



# Female Hockey Rules and Regulations 2020-2021

(These rules specifically refer to players registered in the female hockey program)

## 1.0 Female Hockey Program Eligibility:

### 1.1 Female Entry Age Rules:

#### DIVISIONS

a. Female U20

b. Female U15

c. Female U12

d. Female U9

e. Female U7

#### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Open to female players fifteen (15) to nineteen (19) years of age in the current playing Season. Note: The change from U18 to U20 is for the 2020-2021 season only.

Open to female players fourteen (14) years of age and younger in the current playing Season.

Open to female players eleven (11) years of age and younger in the current playing Season.

Open to female players eight (8) years of age and younger in the current playing Season.

Open to female players six (6) years of age and younger in the current playing Season.

**1.2** If an association does not have sufficient numbers for a female team – the female player must go to the nearest association and register in that female program to be considered for a provincial team. Female players registered in female program only will be given priority over dual registered female players to be added to female provincial team rosters.

## 2.0 Player Movement:

**2.1** Players play in the division their age dictates unless they have been evaluated by either (1) a member of Hockey Development or (2) the Association's Technical Director. If neither 1 nor 2 are available, the highest coach level in their association. Players must be found to be too strong for the division they are moving from.

**2.2** Where associations do not have sufficient numbers to register a team, A" Request to Pick Up A Player" form must be forwarded to the respective Female Director. This form must be signed by the Presidents of each association involved. The Director's response will be forwarded to both the Female Chair and the Hockey NL Office. Verbal requests will not be entertained. Requests to pick up female players must be submitted on the Female pick up forms and follow the guidelines outlined of player pick up eligibility. Pickup forms are required for **ALL** exchange of players between divisions and/or associations.

### 3.0 Female Hockey Team Registration

- 3.1 Players have to be registered in a Female Hockey program to register or compete on any female team.
- 3.2 All teams must have a female on the bench, either as a coach, assistant coach, trainer or manager. This person must have all required Hockey Canada and Hockey NL certifications.
- 3.3 All Tournaments and exhibition games are to be sanctioned. Please complete and forward the Tournament Sanction Form for processing at least **3 weeks prior to the event**. Once approved by the MHA President and Director, the form is to be submitted to the Hockey NL office for tournament sanctioning. **All teams attending** the tournament are to be listed on the form.
- 3.4 Female Teams must use the Travel form found under Forms in the Member section on the Hockey NL web site. The Travel form is required for **ALL** team movement outside their own association. Fines will be assessed for non-compliance.
- 3.5 All interdivisional play (female teams vs minor teams or female teams playing another female team in a higher division) must be approved by the Director using the **Tournament Sanction Form and signed by the MHA President**. If playing a minor team, the minor director must approve as well. Each request will be reviewed on a case-by case basis and the number of games approved may be limited in a season.

### 4.0 Guidelines for Player Pick-ups:

- 4.1 Play Pick-ups must come from the home association first. In all cases, the oldest players will be picked up first. i.e.: Female U18 will pick up a third year Female U15 and Female U15 will pick up a third year Female U12.
- 4.2 If there are not sufficient numbers in the home association, the association will have the opportunity to pick up players from their closest neighboring association. Teams are permitted to roster only 12 players for all games/tournaments excluding provincials.
- 4.3 Player can only be picked up from one division lower. (Female U18 will not be permitted to pick up a player from Female U12). Note change from U18 to U20 for 2020-2021 season 1.1a above.
- 4.4 Exemptions for these guidelines may be made for goalies.
- 4.5 Teams may only pick up 4 underage players. (Passed September 2013)
- 4.6 Eight-year olds are not eligible to play in Provincials. Exception: Four eight-year olds can be picked up for a Provincial Female U12 team provided they do not displace another age appropriate player in that division in the Province. (Passed June 2015)
- 4.7 Youngest player eligible to be considered as an underage player is an eight-year-old as of Dec. 31 of the current hockey season.

## **5.0 Female Hockey League Play:**

- 5.1** Where associations agree to open boundaries to form a league, players from these associations must be registered and playing in the league to be eligible to participate in the female Regional or Provincial Tournaments.
- 5.2** Where boundaries have been opened to allow pooled teams, players will register with the host association of the respective division.
- 5.3** Players in pooled leagues will either return to their home association for Provincials or attend as the registered team from the league.
- 5.4** Pooled Leagues and/or Zone league play will have to submit to the Director a league rules and regulations for the including league finals formats. These leagues would be organized by the MHA's Female reps with the input from the Director. These leagues will have to be approved by the Female Council Executive Committee prior to the start of the league.

## **6.0 Provincial Tournament Rules:**

- 6.1** Girls who do not register and play on female teams will only be permitted to play in the Female Provincials after all female divisional players are accommodated on teams. Then only to a roster of 12.
- 6.2** Female teams are to be registered by December 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure proper grading. After January 10 – no female teams will be accepted. All teams are to play games prior to January grading report or will be removed from the grading report and provincial play.
- 6.3** Players must have attended 50% of their games and practices to be eligible for provincials.
- 6.4** Any player who is registered with or plays with a team outside the province of Newfoundland and Labrador will not be permitted to participate in the Female Provincial Tournament.
- 6.5** Players who refuse to try out and/or attend the Provincial Tournament with their home association will not be permitted to be picked up by another team.
- 6.6** Goalies may be permitted to be play in a higher division in Provincials if they continue to honor their commitment to their own division and only when an age appropriate goalie cannot be found. This would require the approval of the Female Director. This applies to age appropriate goalies only.
- 6.7** A goalie or player cannot play for two teams in the same Provincial Tournament.
- 6.8** Teams who refuse to travel to a designated site for provincials will be removed from the grading and the Minor Hockey Association will be fined \$2000 of which \$1000 goes to Host Association and \$1000 goes to Female Council. Players are not eligible to be picked up by any other teams.
- 6.9** To be placed on the grading, teams must have 12 players, one of whom is a goalie.
- 6.10** The first grading report will be presented at the September meeting. Second grading will be posted mid-December. All teams are to submit Team Games Report by Jan 20, 2021. Final Grading Jan 27, 2021, only teams registered by

Jan 10, 2021 will be on the final grading. No teams or players will be added to Female Provincials or female programs after the Feb 10 deadline. Teams have until Feb 10, 2021 to request to move with final grading Feb 17, 2021.

- 6.11** Request for changes (this includes additions or deletions) on the grading must be made by the Female Rep of the Association and signed by their President. Forms are on the Hockey NL web site under Members.
- 6.12** At the discretion of the Female Council, Teams may roster players to a maximum of 19, two of whom must be goalies.
- 6.13** All teams must have a female on the bench, either as a coach, assistant coach, trainer, or manager. This person must have all required Hockey Canada and Hockey NL certifications.

THESE GUIDELINES ARE IN ADDITION TO THE MINOR HOCKEY PROVINCIAL  
TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES AS OUTLINED IN THE MINOR DIRECTORY

**For a copy of the Female AAA League Rules and Regulations, please visit their website by [CLICKING HERE](#)**