



## **CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION**

All revisions adopted by the OHF Board of Directors  
on June 25, 2011 are indicated by bold text.

Gender Disclaimer: Within these Articles, By-Laws and Regulations, the alternating of gender in grammar is utilized. Any masculine reference shall also apply to females and any feminine reference shall also apply to males.

### **PART I ~ CONSTITUTION**

#### **ARTICLE ONE (1) ORGANIZATION**

- 1.1** This organization shall be known as the Ontario Hockey Federation (“OHF” or “Federation”) and is incorporated as the Ontario Hockey Federation, a not for profit Ontario corporation under The Corporations Act, R.S.O.1990, c. 38.

#### **ARTICLE TWO (2) STATUS**

- 2.1** This organization shall be a member of Hockey Canada, the governing body of amateur hockey in Canada, and, as an unalterable provision of this Constitution, shall operate in a manner consistent with the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules of Hockey Canada.
- 2.2** In addition to Article 2.1 each Member Partner shall operate in a manner consistent with the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules of Hockey Canada, the Ontario Hockey Federation and its own organization.

#### **ARTICLE THREE (3) DEFINITION OF AN AMATEUR**

- 3.1** This organization adopts the definition of an “amateur” contained in the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of Hockey Canada.

#### **ARTICLE FOUR (4) OBJECTS**

The objects of this organization are:

- 4.1** To foster, encourage, promote, improve and perpetuate the sport of amateur hockey within its area of jurisdiction and to assist in its promotion conjointly with other organizations with similar objects;



- 4.2** To provide opportunities for all players to play the sport at levels appropriate to their degree of skill or interest;
- 4.3** To promote the orderly development of all categories of the sport of amateur hockey without favor of one category over another or others;
- 4.4** To emphasize and encourage the involvement of those volunteers who put the interests of the sport ahead of their personal interests;
- 4.5** To develop and administer the sport of amateur hockey in areas within its jurisdiction in a manner that will encourage mass participation, promote the building of good character, improve skill levels and provide healthy physical activity and enjoyment of the game and adopts the Hockey Canada Initiation Program (IP) curriculum as a means to achieve this object;
- 4.6** To ensure the enforcement of the rules of the sport as adopted by this organization;
- 4.7** To elevate the awareness of the responsibilities of the hockey public in ensuring that the sport is played in a positive environment which encourages and fosters personal development and leadership qualities of individuals through their participation in amateur hockey;
- 4.8** To assist members in their pursuit of excellence by providing accessible and effective programs and services through available resources;
- 4.9** To monitor and review services, benefits and programs so as to ensure their availability and accessibility to all members in order to meet the members' ever-changing needs;
- 4.10** To promote and encourage the formation of amateur hockey teams and leagues, thereby to ensure that the sport is and remains accessible to all who wish to participate according to the level and extent of their interest and skill;
- 4.11** To promote and encourage membership in this organization by other associations which fairly represent other categories of persons engaged in the sport of amateur hockey whose Constitutions, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules are not inconsistent with those of this organization and Hockey Canada;
- 4.12** To co-ordinate and conduct competitions in the several categories of amateur hockey for regional and



branch championships and, in conjunction with Hockey Canada or the branches of other provinces, inter-branch and national championships;

- 4.13** To adjudicate disputes arising in the operation of, between or amongst any Member Partners and/or Members of Member Partners in an expeditious, fair, inexpensive and impartial manner that best assures each player is permitted to play the sport at the level appropriate to the player's skills; and,
- 4.14** To present a common voice on behalf of the members in all discussions that could affect them at the national and international level.

#### **ARTICLE FIVE (5) JURISDICTION**

- 5.1** The operations of this organization are to be carried on within the province of Ontario, other than within the Jurisdiction of the Ottawa District Hockey Association (ODHA) and Hockey Northwestern Ontario (HNO), except that the operations of the Ontario Women's Hockey Association and the Ontario Hockey League may be carried on throughout the province of Ontario.

#### **ARTICLE SIX (6) MEMBERSHIP**

- 6.1** This organization shall be composed of seven (7) Member Partners, that is to say
  - (a)** the Greater Toronto Hockey League;
  - (b)** the Northern Ontario Hockey Association;
  - (c)** the Ontario Hockey Association;
  - (d)** the Ontario Hockey League;
  - (e)** the Ontario Women's Hockey Association;
  - (f)** the Ontario Minor Hockey Association, and;
  - (g)** the Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario
- 6.2** Each Member Partner is, and shall remain an equal partner in this organization subject to Article 6.5.
- 6.3** The jurisdiction of the partners shall be as follows:
  - (a)** The Greater Toronto Hockey League shall have jurisdiction for minor hockey over that area of the



Federation that includes the City of Toronto, the City of Mississauga and the City of Vaughan (being the area bounded by Lake Ontario on the south and a line north along the Rouge River and continuing north along the Little Rouge River and further north along the Pickering Town Line, west along Steeles Avenue, north along Yonge Street, west along Highway 7, north along Bathurst Street, with a northern boundary one concession lot north of a straight line between Bathurst and Albion Road (Highway 50) based on the majority of the King Vaughan Side Road, south along Albion Road (Highway 50), west along Steeles Avenue, south along Indian Line Road, west along the northern boundary of the City of Mississauga [as of June 25, 2005] and south along the western boundary of the City of Mississauga to Lake Ontario). The Greater Toronto Hockey League shall, subject to the Lake Ontario Region Regulations, also share jurisdiction over the Town of Markham with the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.

- (b)** The Northern Ontario Hockey Association shall have jurisdiction for Minor, Junior (except Major Junior) and Senior Hockey over that area of the Federation to include the area east of the 85th Meridian along the shoreline of Lake Superior and Lake Huron in an easterly direction to the French River, including all of the Manitoulin Islands, along the French River to Highway 69, southerly along Highway 69 to Highway 522, easterly along Highway 522 to the western boundary of the Township of South Himsworth, southerly along the western boundary of the Township of South Himsworth, easterly along the southern boundary of the Township of South Himsworth and the Township of Boulter to the western boundary of Algonquin Provincial Park, northerly along the western boundary of Algonquin Provincial Park to the northern boundary of Algonquin Provincial Park. Further from this point easterly along the northern boundary of Algonquin Provincial Park, including the community of Kiosk to the eastern boundary of the territory of the Federation.
- (c)** The Ontario Hockey Association shall have jurisdiction for Junior (except Major Junior) and Senior Hockey



over the Federation's area of jurisdiction except for that portion assigned to the Northern Ontario Hockey Association.

- (d)** The Ontario Hockey League shall have jurisdiction for Major Junior Hockey within the territory of the Ontario Hockey Federation and such other areas of Ontario as granted by Hockey Canada.
- (e)** The Ontario Women's Hockey Association shall have jurisdiction for Female Hockey within the territory of the Ontario Hockey Federation and such other areas of Ontario as granted by Hockey Canada.
- (f)** The Ontario Minor Hockey Association shall, subject to paragraph (g) below, have jurisdiction for Minor Hockey over the area not covered by the jurisdictions of the Greater Toronto Hockey League and the Northern Ontario Hockey Association. Within such area, the Ontario Minor Hockey Association shall have jurisdiction over OHF Member Organizations as at June 25, 2005, other than those listed below as members of the Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario. Any addition or change to this jurisdiction must be approved by the OHF Board of Directors.
- (g)** The Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario shall, subject to paragraph (f) above, have jurisdiction for Minor Hockey over the area not covered by the jurisdictions of the Greater Toronto Hockey League and the Northern Ontario Hockey Association. Within such area, the Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario shall have jurisdiction, as at June 25, 2005, over the following OHF Member Organizations: Brantford Church Hockey League, Brantford Minor Hockey Association, Burlington Lions Optimist Minor Hockey Association, Cambridge Minor Hockey Association, Chatham-Kent County Zone, Elgin-Middlesex Hockey Alliance, Greater Fort Erie Minor Hockey Association House League, Greater London Hockey Association, Inc., Hamilton Minor Hockey Council, Huron Perth Zone, Kitchener Minor Hockey Association, Lambton County Zone, London Representative Hockey Incorporated, Sarnia Minor Hockey Association - AA, A & (Select



and House League - joint with the OMHA), St. Catharines CYO, Stratford Minor Hockey Association, Sun County AAA Minor Hockey Association, Waterloo Minor Hockey Association, Windsor AAA zone and Woodstock Minor Hockey Association. Any addition or change to this jurisdiction must be approved by the OHF Board of Directors.

- 6.4** Each partner shall be empowered to administer, foster and conduct its own affairs within its own jurisdiction in accordance with its own Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules and in a manner which is consistent with the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules of the OHF and not contrary to the best interests of amateur hockey in the Province of Ontario.
- 6.5** No Member Partner shall be suspended, expelled or have its jurisdiction awarded to or assumed by any other Member Partner or combination of Member Partners except for violation by the organization first mentioned of the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations or Rules of the Ontario Hockey Federation and by vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) majority of the full Board of Directors of this organization upon written notice duly given in accordance with the By-Laws of this organization.
- 6.6** (a) Full membership with the Member Partners as noted in Article 6.1 shall be restricted to teams, leagues or associations of recognized amateur standing.
- (b) Membership in the organizations listed in Article 6.1 by the constituent bodies, players, members and individuals is purely voluntary, but application or acceptance of membership entails acceptance by such constituent bodies, players, members and individuals of the final and binding authority of all rules and decisions of the Board of Directors of the OHF and acceptance of the governing authorities of this Federation, and acceptance and subscription of such insurance coverages and participant membership fees as may be approved and made mandatory from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Federation.
- 6.7** (a) The OHF Board of Directors may, in its discretion and subject to such terms and conditions as it sees fit to apply, admit as an Associate Member any team, league or organization:
- i. that operates a recognized hockey program that



- further the same objectives as the OHF;
- ii. that operates pursuant to principles similar to those of the OHF,
  - iii. that has in place policies and procedures to address concerns such as suspensions, abuse/harassment and appeals; and
  - iv. whose admission to Associate Membership will not create undue risk to the OHF.
- (b) An applicant for Associate Membership will complete and submit an OHF Associate Membership Application Form and supply any additional information or documentation required by the OHF Board. The OHF Board reserves the right, in its sole and unfettered discretion, to deny Associate Membership status to any applicant.
- (c) Except as may be otherwise determined by the Board in any particular case, Associate Membership is subject to review, and renewal in the discretion of the Board, on an annual basis on a date fixed by the Board
- (d) The rights and privileges of membership accorded to each Associate Member will be determined by the OHF Board of Directors. Such rights and privileges, including if applicable the Hockey Canada/OHF insurance program, will not apply during any unsanctioned event or competition.
- (e) Associate Members will not have voting privileges at any OHF meeting, will not use the OHF Logo without the written consent of the OHF Board of Directors and will not enter into or purport to enter into any obligations on behalf of the OHF.
- (f) An Associate Member will designate one individual and one alternate to be its Official liaison with the OHF
- (g) The fee, if any, to be paid by an Associate Member shall in each case be determined by the OHF Board.
- 6.8** (a) Any recourse to the Courts of any jurisdiction by any member, or by someone acting on behalf of a member, before all rights of appeal and all the rights and remedies of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Federation have been exhausted, shall be deemed to be a violation and breach of the Constitution and By-Laws of



- this Federation. This violation and breach shall result in the automatic indefinite suspension of such member from the OHF activities and games.
- (b) Any association, club, league, team, player, coach, manager, trainer, and/or referee who has sought court action before exhausting all proper procedures of appeal will be liable for all legal costs and disbursements incurred by the OHF
  - (c) Until full legal costs are paid, at the discretion of the President, the right of membership of the said party will be suspended.
  - (d) Any association, club, league, team, player, coach, manager, trainer, referee who, having exhausted the appeal procedures, proceeds with Court action will be liable for all legal costs and disbursements incurred by the OHF, should the Courts rule in favor of the OHF, prior to reinstatement of said party's membership with the OHF.

#### **ARTICLE SEVEN (7)**

##### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

- 7.1** Amendments or alterations can be made to the Constitution and By-Laws and Regulations of this Federation only at the Annual General Meeting of this Federation, after specific notice in writing to the Executive Director of the OHF. Amendments or alterations to the OHF Constitution shall require a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the Directors present. Amendments or alterations to the By-Laws or Regulations shall require a simple majority of the Directors voting.
- 7.2** Such notice shall be received, in writing, by the OHF Executive Director sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.3** The OHF Executive Director shall communicate all such proposed amendments or alterations to each Director thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.4** Notices of Motion may only be submitted by the Directors or Officers of the Federation.
- 7.5** Notwithstanding Articles 7.1 and 7.2 of the Federation, the giving of notice provided therein may be waived at any Board of Directors meeting by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the



Directors present at the meeting and the Board of Directors may make amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Federation which will be effective until the next Annual General Meeting of the Federation. All amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations made by the Board of Directors must be ratified at the next Annual General Meeting of the Federation.

- 7.6** Notwithstanding Articles 7.1 to 7.5 of the Federation, the OHF Constitution By-Laws and Regulations will automatically change without Notice of Motion to be in accordance with Hockey Canada when changes are made to the Hockey Canada Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations.
- 7.7** Any changes in the Articles, By-Laws and / or Regulations, which have been adopted, amended or revised in the manner herein set forth, shall not be negated by reason of any error or omission which may occur in the periodic printing of the Articles, By-Laws and / or Regulations of this Federation.

