

POLICIES

Windermere Valley Minor Hockey Association

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Advertising

Team Advertising Policy, any sponsor that would like to advertise on a team's jersey can choose the team, but all revenue goes directly to the association. Anyone wanting to make a cash donation, the cash goes directly to the association. Sponsors can buy equipment or off-ice apparel and distribute as they choose. Off ice apparel must be approved by the board and purchased for the entirety of the team and coaching staff. All donations or sponsors must be unsolicited.

Affiliate Player (AP)

Definition of Affiliate Player: a player from a lower category/division team that has been called up by a higher category/division team so that the higher category/division may dress the maximum number of players allowable for a game in accordance with the Playing Rules. (Hockey Canada 2006).

The WVMHA generally does not promote the use of affiliated players. If players would like to play at a level above their age divisions for the season, they should be referred to the player movement policy of the WVMHA. When teams face player shortages due to small roster sizes, illnesses, injuries, or suspensions, they should generally use the temporary player relief process. It is understood however, that situations may arise from year to year that require the consideration of using AP players for the purposes of development of those players, and at the same time providing teams the ability to roster a full team when they face player shortages. Teams in the WVMHA may only AP players with permission of the board using the following guidelines:

AP players within the same division

- When there are two teams within a division that are split into rep and recreational teams, the rep team may AP recreational players for potential use during the season.

- Within the same division, the AP process can only be used to lend players from a non-carded team to a carded team.
- Since U11 is a non-carded division, there is no AP process, and any player movements need to follow the EKMHA rules on temporary player movement.
- Coaches of carded teams who want to recruit AP players from within their division must ask every player on the recreational squad and provide them with a chance to take part in the AP process.
- Once a list of interested AP players is formed and registered onto the HCR, rep coaches must equally contact the players on the list when requiring an AP player.
- If an AP player has played in a game, they would be contacted last, the next time the carded team needs a player to round out a roster.
- AP players may not be used for teams that have 13 or more skaters available to play at U13, or 15 or more skaters at U15 and U18.
- AP players should not be used in situations that leave the AP player's team with less than 13 skaters when there are conflicting schedules. Permission of the board may be granted in extenuating situations.
- AP players shall never take the place of an available regularly rostered player for any game or tournament.

AP players from a lower age division to a higher age division

- Players may not AP from U7 to U9 or U9 to U11. If there are player shortages, teams must follow the EKMHA rules on temporary player movement.
- Carded teams wishing to AP players from a lower division at U13, U15, and U18, must ask all second-year players at the lower division if they wish to become an AP player.
- Once a list of interested AP players is formed and registered onto the HCR, rep coaches must equally contact the players on the list when requiring an AP player.
- If an AP player has played in a game, they would be contacted last, the next time the carded team needs a player to round out a roster.
- AP players can only participate in 10 games before they are permanently moved onto the roster of the carded team as per BC Hockey regulations.
- AP players may not be used for teams that have 13 or more skaters available to play at U13, or 15 or more skaters at U15 and U18.
- When schedules conflict, AP players should not be used in circumstances when their team has fewer than 13 skaters. In exceptional circumstances, the board may grant permission.
- AP should never take the place of an available regularly rostered player in any game or tournament.

AP Goalies

- If a U13 carded division has only two goalies for two teams, both goalies should be placed on the non-carded team and AP'd onto the carded team roster for flexibility throughout the season.
- There is no requirement to have a rostered goalie on a U13 carded team, but the above will not work for U15 or U18 as they must have a goalie on their roster for the season.
- If a carded division has three goalies for two teams, two goalies should be placed on the non-carded team and AP'd onto the carded team roster for flexibility. The carded goalie would be chosen through evaluations.

AP players practicing

- AP players shall only practice with the team above them the week before they are to play with the team in accordance with our extra practice policy.

Hockey Canada Player Affiliation Rules: As per HC Reg.E35.a: A player of a team of a lower Division or category may affiliate to a team or higher Divisions and categories to a maximum of ten (10) games. However, if the player's registered team completes its regular season and playoff before the player's affiliated team, the player may thereafter affiliate an unlimited number of times. An affiliate player who does participate in more than (10) games will be deemed to be an ineligible player. Exhibition and Tournament games are excluded from the ten (10) game maximum. As per HC Reg. B.42 & E36(b): In the case of an alternate/affiliate goaltender, actual participation in the net shall be considered as taking part in the game and such participation shall be specially noted in the official game report. The final date for player affiliation is January 15th.

References:

- Hockey Canada Development Programs and Resources.
- Hockey Canada 2023. By-Laws, Regulations, and History.

Team Budget & Tournament Reporting

Amended Date: May 7, 2025

Policy and spreadsheet are available on the WVMHA website under Managers and Treasurers resources as this document is live and updated regularly to support these volunteers.

<https://www.windermerevalleyminorhockey.com/managers/>

Carded/Rep Team Selection (Evaluation Selection Policy)

Amended Date: May 2, 2025

Created Date: November 12, 2020

Version: 2

U7 & U9

Rep teams are not to exist at the Initiation and Novice levels. A temporary Rep team can be formed for a weekend tournament if the level of that tournament warrants doing so, only with the approval of the minor hockey board. The players not participating in that tournament must be given consideration to play in some other games or tournaments without the participation of the Rep team players to compensate for their missing games.

U11/13/15/18

WVMHA supports forming rep teams from all divisions starting at U11 level. This position is consistent with the direction of the EKMHA District, BC Hockey, and Hockey Canada's direction that it is important to have players playing at a level that is appropriate for their development and that more players will enjoy and continue playing hockey when they are at a level that is comfortable for their skill level.

If a division within WVMHA has enough players for two teams the board will review the level of

commitment and resources to form a Rep team. Details of the decision will be communicated and outlined to all division members prior to the first practice of the season, as decided by the board.

Carding Process

If coaches of Divisions U13 or higher wish to form a carded team, they do not need approval from the Board of WVMHA, but the coaching staff must follow the selection process set out by WVMHA. This must be identified by September 30th with the WVMHA Registrar to ensure correct roster categories are in place.

WVMHA Registrar

The Registrar must be notified within a reasonable time to fill out proper paperwork and registration of the team including players and staff.

Selection Process

Notifying Players - All players that are eligible to try out for 'carded' or rep team should be permitted and notified of tryout times.

Parent Meeting - A parent/player meeting should be held prior to tryouts outlining coaching staff's expectations and the selection process. Program goals, direction of program, year plan, and expense breakdown should be discussed within a reasonable time. This can be done via email to the parents or by an in-person meeting where minutes are taken for record purposes and emailed to all parents.

Tryout Ice Times - At least 2-3 practices/games to identify a player's ability. There must be 2-3 impartial, non-parent evaluators with reasonable hockey experience involved in the selection process to provide feedback to coaching staff. Evaluators must always be present. Tryouts involving practices must be held in Invermere.

Evaluators – evaluators must be non-partial, have no family connections to any players, hockey related and reserve the right to remain anonymous during the selection process.

Player Selection Evaluations – evaluations on each individual player are to be completed on the WVMHA Evaluation Forms. These forms are to be kept by the coaching coordinator after the team selection is completed.

Final Selections - the coaching staff of the team has the final decision on player selection if there are any discrepancies in the team from the evaluations presented to them. They must present their reasoning to the coach selection committee in the form of a brief written report on selection decisions/process with breakdown of reasoning behind players not being selected (be able to express a valid reason if selection is questioned at a later time). Evaluations are to be emailed to the president and coaching selection committee.

Evaluation Feedback - will be provided to players upon request.

Absentee Players – players absent from evaluations can appeal to the board for a tryout.

Evaluation Dates – any evaluations must not be held until the level has been on the ice for at least 3-4 practices but must be before September 30th to allow time for coaches/managers to step up and have the necessary approvals prior to the team split.

Goalies – goalie evaluations must be done on a separate goalie evaluation form.

Evaluation formats – coaches must communicate with the evaluators as to how they would like the evaluation ice times run and what drills and games they would like to see.

Forming Rep Team Considerations, preamble

The WVMHA board will consider whether, or not, the two teams being formed will have enough players, coaches, and goalies. The following are points that must be considered:

1. It is understood that some players may not want to become goalies until they find out they did not make a rep team but may decide to become a goalie on a rec team.

2. It is understood that some parents may not want to come forward and volunteer to coach a rec team because they fear it will hurt their child's chances of making the rep team.
3. If a rep team and rec team are formed at a level, and there are not enough coaches or goalies, for the rec team, the rep team coaches and goalies will have to be shared for both teams' practices and games. This will require careful scheduling of games and practices to ensure coverage. Failure to do so will result in the collapsing of the two teams and they will merge back into one team. The WMVHA will not permit a team to default at a level due to lack of coaches and goalies, while another team at the same operates.
4. If a rep team and rec team are formed, and there are not enough players left on the rec team to comfortably field a team, the teams will be collapsed and merged into one team. Generally, there should be 12-13 skaters minimum on a rec team.

Interim Dressing Room Policy

Effective Date: October 17, 2024

Amended Date: October 15, 2024

Version: 2

PURPOSE

Due to lack of information, and concerns with the inability to enforce Hockey Canada's new dressing room policy released on September 12, 2023, WVMHA has developed an '**Interim Policy**' that strikes a balance between safety, inclusion, and the ability to properly execute. WVMHA firmly believes all participants (athletes, officials, coaches, team support, etc.) have a right to access safe, inclusive, and equitable dressing spaces.

WVMHA believes in balancing the safety, privacy, modesty and wishes of our participants without compromising the aspects of camaraderie, social integration and bonding inherent in a team sport. This Policy attempts to meet these goals while providing a safe and respectful environment for participants.

SCOPE

The 'INTERIM Dressing Room Policy' applies to all minor hockey teams sanctioned by WVMHA.

DEFINITIONS

- "Dressing rooms" – officially designated spaces for changing in and out of gear. Mostly, these are men's and women's, multi-stall spaces and occasionally can be all-gender, multi-stall spaces.
- "Dressing environments" – spaces beyond dressing rooms (in proximity) that can be temporarily repurposed to provide a space for a small number of participants to change in and out of their gear (e.g., official's room, multi-purpose room, meeting rooms, single-unit washrooms).
- "Policy" – means this Dressing Room Policy.
- "Base Layer" - any clothing that covers the 'genital/private' area including underwear, sports bra, shorts, shirt, etc.

PROCEDURE:

MINIMUM ATTIRE RULE – with timelines

To provide choice, promote inclusion and to respect the privacy of all participants on a team, WVMH

requires all participants to wear 'minimum attire' in the dressing room 15 minutes before and 15 minutes after the scheduled ice time. See details by age category below.

U7/U9/U11

All players participating in age categories in the U11 category and below will have access to a 'common dressing room' pre- and post-game providing that the athletes always have a 'base layer' on. (Refer to the base layer definition). An athlete not arriving at the rink wearing a base layer can use appropriate space (restroom, empty dressing room) to change into the base layer and then enter the team dressing room with the other athletes.

U13 & Older

The following conditions will apply in all team environments:

1. Players on single gender identity &/or gender expression teams
 - a. Players are permitted to change without restrictions in the 'team' dressing room up until 15 minutes prior to the scheduled ice time.
 - b. 15 minutes prior to the scheduled ice time all players must be in a base layer. (Refer to the base layer definition).
 - c. Players that are not comfortable with changing in an open-dressing room environment can arrive 15 minutes or less prior to the ice time in their base layer or can change into their base layer in an appropriate private space, before entering the team dressing room.
 - d. At the conclusion of the ice time, all players will congregate in the 'team' dressing room for the 'Team Talk'. After the team talk, players cannot change to below their base layer for 15 minutes.
2. Players on multi-gender identity &/or gender expression teams
 - a. The more represented gender is permitted to change without restrictions in the 'team' dressing room up to 15 minutes prior to the scheduled ice time.
 - b. 15 minutes prior to the scheduled ice time all players must be in a base layer (Refer to the base layer definition).
 - c. The lesser represented gender is required to change in an alternate room if available up to a minimum of their 'base layer' and then they are permitted to enter the 'team' dressing 15 minutes prior to the scheduled ice time.
 - d. Players of either gender who are not comfortable with changing in an open dressing room environment can arrive 15 minutes or less prior to the ice time in their base layer or can change into their base layer in an appropriate private space, before entering the team dressing room.
 - e. At the conclusion of the ice time, all players will congregate in the 'team' dressing room for the 'Team Talk'. After the team talk players of the 'lesser represented gender' will have 15 minutes to vacate the 'team dressing' room. Players are not permitted to change to below their base layer during this time.

Use of Showers

Use of showers is a choice and not a requirement within WVMH. Players are permitted to use the showers no earlier than 15 minutes post-game.

When separate dressing rooms do not have access to showers, showering shall be done in shifts. Team

officials will assign times for each gender to use the shower facility.

Gender Identity &/or Gender Expression

All athletes have the right to utilize a dressing room or appropriate and equivalent dressing area, based on their gender identity and/or gender expression, which meets their individual needs.

If required, it is the responsibility of the Athlete (and/or the family) to request a dressing room 'Accommodation' from their team or member organization. When an 'accommodation' is requested, the athlete agrees to work cooperatively with their member organization to locate appropriate and equivalent dressing areas when faced with facility limitations.

To best promote inclusion on a hockey team and to respect the privacy of all athletes on a team WVMH requires that all athletes wear a 'base layer' at specific times prior to and post scheduled ice times. Players not comfortable changing into their 'base layer' within the designated times should arrive at the rink in their base layer or be prepared to change into their base layer in an appropriate space, before entering the 'team' dressing room.

Dressing Room Supervision

When coaches or team officials are not in a dressing room, each team must have two adult supervisors available outside the team dressing room(s). The door must remain propped open. Adult supervisors will maintain a safe dressing room free from maltreatment, discrimination, harassment, bullying, hazing, or fighting, and will report any issues to the team's coaches who are trained to deal with these issues.

The "rule of two" will apply to adults, including coaches, who enter dressing rooms. There must always be a minimum of two adults when in a dressing room for any purpose.

Everyone involved with minor hockey must report all incidents of discrimination, bullying, harassment, maltreatment, hazing, or fighting. Should anyone experience maltreatment in violation of this section of the Policy, a complaint can be filed to Hockey Canada's Independent Third Party.

The team manager(s) will assign parent supervisors for each practice. If a parent cannot attend their assigned shift, it is their responsibility to find a replacement. Supervisors will arrive 30 minutes before practice and be outside the team room(s) until the players go on the ice. When players exit the ice, the same supervisors must remain in the hallway until every player has left the team dressing room or rooms.

Prohibition of Recording in Dressing Rooms or Dressing Environments

To respect the privacy of participants, no videos, still photos, or voice recordings of any kind may be taken using any device with recording capabilities in a dressing room or dressing environment. Cell phones are only permitted to be used in a dressing room or dressing environment for the purposes of controlling the music played in those spaces.

Team Talks

WVMH stresses the importance that all participants are treated as valued members of a team. Therefore, coaches and team staff should only engage in pre- and post-game talks when all athletes are present in the dressing room.

Dual Rostering

Date: October 22, 2024

Version: 1

BC Hockey Policy and Hockey Canada Regulations allow and promote female players to dual roster on two teams. The dual rostering provisions of BC Hockey and Hockey Canada are intended to allow female players additional playing and practice time to support the development and growth of female players. Dual rostering must be managed by the WVMHA to integrate it into the broader minor hockey programs in the association. The implementation of dual rostering within WVMHA is up to the discretion of WVMHA board. For players interested in dual rostering a Dual Roster Consent Form must be completed and submitted to the WVMHA female coordinator by September 20th each season.

All players who are dual rostered must declare a primary team and may not change their priority team without consent of the WVMHA Female Board Representative. The primary team's practices and league games will take precedence over the secondary team.

WVMHA players who are dual rostered must pay the full registration fee for their primary team and a \$75.00 registration fee for the secondary team. If a player plays any tournaments with both teams, tournament fees must be paid for both teams, and reimbursement will be granted for tournaments the player did not attend at the end of the season by the team treasurer as per the Team Budget and Tournament Reporting Policy.

Players dual rostering for the purpose of assisting teams will follow the AP policy.

No player will be denied a roster spot by virtue of another player being dual rostered.

Dual rostered players must follow the extra practice time policy of the WVMHA. Players can attend all practices with their primary team and secondary team if both coach groups support the additional practice and provide this request to the president in an email.

Dual-rostered players must consistently communicate their availability to coaches for both primary and secondary teams.

The scheduling of games and leagues cannot be built or adjusted to accommodate players playing on multiple teams.

EKMHA & BC Hockey Adherence

Inter District & Exhibition Game Permits

BC Hockey requires all teams to submit an Inter District & Exhibition Game Permit for all non-league games played during the season. Failure to do so will result in fines from BC Hockey and numerous offenses can result in the suspension of our entire association from playing games. Any fines incurred by the WVMHA will be paid by the offending team.

Coaching Certifications

To be on the ice for practice an assistant coach must have at least the RCMP Criminal Record Check and their Respect in Sport Course and Concussion Awareness Training Tool completed. To be on the bench during games, any coach must have all the above and either be signed up for their appropriate coaching certification course or have completed such a course. Designated managers or team safety officials may also be on the bench if required and approved by the Registrar of WVMHA.

EKMHA will be fining associations who have unqualified coaches on the bench. Any fines incurred by WVMHA will be paid for by the teams involved.

- Only coaches, managers or safety people that are listed on the HCR roster can be on the bench.
- U7 & U9 need a maximum of 2 coaches on the bench at a game.

- U11 & up maximum 4 coaches on the bench at a game
- At any game there will be a maximum of 15 skaters and 2 goalies on the bench, if a team has more than 15 skaters and 2 goalies on their roster, 15 players and 2 goalies. will be dressed for each game, any roster sizes above 15 skaters and 2 goalies must rotate players in a fair manner, dividing home and away games equally. Credit will not be given to players choosing not to travel.
- For tournament play the whole team will attend the tournament and during the tournament there will be a player rotation for that set of games, players will not receive game credit for voluntarily not attending.
 - o *except for U18 which may dress 17 skaters and 2 goalies.
 - o *Cross ice play is recommended no more than 3 lines on the bench at a time, numbers dependent on 4 on 4 play or 5 on 5 play.
 - o There will be no special consideration made for coaches' children; all players will sit out an equal number of games.

Extra Ice Time

WVMHA must book ice times in advance for the season to ensure that we have the ice available for games and tournaments when we need it. This reservation in advance can often lead to having ice times that no one team can book games during and become available for use on weekends for extra practices or skills development times.

The following procedures are to be followed for the use of these ice times:

1. Team practice comes first.
2. Skills sessions come second. Coaches must always be on the ice with the kids and the skills sessions must be open to all players of multiple levels within reason. Example would be a skills session with Pee Wee, Atom, and Novice Players or Initiation & Novice.
3. All extra ice times must be cleared with the Ice Co-Ordinator.

Extra Practice

Pre-amble:

Sometimes Players from one level jump onto the ice with another team's practice. This often happens when a parent of more than one player is coaching and invites their child to come out to their other child's practice. This can cause unfair circumstances within the WVMHA regarding ice time for fees paid.

No Players in the WVMHA may practice with another level of hockey without the written consent from the President. The President will adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Only players of a level or team may practice at the designated scheduled weekday practices. Players may not practice during the week with more than one team. The exceptions to this would be as follows:
 - a. When players are going to play up to another level for a game or tournament, the coaches would like to incorporate them into the practices the week before the event.
 - b. Goalies are needed to fill in for absent goalies, or where the coaches would prefer to have a second goalie on the ice and only one is available at that level.
 - c. Players are on the ice in an assistant coaching role at a level below them.
 - d. A coach is filling in for an absent coach at another level's practices on a

temporary basis and they would like to bring their child out with them.

- e. Weekend extra practices where all kids of a level are notified that they can practice with another level.

Expenditure

No member of the WVMHA will approve expenditures other than routine BC Hockey fees, EKMHA fees, ice time fees, referee costs, accounting bills, website bills, or other such annual normal recurring expenses without approval of the board.

Budgets should be set for the Equipment Manager and Coach Co-Ordinator each year. Any jamborees or special events need to submit a budget of expected revenues and expenses to be approved by the board before proceeding. No manager or coach will be permitted to bill items to the name of WVMHA for any reason without permission from the board.

Fair Ice Time

Amended Date: May 2, 2025

Version: 1

Windermere Valley Minor Hockey Association's Definition of fair ice time: WVMHA acknowledges that registration fees are the same for all players within a division and the game of hockey is intended to be a healthy form of recreation that is to be shared amongst all members of the association. WVMHA considers the concept of "fair ice" to be a core component of team sports. This means that, regardless of individual skill level, all players should be provided with an equitable opportunity to develop and contribute to the success of their team, wherever and whenever possible. Consequently, WVMHA expects that coaches, assistant coaches, and all team officials take reasonable and practicable steps to ensure that all WVMHA players on their team(s) receive equitable amounts of playing time in all games or practices, while taking the following considerations into account:

Expectations for U7 – U11 Level Hockey,

WVMHA expects that its coaches, team officials, and on-ice helpers take reasonable and practicable steps, in consideration of the factors outlined below, to ensure that all WVMHA Players receive equitable amounts of playing time during games and practices throughout the entire season, which includes banner tournaments.

Expectations for U13 – U18 Level (Carded and Non-Carded) Hockey

The intent of the WVMHA Fair Ice-Time policy for the U13-U18 divisions is to provide a reasonable rotation of fair ice-time to all players, in consideration of the factors outlined in this section, while ensuring that, throughout the course of the entire season, including banner tournaments, playdowns, and provincials all players are adequately developed and improve their individual level of play.

Coaches must ensure that all players receive exposure to, and the opportunity to develop in, as many tactical and situational aspects of the game as possible. Some examples of these circumstances are (but not limited to):

- Penalty killing/power-plays.
- Important face-off situations
- Overtime/shoot-outs

Impact of Game Play Dynamics & Other Factors – All Levels/All Divisions:

- WVMHA recognizes that hockey is a dynamic, fast-paced game that includes various game play and/or other factors beyond the coaches and team official's control that will impact a coach's ability to ensure that equitable ice-time is received by each player. Some of these factors may include (but are not limited to):
 - Player fatigue
 - Penalties
 - Injuries
 - Illnesses or absences
 - Game play results in extended time in the defensive zone which prevents a shift change.
 - Equipment failure
- WVMHA recognizes that for these (and possibly other) reasons, it may be impossible for a coach or team official to achieve truly equal ice for every player.
- In instances where these and/or other factors may present themselves, it is WVMHA's expectation that the coach and team official will take reasonable steps, where feasible, to help mitigate the
- Impact these factors have on balancing ice-time of the players.
- Under no circumstances should a coach or team official determine ice-time based on the skill level of a player.

Expectations for Goalies

The WVMHA Fair Ice-Time policy applies to goalies at all levels, as they are considered WVMHA players, to ensure a reasonable degree of fair ice-time, in consideration of the factors outlined in this policy, while ensuring that, throughout the course of the season, all goalies are adequately developed and have improved in their individual level of play.

In the event of two or more goalies on one team, fair ice time will be allocated as follows:

- U7 – Rotation per shift
- U9 – Rotation per game
- 11 – U18 – Coaches and team officials must discuss fair ice time options with the goalies to ensure that all goalies receive exposure to, and the opportunity to develop in, as many tactical and situational aspects of the game as possible during the entire season, which includes banner tournaments, playdowns, and provincials. Some examples of these circumstances are (but not limited to):
 - Penalty killing/power-plays.
 - Important face-off situations
 - Overtime/shoot-outs

Discipline & Conduct Detrimental to Team Play Factors – All Levels/All Divisions

- Coaches and team officials are permitted by discretionary authority, within reason, to restrict/reduce player ice-time in instances where a player has displayed behaviour which is contrary to WVMHA expectations, team code of conduct, or has displayed a pattern of conduct which undermines the team's ability to effectively compete.
- An ice-time restriction/reduction imposed by a coach or team official should be reasonable under the circumstances and proportional to the behaviour being addressed. For example, a 'selfish'
- A penalty might result in the player missing a single shift, whereas disrespectful behaviour towards coaches or other team officials might result in the player being ejected from practice or sitting for the remainder of a game.
- Examples of behaviour which may warrant a disciplinary ice-time restriction/reduction may include (but are not limited to):

- Bullying of team-mates either on or off the ice.
- Excessive/inappropriate penalties.
- Disrespectful behaviour or language is directed towards a coach, team official or teammate.
- Disrespectful behaviour or language is directed towards an on-ice official.
- Inappropriate displays of unsportsmanlike behaviour.
- Violence or other behaviour which is likely to cause intentional injury to another player/participant.
- Attendance (lack of).
- Following an ice time restriction/reduction, the coach or team official must communicate clearly to the player the reason for the ice time restriction/reduction and the positive improvements required to rectify the behaviour that led to the infraction.
- In the event of repeated behaviour and/or multiple ice-time restrictions/reductions, coaches are encouraged to notify the guardian.
- If a guardian has concerns about the imposed ice time restriction/reduction, they are encouraged to discuss the situation with the coach after 24 hours has elapsed between the time of the occurrence and the follow up discussion.

Player Movement

Amended Date: June, 2016

Date: October 1st, 2006

Version: 2

Preamble:

The executive of the WVMHA has undertaken a review of the current player movement policy in response to an increasing number of requests for player movement, within all levels, at the beginning of the season. While it is sometimes in the best interest of the WVMHA to try and accommodate player/parent requests, this does make it harder on the coaching staff and the executive, as a review of each case must be undertaken. This is time-consuming and adds additional involvement at a time when our volunteers are trying to firm up numbers and decide where a team will play in the upcoming season.

Therefore, the following policy will be put forward to the executive for consideration:

Player Movement Policy (2008)

- 1) All player movement must be in accordance with Hockey Canada, BC Hockey, and the EKMHA rules.
- 2) The President of the WVMHA shall appoint a Player Movement Committee, at the beginning of each season, when required. This committee shall consist of an executive member and two independent evaluators. The independent evaluators may be appointed from within or outside the WVMHA.
- 3) No movement shall be considered from U7 to U9 or U9 to U11. This has been mandated by BC Hockey to follow the cross-ice hockey format. All players shall be assigned to their age-appropriate group. However, in the case of beginner hockey players, or if parents feel their child is not ready to advance, movement downward from U15 to U13, U13 to U11, U11 to U9, or from U9 to U7 will be considered if a written request is received from the parents within (14) days of the first practice.
- 4) No move of more than one division will be considered or allowed.
- 5) Parents who feel that their child should play in a higher division must apply in writing to the executive within fourteen (14) days following the first practice of the season. The request will be answered by a letter or email that will acknowledge receipt of the request and include an application form which is to

be filled out by the parents. The application requires the parents to justify the request for movement. If the official application is not supplied to the executive, by October 1st of the current season, then the request will not be forwarded to the Player Movement Committee, and the child will have to stay within the appropriate age division for that season.

- 6) A decision will be made within fourteen (14) days after receiving the official application. The player will practice in his or her age division while the application is considered.
- 7) The Player Movement Committee will confer with the coaches of the two affected teams and consider the following when making their decisions: a) safety issues, b) team numbers, c) benefits to both leaving and receiving teams, and d) skill levels.
- 8) The recommendation of the committee will be forwarded to the executive for final approval. If a player is successful in his or her application for movement, this decision will expire at the end of the season and said player will register in his or her age division the following year. A successful application only applies to the current season and does not guarantee that all future applications for movement will be accepted.
- 9) Any executive or committee member who applies to have their child moved to a new division is unable to vote on the issue.
- 10) There is no appeal committee, all decisions of the Executive are final. This ensures that all teams are ready for league or tournament play by October 31st of the current season.
- 11) Under special circumstances a coach may apply in writing to the executive to allow short-term player movements. This would only occur if a small number of players from one group were needed to supplement another team. (i.e. For a weekend tournament or game). The application must include a release from the coach of the team of which the players are being borrowed. Coaches may not apply to have players, temporarily, moved from Atoms and below to Peewee and above.

Provincial Funding

Amended Date: May 7, 2025

Date: April 10, 2025

Version: 1

WVMHA fully supports and encourages teams to attend provincials. A fund has been set aside to provide financial assistance to teams attending. This fund has been established by teams that have hosted provincials in the past.

Hosting provincials is a huge undertaking for the association and volunteers that are willing to donate their time, therefore hosting provincials is rare for the association. These funds need to last until the association can host again, which is typically 6-8 years.

The denomination donated to teams is determined by the board of directors each year by taking many factors into consideration such as location, duration of the trip, number of teams attending in that year, and prior year denomination. This support should not be assumed.

Teams are fully expected to fundraise for their travel expenses and prepare a budget of hotel, fuel, and meals, required for the team to attend. WVMHA will provide the team with the maximum denomination they are willing to donate, and teams must provide a tally to the WVMHA treasurer to receive the gracious donation. The association will match the funds raised by the team up to the maximum predetermined amount.

Registration

Participation

No Player shall participate in any WVMH activities until he or she has been properly registered. A Player is registered when:

1. An online registration form has been completed, and the appropriate fee has been paid, or post-dated cheques have been received by the WVMHA.
2. Players must register in the age division set out in the Hockey Canada guidelines.
3. Players are properly registered and insured by the WVMHA Registrar with Hockey Canada and BC Hockey.

Annual Registration Deadline

The deadline for registration will be set by the WVMHA from year to year and clearly indicated on the website and email to all last year's parents.

Late Registrations

Registration will close on September 15. Late registrations may be accepted at the discretion of the WVMHA board of directors and will be full price for the season. Game play will not be guaranteed, and an evaluation of the new registrant will be required.

Registration Refunds

Refunds will be subject to a \$25 processing fee and a pro-rated amount of the season and are subject to discretion by the WVMHA board of directors.

Only properly registered and insured Players may be on the ice for practices, games or other activities of the WVMHA. No unregistered players are ever allowed on the ice for any reason.

Soliciting for Donations

Windermere Valley Minor Hockey Association strongly discourages teams from soliciting donations from businesses around town because we often run 8-10 tournaments per season, and we do not want businesses to be asked multiple times for donations.

From time-to-time businesses may offer to donate raffle table items, in these situations, the donation is accepted and reported in the tournament spreadsheet. In the event of a monetary donation, the funds must be reported on the tournament spreadsheet and paid to WVMHA. These funds cannot go directly to the team.

The only time a team is allowed to solicit for donations of any kind is for Provincials when families need to raise funds to help cover travel expenses, which is typically one or two teams per year.

Discipline Policy

Updated September 6, 2025

Please refer to the Windermere Valley Minor Hockey Association website under Policy & Conduct. Follow the link below:

<https://www.windermerevalleyminorhockey.com/policy-conduct/>