

The logo of the Manitoba Women's Junior Hockey League (MWJHL) is a circular emblem. It features a stylized hockey player in silhouette, skating and holding a stick. The player is positioned on the right side of the circle. The word "LEAGUE" is written in a serif font along the top inner edge of the circle. The letters "MWJHL" are prominently displayed in the center in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below "MWJHL", the phrase "WITH A DIFFERENCE" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font along the bottom inner edge. At the very bottom of the circle, the website address "www.themwjhl.ca" is written in a sans-serif font.

Manitoba Women's Junior Hockey League (MWJHL)

**Constitution – By-Laws – Regulations – Code of Conduct –
Rules and Regulations**

Updated September 11, 2024

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1. NAME

This organization shall be registered as the Manitoba Women's Junior Hockey League Inc. For legal purposes, the name shall be the Manitoba Women's Junior Hockey League Inc., but for all other purposes, will be known as the MWJHL.

ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the MWJHL is to promote the growth of women's hockey in Manitoba and to foster the development of competitive hockey while setting high standards of fair play and respect as outlined in the MWJHL mission statement.

ARTICLE 3. GOVERNMENT

- A Board of Directors shall govern the MWJHL under the direction of the president. An Executive Committee shall be formed from the Board of Directors for the purpose of administering the league.
- The Executive members shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the league.
- The Executive Committee shall consist of President, Immediate Past President Non-voting, Vice President Finance and Registration, Vice President of Officials, Special Events Coordinator, Vice President Hockey Operations, Vice President Coach and Player Development, Secretary, Member at Large Voting, Two Members at Large non-voting.
- Team members of the MWJHL managed teams shall provide one representative from the roster of team officials to the Board of Directors at the beginning of each season. Team representatives will have full voting privileges, with no proxies allowed.
- All incoming executive members must have served a minimum of one year as a non-voting Member at Large or served as a team representative the year previous to joining the executive.
- At no time on the Board of Directors shall there be more voting members of the executive than the number of team representatives.

ARTICLE 4. VOTING

Each member of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to one vote. No member may have more than one vote. Proxies may not be used.

At the MWJHL Annual Meeting, each member of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to one vote and each Team shall also have one vote. No member may have more than one vote. Proxies may not be used.

ARTICLE 5. ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the MWJHL will be held in June of each year at a date and location chosen by the Executive Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 6. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to the Constitution can be made at the Annual Meeting provided that specific notices of motion were filed with the President and communicated to the Board of Directors thirty days prior to the meeting date. A two-thirds majority is required to pass amendments to the constitution. Notice of motion may be waived by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors on each motion.

ARTICLE 7. AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Amendments to the By-Laws can be made only at the Annual Meeting provided that specific notices of motion were filed with the President and communicated to the Board of Directors thirty days prior to the meeting date. A two-thirds majority is required to pass amendments to the by-laws. Notice of motion may be waived by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors on each motion.

ARTICLE 8. AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS

Amendments to rules and regulations will normally take place at the first regularly scheduled league meeting in September but may be made at the Annual Meeting or at any regularly scheduled league meeting provided that notice to amend the Rules and Regulations were communicated to the Board of Directors fifteen days prior to the meeting date. A simple majority is required to pass amendments to Rules and Regulations.

BY-LAWS

BY-LAW 1. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE

1. President

- a. Presides over all league meetings, special meetings, and the Annual Meeting.
- b. In consultation with a minimum of one executive member and one team representative exercises the powers of the Executive Committee in an emergency. This decision will be subject to ratification at the next league meeting of the Executive Committee.
- c. Acts as one of three signing members of the league for purposes of banking or legal matters.
- d. Ensures the general operation of the hockey program of the MWJHL.
- e. Acts as a liaison between the Executive Committee and each team.
- f. Ensures that the playing rules of the MWJHL and those of its governing bodies are carried out in accordance with the Constitution.
- g. Ensures an Audit of league finances is carried out by an external firm at the end of each season.
- h. Records and enforces all suspensions under the rules of the MWJHL.

2. Vice President Finance and Registrar

- a. In the absence of the president, carries out the duties of the president.
- b. Keeps accurate financial records of all MWJHL accounts in accordance with generally accepted financial practices.
- c. Presents detailed written financial reports at each meeting of the MWJHL Board of Directors.
- d. Forwards all documents and data at the end of each season for an audit by an external accounting firm as chosen by the President and approved by the Executive Committee.
- e. Ensures an Audit of league finances is completed by an external firm at the end of each season.
- f. Acts as one of three signing members of the league for purposes of banking or legal matters.
- g. Carries out all registration duties of the MWJHL.

3. Vice President of Officials

- a. Oversees the official administration of the entire program of Timekeepers, Linesmen and Referees. This also includes Assignors, Timekeeper-In-Chief and Referee-In-Chief.
- b. Has a voting role on the Executive
- c. Makes a written report and budget to the MWJHL Executive in the spring of each year.
- d. Is the primary contact for the Executive for all things related to referees, linesperson, and timekeepers.

4. Vice President Hockey Operations

- a. Seeks out practice venues and times for MWJHL teams in need of practice ice.
- b. Forms and chairs a committee with equal representation from team representatives and Executive members to select league award winners.
- c. Presents a budget for and purchases year-end league awards and arranges for presenters for league awards.

d. In absence of President, acts as league representative at Hockey Manitoba meetings.

5. Secretary

- a. Maintains accurate minutes of all meetings and make these minutes available to the Board of Directors within 14 days following meetings.
- b. Has previous minutes available at league meetings.
- c. Ensures all minutes are kept in a location available for future reference, should they be required for verification.
- d. Notifies members of all meetings, including time and location.
- e. Distributes the agenda for meetings. Keep agendas with minutes for future reference.

6. Vice President Coach and Player Development

- a. In the absence of the President and Vice President Finance and Registrar, the Vice President Hockey Operations, carries out the duties of the President.
- b. Assists in preparing the league and playoff schedules for the MWJHL.
- c. Oversees the Tryouts, Preseason Skate, and Prospect Camp
- d. Chair of Appeals Committee unless there is a conflict of interest, in which case the President will appoint another member of the Executive to that duty.
- e. Recommends and implements approved Coach and Player Development opportunities.
- f. With team representative, oversees the annual MWJHL All Star game.
- g. Relays information about player suspensions from the Vice President of Officials to the coaches.

7. Special Events Coordinator

- a. Duties and assignments as assigned by the Executive Committee
- b. Assists VP of Coach and Player Development in developing league and playoffs schedules and obtaining ice for same. Assists in obtaining practice ice.
- c. Help coordinate the Tryouts, LG Tournament, playoffs and any other special events.

8. Webpage and Media Director

- a. Administer information on website.
- b. Update the webpage when required.
- c. Promote league through all media outlets.
- d. Oversees social media advertising for the league including TV, radio, and social media under the guidance of the President.

9. Member at Large (Voting)

- a. Duties and assignments as assigned by the Executive Committee

10. Member at Large (Non-Voting)

- a. Duties and assignments as assigned by the Executive Committee

BY-LAW 2. MEETINGS

The Executive of the MWJHL shall meet once per month from September to April each season. The Annual Meeting will be held in June of each year. Meetings during the off season may be called by the President as required. All meetings of the MWJHL will be run according to Robert's Rules of Order.

BY-LAW 3. DISCIPLINE APPEALS

1. Appeals shall not be heard for suspensions determined by following the suspension guidelines in the Hockey Canada rule book, Hockey Manitoba regulations or the MWJHL suspension guidelines.
2. All appeals shall be made in writing within forty-eight hours of judgment to the president or chief executive officer accompanied by a certified cheque or money order in the amount of \$150.00, made payable to the MWJHL. The Appeal Committee shall convene within seven days of receipt of the written appeal. A decision from the Appeal Committee shall be made in writing within twenty-four hours of the appeal hearing.

BY-LAW 4. PROTEST APPEALS

1. Protests will not be heard as to fact of a referee's decision.
2. Protests shall be made in writing within twenty-four hours to the president or chief executive officer accompanied by a certified cheque or money order in the amount of \$150.00, made payable to the MWJHL. The Appeal Committee will hear the protest within seven days of receipt of the written appeal and a written decision shall be forthcoming within twenty-four hours of the appeal hearing.
3. A successful protest will result in a refund of the protest fee.

BY-LAW 5. DISCIPLINE APPEAL COMMITTEE

The Discipline Appeal Committee shall consist of a Chair, who shall be appointed by the President, and three other members of the Executive Committee.

BY-LAW 6. RULES

The MWJHL will play according to the rules of Hockey Canada and the provincial branch, Hockey Manitoba. Clarification of rules particular to the MWJHL is outlined in Regulations.

BY-LAW 7. DEADLINES FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHEDULING

The MWJHL will annually establish deadlines, for teams to be omitted from the League's game schedule before & after Christmas.

BY-LAW 8. LEAGUE EXPANSION

A new team to the league (Expansion) must be approved by a vote. Voting shall consist of the Board and 1 representative from each of the league teams. No one person can have two votes. (ie Coach/Manager/Parent Representing and holding Executive position).

BY-LAW 9. OVER AGE PLAYERS

The maximum age of eligibility for female hockey players will be those who are 21 years of age on December 31st of the current playing season. In addition, each team maybe allowed to retain three (3) Over Age players designated as two (2) skaters and one (1) goalie, or three skaters with the following conditions: Any Over Age players must Register with the MWJHL to indicate their interest and attend tryouts for the MWJHL in September of the current season. The Over Age players must have played in the MWJHL for the previous season.

BY-LAW 10. REGISTRATION FEE PAYMENTS

The Vice-President Finance establishes a registration fee payment plan and advises all registrants prior to and at the Tryouts. Payment can be made in full, or the first payment is one-half the fee, and must be received by October 1st. The remainder is to be divided equally and paid by November 30th and January 31st. Failure to make these payments on time results in a suspension from all games and practices until payment is received. This also includes playoff games.

An alternate written payment plan can be made subject to the approval of the VP Finance, but must include the 1st payment by October 1st, and the final payment by January 31st. Managers of teams will be made aware of the plans.

A player is ineligible for league awards, scholarships, or bursaries if fees are not paid in full by the end of playoffs.

If fees are not paid in full by May 31st of that season, the player is ineligible to register for the MWJHL for the next season, and Hockey Manitoba will be notified by letter of the player debt and ineligibility. If payment is made after that time, and before the Tryouts of the following season, Hockey Manitoba will be advised and registration in the MWJHL will be allowed.

Collection of Registration Fees are made at the Tryouts or after, by the Managers of each team in conjunction with the VP Finance. Payments are given to the VP Finance who makes the bank deposits. The VP Finance will advise managers of payments received electronically.

No refunds will be issued after December 31st of the current season. A minimum of 2/3 of the total registration fee must have been paid before any refunds would be considered. Once a player has been issued a refund, she is no longer part of that team and will be removed from that official roster.

BY-LAW 11. LATE REGISTRATIONS

If a player registers late for the season, which means after the tryouts have concluded. She will be put into the supplemental draft process. The deadline for late registration will be December 31st of the current season. January 1st, the league will close registration for the current season. The player will be made aware of the cost to join the league and will have to pay half of the amount upfront before she can be placed on a roster. The remaining balance will be paid through the payment plan of the league. Teams will still have to draft to the league requirements and cannot hold a spot for late registration.

BY-LAW 12. REGISTRATION FEES

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RULES AND REGULATIONS

REGULATION 1. TIME OF GAME

Each game shall consist of 3 periods being 20 minutes each of “stop time”. Teams will be allowed a five-minute warm-up prior to the start of the game. Games will begin as scheduled. Example 5:30 pm start means teams step on the ice at that time and complete their warmup i.e. 5:30 – 5:35 pm.

After warm-ups, the starting players shall line-up on their respective blue lines and the following will occur:

The timekeeper will read the following statement: *Ladies and Gentlemen, the MWJHL acknowledges we are on Indigenous land, land inhabited by Indigenous peoples since time immemorial. We acknowledge this is the homeland of the First Nations and Metis people and that many of us are guests on this land we call home. We acknowledge we are bound together by Treaty 1.*

Momentary pause.

The timekeeper will then say: *For all that are able, please stand and remove your hats for the playing of Oh Canada.*

REGULATION 2A. OVERTIME

At the end of regular season games which end in a tie, a 3-on-3 5-minute stop time overtime period will be implemented with changes anytime including at a stoppage in play. At the end of regulation time, teams will switch ends in OT following a 1-minute break.

- If one team receives a penalty, they will keep 3 players on the ice, clock will stop upon penalty call, with the non-penalized team allowed to play with 4 players.
- In the event of subsequent penalties, the non-penalized team shall add one player to the ice. At the end of the penalty, the player receiving the penalty shall be allowed to return to the ice creating a 4-on-4 situation until the next stoppage in play, at which point 3-on-3 play will resume.
- If the game remains tied, there will be a three round sudden shootout, with the home team deciding who shoots first or last. If tied at the end of 3 rounds, the shootout will become sudden death. The teams must go through the entire roster before a player can shoot a second time.
- The winning team of the shootout receives 2 points and losing team receives 1 point.

2B. OVERTIME PLAYOFFS updated May 2, 2024

At the end of an MWJHL Playoff game which ends in a tie, there will be a 30 second break at the end of regulation time prior to the start of overtime.

- Teams will play a 10-minute stop time period, 3 on 3.
- Teams will switch ends, which will create the long change.
- Changes can be made at any time, on the fly or at a whistle.
- If a penalty occurs, the penalized team will play with three players and the team with the powerplay will add one skater and play 4 on 3, until the penalty expires. At the next whistle teams will revert to 3 on 3.
- If still tied after the first overtime period, we will flood the ice. Then the next overtime period will be 20 minutes with the teams switching ends back to their net as it would be to start the game.
- A shootout will not decide a game in playoffs.

REGULATION 3. TIME OUTS

Each team will be allowed one, 30 second time-out per game.

REGULATION 4. UNIFORMS

Each player, including goaltenders, must wear identical team jerseys with a permanent number. Players not playing goal shall be required to wear matching socks identical with other team members.

REGULATION 5. OFFICIALS

Each game shall be played under the three official referee system. In the event once an official is unable to perform his or her duties, the two official referee system may be used. The MWJHL will provide timekeeper/scorekeepers to each game.

REGULATION 6. STARTING GAMES

Failure to start a game within five minutes of the scheduled start time shall result in a \$50.00 fine to the offending team in addition to any penalty assessed.

REGULATION 7. GAME REPORTS

Visiting Team officials are required to complete the roster information and ensure the Home Team officials have the game sheet fifteen minutes prior to the start of the game. Roster information is to be filled in numerical order with all names legibly printed. Suspended players shall be noted with "SUSP" marked beside the player's name. Referees' reports are to be communicated within 12 hours of the conclusion of the game to the VP of Officials.

REGULATION 8. AP PLAYERS (revised AGM – May 8, 2017)

A) MWJHL Regular Season – AP Policy

- The MWJHL recognizes the AP rules and agreement with Hockey Winnipeg and Regional areas of Hockey Manitoba. The MWJHL teams may AP from sanctioned teams of Hockey Manitoba in the U18 age category including AAA teams, AA teams and teams considered at this level.
- MWJHL teams may AP during the regular season for an absent and/or injured roster player (s) on their team up to 3 skaters and 1 goaltender if needed. A roster cannot exceed the rostered number of players of the current team.
- To be eligible for MWJHL playoffs, AP players may be invited when an MWJHL team is less than 14 skaters.

B) MWJHL AP Policy – Playoffs

Affiliation Players (AP's) may be used in the playoffs if the roster is reduced to less than 12 skaters. (Example, if a team is at 14 skaters (not including goaltenders) they may call up 3 AP players to obtain a roster of 14 skaters. A goaltender may be AP'd if a team cannot dress two goaltenders due to absence or injury/suspension regardless of games played as an AP during the MWJHL regular season. If this is required, the MWJHL team must start their regular season rostered goaltender first. This is to protect the integrity of the game and allow teams to ice a minimum 14 skaters and 2 goaltenders.

REGULATION 9. GOALTENDERS

All MWJHL teams are required to carry two (2) goaltenders along with their skating players for the season if all associated goaltenders are deemed Junior quality by the majority of the coaches.

REGULATION 10. FACE-OFF LOCATION AFTER A PENALTY

The MWJHL follows the Hockey Canada Rule 6.3c.

REGULATION 11. TEAM ICING PUCK NOT ALLOWED TO MAKE LINE CHANGE

The MWJHL adopts no-change icing under Rule 6.7d.

REGULATION 12. AP PLAYERS FROM MWJHL

Affiliation Players (AP's) invited to play from an MWJHL team are not restricted by age but by the Region or Association they play in.

REGULATION 13. MWJHL SUSPENSION REGULATIONS

Suspensions will be assessed based on the Hockey Canada Minor/Female Minimum Suspensions Chart. A member of the League Executive will inform the Head Coach of the suspended player via email no more than 24 hours after the decision is made.

REGULATION 14. OVERAGE

Each team of the MWJHL may be allowed to retain (3) three Over Age players designated as (3) three skaters, or (2) two skaters and (1) one Over Age goaltender with the following conditions; Any eligible O.A. players must have played in the MWJHL the previous year; All Over Age players must register with the MWJHL to indicate their interest and attend tryouts for the MWJHL in September of the upcoming hockey season. (Passed at HM AGM May 23, 2020)

REGULATION 15. NEW PLAYERS

First year players in the league that are drafted in the MWJHL ENTRY DRAFT are required to play on the team that selected them for the whole season. If the player doesn't want to play for the team that drafted them, they can request a trade or a release. They will need to provide a valid reason why they want to be traded or released. The team will try and accommodate a trade that the team feels is fair and maintains the integrity of the league. If a release is granted, the player will enter the supplemental draft process where they must complete the season on that team. At the end of the season the player may ask for a release from the team and enter the draft in the fall. They will be able to be drafted by any team at that point.

REGULATION 16. SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT

- If a team selects a skater in the supplemental draft, that team will forfeit a draft pick of the player's skill level and talent.
- If the team that holds the next pick in the draft wants the skater, they will bid a draft selection. If the draft pick is a first-round pick that skater is automatically on that team that is picking first. If not a first-round pick other teams may bid on a higher draft pick. If this is the case the original team may match the draft bid.
- If the player does not maintain a roster spot the following year, the pick that was the winning bid is not forfeited.
- The time of the bid would happen after the Tryout skates.

REGULATION 17. PLAYOFF FORMAT

- *ROUND 1*- Best of 3 formats. The first round will start either Wednesday or Thursday after the regular season is completed.
- *ROUND 2*- Best of 5 formats. The second round will start based on the completion of the first round.
- *ROUND 3*- Best of 5 format. The third round will start when the second round has been

completed.

- **BRONZE MEDAL**- The League will host a bronze Medal game for the two losing teams in the semifinals. This will be a 1 game contest. The winner of this game will receive the bronze medal.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Manitoba Women's Junior Hockey League wishes to establish a tradition of sportsmanship, collegiality and fair play. The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to nurture and maintain such a culture.

Sportsmanship is fundamental to the MWJHL. As such, it needs to be taught and personified by all involved with this league. Good sportsmanship is a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. All individuals, including players, coaches and team managers, officials, and parents and other fans need to be aware of their influence on the behaviour of others and need to model good sportsmanship.

The following Code of Conduct outlines the expectations of the MWJHL for each of these groups:

EXPECTATIONS OF PLAYERS

- Treat opponents with respect.
- Respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the game.
- Cooperate with officials, coaches and fellow players to conduct a fair competition
- Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the league, and display positive public action at all times.
- Live up to the high standard of sportsmanship established and modeled by the coach and team manager

EXPECTATIONS OF OFFICIALS

- Treat coaches and managers, players and fans with respect.
- Maintain confidence and poise, controlling the game from start to finish.
- Abide by the established Code of Conduct and know and enforce the rules of the game thoroughly and consistently. When enforcing the rules, never exhibit emotions or argue with players and/or coaches.

EXPECTATIONS OF COACHES AND TEAM MANAGERS

- Always set a good example for players and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior.
- Instruct players in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and hold them to these responsibilities.
- Respect the judgment of officials, abide by the rules and set a positive example for parents and other fans.
- Treat opposing coaches, the league Executive, players and fans with respect.
- Support players other coaches and fans that teach and display good sportsmanship.

Register complaints or concerns in writing to the league Executive after emotions have cooled

EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS AND OTHER FANS

- 1Be supportive of the league and refrain from verbally assaulting others or behaving in an unacceptable fashion.
- 1Respect the decisions made by game officials.
- 1Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams in every manner possible, including the content of cheers and signs.
- 1Respect other fans, the coaches and the players on both teams.
- 1Recognize outstanding performances of players on both teams participating in the game.
- 1Maintain enthusiasm and composure

EXPECTATIONS OF EXECUTIVE

- 1Be supportive of the league by positively supporting teams in every manner possible.
- 1Refrain from verbally assaulting others or behaving in an unacceptable fashion.
- 1Respect the decisions made by game officials.
- 1Respect other executive, the coaches, the players and the fans.
- 1Maintain enthusiasm and composure

