup> (16 year old) year player released as per B (3), and who played in another region for the previous season as a 1<sup>st</sup> year player, shall first tryout with the region in which she resides. Should she not make that regional team, she is released to tryout with another team as per B (3).
8. Bantam aged players that try out and are not rostered on their regional U18 AAA Team are not eligible for a release to another region.
9. All rosters must be approved by the Regional Director or Female Vice-Director and then submitted to the League who will then submit the roster to Hockey Manitoba for approval. This roster must be submitted by September 30.
10. All game sheets (including exhibition and tournament games) must be submitted to the League.
11. Any region declaring itself an open zone on July 1 shall notify the League and provide the League with a list of players that have registered with their home region on or before July 1<sup>st</sup>.
12. In the event of any dispute difference or question regarding any matter of any kind arising at any time from these Regulations the right of appeal from any from any league member or individual dissatisfied with any such decisions will be the recourse.
13. All appeals will be accompanied by a certified cheque for \$150.00 made payable to the MFHLU18. This fee may be refunded at the discretion of the appeals committee.
14. All appeals shall be heard by an appeal committee appointed by the League President.

### **C. Provincials**

The winner of the league championship shall be declared the Provincial Champion and will represent Manitoba and playoff with Saskatchewan for a berth to the Esso Cup Nationals as per Rule 38.h.

### **D. Membership Fees / Performance Bond**

All teams must submit a \$1000.00 performance bond and League fees of (TBD at Spring AGM meeting) to the Treasurer at the Fall Board Meeting.

#### **E. League Games**

1. All League games will mirror Hockey Canada's 2 Headman, 2 Linesmen system.
2. All league games will consist of 3 twenty minute stop time periods with a flood between each period.
3. Home team will ensure that the rink is open 1.5 hours before the official start time
4. Off-ice Officials- The home team will be responsible for ensuring that off ice officials are competent and that there is at least one adult in a minimum two person system. Timekeepers to keep track of shots on goal for both teams and noted on game sheet.
5. The Home team is responsible for supplying warm up pucks. At least twenty pucks per team.
6. In the event a game needs to be rescheduled, the two teams shall have 7 days to reschedule the game and notify the President and scheduler. If the two teams cannot agree, each team will submit 1 date and time (within the timeframe of the league schedule), to the executive within the original 7 days, and the executive will decide the date and location where the game will be played. All rescheduled games must be completed before the end of the regular league schedule.
7. Fines for forfeits
  - A \$1000 fine and 10 points will be deducted from team standings levied against any team that forfeits a game. A team will be given 7 days to replenish their bond.
8. The League will have an on ice warm up time of at least ten minutes.
9. The Home team in the League will be designated to wear the white jerseys.
10. All League suspensions will follow Hockey Manitoba guidelines for suspensions.
11. All Sunday games are to start by 2:30pm unless mutually agreed on by both teams.
12. All weekday games are to start by 7:30 pm unless mutually agreed on by both teams.
13. Home team to update game score on the League Website immediately after completion of game.
14. Home and visiting teams shall be responsible for updating the League Website for their team's statistics within 48 hours of the completion of the game.
15. Home team to submit game sheet to the President within 24 hours of completion, unless there is a suspension, then it shall be immediately after the game has ended.
16. The President shall inform any team if game sheets are not being completed accurately or statistics recorded on the League Website are inaccurate.
17. The League shall play a minimum 28 game schedule within either a divisional or non-divisional structure that begins at the start of October and ends at the second week of February.

18. All games will start at the scheduled time as per the League Master Schedule. All warmups will take place before the scheduled start time. All teams must communicate the routine to all visiting teams at the start of the season. There will be no deviations to this routine in the season or playoffs.
19. The League shall have a scheduling meeting on the third Saturday of August. Representatives from all teams must be present with their ice times and locations to complete the league schedule.
20. For regular season play, the MFHLU18 will adopt a five (5) minute sudden death 4 on 4 overtime period followed by a 3 player shoot-out. If still tied after the 3 player shoot-out, the shoot-out will continue into a sudden death format until a winner is decided. If there is not enough time for a 5 minute overtime period, the teams can go immediately to the shoot-out process noted above
21. For further clarity on the shoot-out process:
  - a. Any player whose penalty time has not completed when the overtime period ended is not eligible to be one of the players selected to participate in the shootout and must remain in the penalty box or in the dressing room
  - b. Players serving penalties assessed during the shootout must remain in the penalty box or in the dressing room until the conclusion of the shootout
  - c. 3 different players are to be selected for the 3 player shoot-out
  - d. The 3 players who participated in the 3 player shoot-out may participate in the sudden death shootout
  - e. No one player may participate in the shootout in consecutive shootout attempts including from the 3 player shootout to the sudden death shootout
22. For league play and playoffs, where a penalty has been called, the face-off will come back to the offending team's zone.
23. For league play and playoffs, where an icing has been called, the offending team will not be allowed to change the players on the ice.

#### **F. Playoffs**

1. All Playoff games shall use a 4 man system (2 Headmen, 2 Linesmen).
2. The regular season for the MFHLU18 will end on the second Saturday of February. The Playoffs will begin after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of February on the following Monday in one of two formats:
  - a. Any playoff series involving Norman or a series with 4 hours or more of travel, will be played with the higher ranked team hosting the first three games in the first weekend of the series and the lower ranked team hosting the second two games if necessary.
  - b. All other series will begin with the first game being scheduled on the first Tuesday or Wednesday of the time frame of the series. The second game of the series will be scheduled on the following Friday. Game three will be scheduled on the following Sat or Sun. Game 4 shall be scheduled on the

Tuesday or Wednesday and Game 5 will be scheduled on the following Friday or Saturday.

- c. This format may be adjusted if both teams agree and submit the new schedule to the league before the first game of the playoff round.
  - d. In any event, each round shall have 10 calendar days to complete the series.
  - e. This format will be adjusted on Manitoba or Canada Games years.
3. The higher ranked team will have home ice advantage during playoffs. Where teams are tied in standings at the end of league play with respect to points, the team with the most wins shall be deemed to be the higher ranked team.
  4. For playoffs, overtime will consist of a 10 minute sudden death period starting immediately after the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> period with no flood and no changing of ends. If still tied, overtime shall consist of 20 minute sudden death periods with a flood between each period and teams changing end.

#### **G. League Scheduling**

1. If possible, the MFHLU18 shall schedule games primarily on weekends to avoid excessive travel midweek unless two teams agree to a mid-week scheduled game.
2. Each team will submit to the league executive 10 double header home ice times on weekends (20 ice times) by July 31<sup>st</sup>. The ice times may be on Friday, Saturday or Sunday but must be back-to-back (either Friday and Saturday or Saturday and Sunday). These ice times with game start times if available, will be clearly marked on calendar style pages or other format as determined from time-to-time. The league executive will prepare a master calendar and draft schedule with all team's game times for use at the league scheduling meeting.
3. Teams will be allowed 4 "black out" weekends during the regular season for exhibition or tournament play. These weekends must be provided to the league executive along with the game times and will be included in the master calendar.
4. At the scheduling meeting, if required, adjustments that may be required to the draft schedule are to be reviewed and finalized.
5. Teams that are in close proximity to each other may choose to schedule mid-week games.
6. After all teams have selected their weekend blocks, teams may trade games to adjust their schedule for travel and playing different teams on weekend trips.
7. The schedule shall be finalized at the end of the scheduling meeting and not later than one week following the meeting should clarification of times be required.

#### **H. League Awards**

1. All Star Players and League Awards are to have voting to be completed by the last weekend of regular season play. This will allow the League to announce the winners prior to the start of playoffs.