

# **EAST KOOTENAY MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION POLICIES**

(updated April, 2024)

## **Policy 1 - Fines**

Failure to play a League Game- \$1000.00

Failure to upload the e-games game sheet to the Spordle Play website within 48 hours \$20

Failure to attend EKMHA Monthly Meeting- \$100.00

Failure to attend EKMHA Annual General Meeting- \$150.00

## **Use of Revenue from Fines**

Throughout the season various fines are collected by the district, which over time can create a surplus in funds. A association may apply to the district for financial support from the surplus funds for a local or district hockey event as followed:

1. Completed applications must be submitted by the minor hockey association with approval by the associations president to the East Kootenay President. Application must include the following:
  - Description of the event
  - Date and time of the event
  - Location of the event
  - Descriptions of what the funds will be used for
  - Amount of funds being requested
2. The East Kootenay President will bring the application to the East Kootenay Board for review at the next scheduled meeting.
3. Following a vote by the East Kootenay Board, the East Kootenay President will inform the minor hockey association which applied with the results of the vote.

## **Policy 2 - EKMHA League, Tiering, and League Banner Championship Policy**

The East Kootenay Minor Hockey Association (EKMHA) has established a league system in order to promote the game of hockey within the association. While it is understood that many teams play in a number of tournaments inside and outside the association, the priority of all teams must be to compete in the EKMHA leagues.

## **EK League and Tiering**

The EKMHA League season runs from November 1 of the current year through to the Monday of the BC Family Day weekend.

If tiering is needed to ensure a balanced league, these tournaments can be held throughout the month of October, except in the last weekend of the month as it is reserved for a scheduling meeting. The locations of the tiering tournaments will be determined at the August or September executive meeting.

If a team has been declared as U11 competitive or U13/U15/U18 Rep, that team will automatically be placed in the A division of the East Kootenay League and will not attend a tiering tournament. All teams declared as recreation will be placed in the recreation divisions of the East Kootenay League and the tiering tournament will be used to determine the number of recreation divisions.

Each team is to play a minimum of 3 games during the tiering tournament. In the event that an association only has one team, that team will compete in the tiering tournament to determine where they best fit within the league divisions. If during the tiering tournament a recreation teams, or an associations only teams, skills does not match any of the other recreation teams, additional exhibition games may be scheduled for that team against competitive/rep teams to determine where they best fit within the league divisions. If those exhibition games are not able to be schedule prior to the scheduling meeting, the East Kootenay Board may place that team where appropriate.

All costs for ice and referees are to be determined by the tournament host and shared equally by all teams attending. The host will book 1 1/2 hours of ice for each game to allow for the 1 hr 15 minutes game time and 15 minutes for a flood prior to the next game. During the tournament the home team will provide volunteer for the e-games game sheet and home penalty box, the away team will provide volunteers for the score clock and away penalty box.

The following rules will be used during the tournaments:

1. Games are to be played following all Hockey Canada, BC Hockey, and EKMHA rules.
2. Each player must be registered with the Minor Hockey Association for which they are playing and be on the Hockey Canada Registry roster for the team which they are playing.
3. Home team are to wear dark jerseys, Away team are to wear white jerseys. Where teams only have one set of jerseys, teams can agree to wear opposite colours.
4. Body checking is not allowed at the U11 or U13 levels or during any games between U15 or U18 recreation level teams. Body checking will be allowed during U15/U18 rep team games.
5. Game times are limited to one hour and 15 minutes.

Games will consist of the following:

- a. 5 minute warm-up. Warm-ups will start at game start time whether teams are ready or not.
- b. three 20 minute running time periods with 2 minute breaks in between periods.

Team are to be dressed and ready 15 minutes prior to game time. Players and coaches are to stay on the bench during breaks in between periods. **Period times may be shortened if a time conflict arises or the tournament is running behind schedule. This will be determined by the referee and communicated to the coaches of both teams.**

6. Penalties during running time - minor penalties will be 3 minutes. Major penalties will be 7 minutes.
7. Tie games will stand. **There will be no overtime or shootouts.**
8. The ice is to be flooded prior to every game.
9. There will be **ZERO TOLERANCE** for unsportsmanlike behaviour for anyone within the arena, on or off the ice. All officials, volunteers, coaching staff, spectators and players will be treated with respect at all times! **Play safe, have fun and enjoy the tournament!**

The last Sunday in the month of October is reserved for a scheduling meeting. The meeting will be arranged by the EKMHA board. Once the league schedule has been set, it will be posted on the EKMHA Spordle Play website. Any changes to the set schedule must be approved by the President of the EKMHA. Any team not wishing to participate in the league championships must notify the President of the EKMHA during the January board meeting of the current season. League banner championship sites will be approved during the January/February board meeting of the current season.

The manager of the home team is required to upload the e-games game sheet to the Spordle Play website within 48 hours of the completion of the game. Failure to upload the e-games game sheet to the Spordle Play website may result in a \$20 fine (at the discretion of the president). This will allow the standings to be updated quickly, especially near the end of the season when games may affect playoff seeding. It will also allow suspensions to be dealt with in a timely manner.

### **League Banner Championships**

Banner championship tournaments for the EKMHA League will begin the weekend after the BC Family Day Weekend and can potentially run through to the last weekend in March prior to the start of Spring break. **Banner championships take precedent over all other games. Failure to attend banner championships due to other games/tournaments will result in a fine of \$1000.00 to the team not attending.** Earlier championship weekends can be approved by the President if it does not cause undue financial hardships on teams. Championship weekends will not be approved in any Resort Communities (Elk Valley, Windermere Valley, etc.) on long

weekends through the winter, unless hotel rates are guaranteed to be at the lowest rate offered during the hockey season.

All championship weekend schedules must be approved by the President of the EKMHA. Seeding for these tournaments will be based on the league standings, however changes which could reduce tournament costs for teams travelling to the championships may also be considered. The league champion is the home team throughout the tournament and may, at the discretion of the President, be allowed to choose their position in the playoff format. Playoff formats are found on the EKMHA website.

Costs for these championship tournaments are to be shared equally amongst the participating teams.

### **Policy 3 - League Games**

League games take precedent over all other games. Failure to play a scheduled league game will result in a fine of \$1000.00 to the team cancelling the league game, unless the game can be rescheduled. All costs associated with cancelling the game shall be paid by the team who cancelled. If less than 48 hours is given, the team is responsible for ice and referee costs. If more than 48 hours is given then the team is only responsible for ice costs. All changes to league games must be approved by the EKMHA President.

Games which are cancelled due to poor roads or poor weather, will not be viewed by the EKMHA in the same light as games cancelled for no reason or to attend tournaments. Fines will still be applied but the teams may be given wider discretion to play the makeup games.

If a game cannot be rescheduled and a fine is applied then all costs associated with the missed game will be paid by the EKMHA to the association who did not cancel the league game.

The onus is on the team who postpones the league game to find a time which is beneficial to both teams. While it is not preferred, cancelled league games may be played during tournaments, as long as the proper time is allotted for this game. However the team who had the game cancelled is under no obligation to play a league game during a tournament.

All team fines must be paid prior to the EKMHA AGM.

All regular season league games will follow the format as listed below and book the appropriate ice times as indicated.

All U11 competitive, U13, U15 and U18 games will be booked with a minimum of 2 hrs. of ice. The game will consist of three 20 minute stop time periods with a flood half way through the second period.

- Warmup - 5 min
- First Period - 20 min stop time
- Break 2 min

- Second Period - 10 min stop time
- 15 min - Flood
- Second Period - 10 min stop time
- Break 2 min
- Third period - 20 min stop time
- No overtime - Ties after regulation remain a tie for the standings

All U11 recreation games will be booked with a minimum of 1 1/2 hrs. of ice. The game will consist of two 20 minute run time periods and one 20 minute stop time period with no floods.

- Warmup - 5 min
- First Period - 20 min run time
- Break 2 min
- Second Period - 20 min run time
- Break 2 min
- Third period - 20 min stop time
- No overtime - Ties after regulation remain a tie for the standings

**Note: If ice time is available and both teams agree, the two hour ice time format can be used.**

#### **Policy 4 -Officials and Referees**

Local associations are responsible for supplying competent minor hockey officials and certified referees for all games played within a MHA. All associations may use the Two Referee/One Linesman, Two Man, Three Man or Four Man system to referee games within their associations.

The organizing committee shall approve on ice officials for all league championship tournaments.

Referees are responsible for sending game reports to the President within 48 hours of the completion of the game. Failure to do so may result in a suspension.

The team manager of the home team is responsible for sending the score of all league games played to the President of the EKMHA within 48 hours of the completion of the game.

The team manager of the home team is responsible for sending the game sheet of any game in which additional suspensions may be warranted to the President of the EKMHA within 48 hours of the end of the game in which an infraction may have occurred.

#### **Policy 5 - Suspensions**

Suspension of players and team officials will follow the BCH Minimum Suspension Guidelines which are sent out to all MHA at the beginning of the hockey season.

The EKMHA reserves the right to apply further suspensions to players and team officials as it sees fit. These additional suspensions must enhance rules laid out by HC.

### **Policy 6 - Ineligible Team Officials**

The deadline for all team officials to be certified is December 1st, a letter will be sent to the MHA indicating deficiencies. If by December 15th the team officials are still not certified a fine of \$250 per uncertified team official will be assessed. If by December 31st the team officials are still not certified a travel suspension (team) will be imposed until such time everyone is properly certified (may result in their removal from the HCR roster).

### **Policy 7 - U9 to U11 Movement Policy**

The following process will be used for all application to register a U9 age player to the U11 level for the season.

- 1) Completed applications must be submitted by the minor hockey association with approval by the associations president to the BC Hockey Operations Task Group Member
- 2) The BC Hockey Operations Task Group Member will bring the application to the district board for review at the next scheduled meeting
- 3) Applications will only be considered for safety reason and only to the house team of an association. Special consideration on team placement will be considered by the board on an individual bases
- 4) Application must be submitted with an independent evaluation of the safety concern only
- 5) Following a vote by the board the East Kootenay President will provide the BC Hockey Operations Task Group Member with a letter of support or non-support

### **Policy 8 - East Kootenay Zone Team Committee Scope and Membership**

The East Kootenay Minor Hockey Association Zone provides the opportunity for players across the East Kootenay District to play Tier 1 hockey and to compete in the BC Hockey Tier 1 Provincial Championships.

The East Kootenay Minor Hockey Associations vision for the program is as followed:

- To promote and encourage good citizenship and sportsmanship among the players and coaches.
- To provide a Tier 1 level hockey program within the district
- To provide an excellent instructional, developmental, and competitive environment aimed at developing highly skilled hockey players in order to prepare all players for moving to a higher level of hockey.

To continue to build the program to a Tier 1 level and to support the vision for the program, the East Kootenay Board has developed an East Kootenay Zone Team Committee. The East Kootenay Zone Team Committee will work with the East Kootenay Zone Team Staff and the East Kootenay Zone Lead to support the vision of the program. The East Kootenay Zone Team

Committee will support the operations of the team but will not review all day to day operational decisions of the program delivery staff. The focus of the committee will be the direction of the program to meet the vision.

The scope of the East Kootenay Zone Team Committee is as followed:

1. Compile information regarding the program and promote the program across the East Kootenay District.
2. Develop, deliver, or support mentorship of the East Kootenay Team Staff.
3. Support the East Kootenay Zone Lead with the planning and operation of the Player Evaluation Camp. This could include acting as evaluators for player selection during the evaluation camps.
4. Review the program policies and feedback received on the program. Following the committee review potential adjustments will be discussed with the East Kootenay Zone Team Staff, East Kootenay Zone Lead and/or the East Kootenay Board. The East Kootenay Board will approved any policy changes by a vote.
5. Support the East Kootenay Zone Lead to fulfill the responsibilities listed in the East Kootenay Zone Lead job description as agreed upon by the East Kootenay Zone Lead.
6. A member of the East Kootenay Zone Committee will be elected by the members of the committee to be a Parent Liaison for the teams.

The East Kootenay Zone Committee will consist of one individual from each Minor Hockey Association in the East Kootenay District. Each Minor Hockey Association in the East Kootenay District will notify the East Kootenay President who the individual is that will be representing them on the East Kootenay Zone Committee. The members of the committee will be selected by each Minor Hockey Association annually by June 30. Members of the committee must remove themselves from decisions that they have a conflict of interest. Individuals who are interested in being a member of the committee can communicate their interest to their local Minor Hockey Association.

The East Kootenay Board can remove an individual from the committee at any time following a vote by the board. The East Kootenay Vice President or another board member will be appointed by the East Kootenay Board to Chair the East Kootenay Zone Committee. The Chair will schedule the East Kootenay Zone Committee meetings and will report to the East Kootenay Board on the meetings.