## 2022-2023 MINOR HOCKEY PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

1. Entries in Provincial Championships in all divisions will be limited to six teams with the schedule being a single round robin. In a five or six team tournament the team finishing in first and second place at the conclusion of the round robin shall play each other for the championship.

For a four-team tournament a single round robin shall be played to determine the standings. The first-place team will have a bye. The second and third place teams play in a semi-final game. The winner of the semi-final game plays the first-place team for the gold and silver medals. The loser of the semi-final game plays the fourth-place team for the bronze.

In a three-team tournament a double round robin will be played with the first-place team getting a bye into the championship game. The second and third place teams will play a semifinal game with the winner advancing to the championship game. The loser will be awarded the bronze medal.

The awarding of medals at Provincial Tournaments is compulsory. These medals will be supplied by Steele Hotels and will be awarded in the following manner:

The Gold medal will be awarded to the winner of the championship game.
The Silver medal will be awarded to the runner up which is the loser of the championship game.
The Bronze medal must be awarded to the third-place finisher or the winner of the bronze medal game of a four-team tournament.
2. For all Provincial Tournament Games in all divisions, periods will be stop time fifteen minutes.
3. No overtime will be played in round robin tournament games. In the event of a tie each team will be awarded one point. In a playoff game overtime shall be played if necessary, according to paragraph 13(g).

## 4. Mega Tournaments Supplementary Procedures

Provincial Mega Tournaments will include any tournament that has more than six teams. That would currently cover seven, eight, ten, twelve, sixteen and twenty team events. The schedule for Day 1 will be done using game scores provided by all participating teams with every team playing two games on Day 1. Every attempt will be made to schedule games such that the teams fall into distinct groupings for Day 2 and 3 . Day 2 and 3 will consist of single round robin events with the medal round games taking place on Day 3.

For Provincial Mega Tournaments, games will consist of three 15-minute periods for tournaments with ten and twelve teams, three 12-minute periods for tournaments with 16 teams and three 10-minute periods for tournaments with twenty teams. The ice will not be resurfaced between periods.

In the event of a tie after regulation time in Mega Tournament Medal Games, the teams will take a two-minute break and play a five-minute sudden victory overtime period. In the event the game is still tied after the overtime period, a shootout will take place with three players being chosen from each team. If the game remains tied after this 3-player shootout the following process will occur. Players from each team will be selected until a winner is decided. The three players selected in the initial shootout are not eligible to shoot in this sudden victory shootout until all remaining players on the roster have done so. The home team will have the choice of whether to shoot first or second in the shootout.

If two or more teams are tied at the conclusion of day one, the Hockey Canada Tie Breaking System will be used with the exception of step (2), as the points established in the games among the tied teams can only be used in a single round robin competition. Notwithstanding the Tie Breaking Procedures, the host committee has the discretion to place teams in a division other than where their results would dictate should they feel a team will not be competitive based on the results of their play and the teams they played on day one.

## 5. Hockey Canada Tie-Breaking System

The Breaking Sequence

## Two Teams Tied

If two or more teams are tied at the conclusion of a round robin series, then the following procedure will be used to determine the final ranking before the semi-final and final games are played.

In the event that teams are tied for a playoff position, the following procedure will apply:
1.1 The winner of the round robin game between the two tied teams gains the higher position
1.2 The team with the most wins in the round robin gains the higher position
1.3 If the two teams are still tied after 1.1 ad 1.2 have been applied then the team with the best goal average gains the higher position. The goal average of a team is to be determined in the following manner:

Total number of goals for divided by the total number of goals for and against.
Note: All round robin games are included
Example: 10 Goals For 4 Goals Against Percentage 10

$$
\ldots
$$

$10+4$
Note: The higher percentage gains the higher position
1.4 If two teams are still tied after 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 have been applied, the team with the least number of minutes in penalties throughout all of the round robin games gains the higher position.
1.5 If the two teams are still tied after 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 have been applied, then the team which scored the first goal in the game between the tied teams gains the higher position.
1.6 If the two teams are still tied after 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 have been applied, a single coin toss will determine which team gains the higher position.

## Three or More Teams Tied

Note: The three-team tiebreaker is used to determine the seedling of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd seeds. If any step in the tiebreaker only seeds one team, that team assumes that position. The three-team tiebreaker will continue to determine the seeding of the two remaining teams. At no time will teams using this formula go back to the two-team tiebreaker.

If three or more teams are tied, the point record established in the game among the tied teams only will be used as the first tie breaking formula in deciding which teams shall advance.
2.1 The team with the most wins would gain the highest position.
2.2 If the teams are still tied after 2.1 has been applied, then the team with the best goal average gains the highest position. The goal average of a team is to be determined in the following manner:

Total number of goals for divided by total number of goals for and against
Note: All round robin games are included

Example: 10 Goals For 4 Goals Against
Percentage 10

$$
\ldots=.714
$$

$10+4$
Note: The highest percentage gains the highest position(s)
The exercise of 2.2 establishes the team or teams with highest position(s) by percentage. These teams will advance. If there are still teams tied, they go to the next step. They do not go back to the "Two Team Tie Breaker".

Example:
Team A-714 = 1 seed—Advances
Team B- $.500=3$ seed—Does not Advance
Team C-. $650=2$ seed—Advances

Team A-. $714=1$ seed—Advances
Team B- $500=$ Still tied with Team C-Go to next step 2.3
Team C- $.500=$ Still tied with Team B-Go to next step 2.3

Team A- $650=$ Still tied with Team B-Go to next step 2.3
Team B- $.650=$ Still tied with Team A-Go to next step 2.3
Team C-. $500=$ Does Not Advance
2.3 If teams are still tied after 2.1 and 2.2 the team(s) with the fewest goals against (all round robin games played) will gain the highest position
2.4 If teams are still tied after 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 the team(s) with the most goals for (all round robin games played) will gain the highest position(s)
2.5 If teams are still tied after 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 have been applied, the team to qualify would be the team(s) that received the least number of minutes in penalties throughout all the round robin games
2.6 If teams are still tied after 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 have been applied, a coin toss shall determine the winner. In a 3-team coin toss, the odd team gains the highest position
6. There will be a $\$ 750.00$ registration fee for every team that an association sends to a Provincial Tournament. This fee will be paid to Hockey NL and will be distributed to the host association with $\$ 50.00$ being retained by Hockey NL.
7. BNQ approved throat protectors, CSA approved face masks ad helmets must be worn by all participants, in all games, in all divisions.
8. Hockey NL referees and linesmen for provincial tournaments will be provided by the host committee and approved by the Hockey NL Referee-In-Chief. Payment of officials will not exceed the scale recommended by Hockey NL.
9. Score keepers, timekeepers, penalty keepers, goal judges and other necessary minor officials must be provided by the tournament host committee and meet with the approval of Hockey NL representatives.
10. In associations where sufficient players are registered in a division, teams must carry 17 players, at least two of whom must be goaltenders. Teams with only one goaltender are permitted to register and carry 16 players. Exceptions may be permitted to carry less than the required number in extenuating circumstances as determined and approved by the Minor Council Director and/or Chairperson. The minimum number of players for a team is 11 (September 2022), at least one of whom must be a goaltender and a maximum number of players for a team is 19, at least two of whom must be goaltenders. Teams shall have all players in uniform for all games. Exceptions will be granted for injury, illness, or suspension. Any player who is not in uniform for a game, for any reason other than injury, illness, or suspension, unless an approval from the respective area Director is received, will be deemed ineligible for the remainder of the tournament. Minor associations who do not meet the minimum numbers of players and approved coaches with proper qualifications required for a team by January 10, will not be eligible to participate in the Provincial Tournaments and will not be placed on the final grading report. In the event of an injury, illness or suspension by the association or Hockey NL to a goaltender during a tournament, coaches have the option of: dressing another player, accepting a goaltender from the host association (if available) or forfeiting the game. (Passed June 2018)

## 11. U9 Player Pickup

Minor Hockey Associations are only permitted to use a maximum of four U9 players to make up a total of 17 players, one of whom must be a goaltender. U9 players that are picked up must come from your own association. No U11 player will be displaced in the process.

The U9 player must be in their final year of U9 eligibility and graduating to U11 in the next hockey season.

## 12. Other Game Rules

In all divisions of hockey, the goal posts must be anchored in such a way that they break away on sudden impact.

It is the responsibility of the host association to provide an extra set of jerseys for a possible change.

Any combination of three major penalties during the tournament will result in the said player being eliminated from the remainder of the tournament.

A player can only play one minor provincial tournament in any playing season. There may be an exception for goaltenders as approved by Minor Council Chairperson.

The referee or linesman will stop the play immediately if a player on either team receives an injury no matter what team has possession of the puck.

Coaches must have their certified roster available at all tournaments.
Overtime periods in the Easter provincial tournaments will be limited to a maximum of two (2). In the event of a tie between the two teams, the teams will take a two-minute break and play for a sudden victory. The first overtime will be fifteen minutes and the sudden victory (the 1st goal scored) will decide the winner. In the event teams are still tied at the end of the first overtime, a ten-minute break with a flood will be allowed and both teams will resume with the sudden victory rule in effect. In the event teams are still tied at the end of the second overtime period, a shootout will occur to declare the winner.

Playoff games: For U15 AAA and Minor U18 AAA, in the event of a tie between two teams, the teams will take a ten-minute break with a flood and play for a sudden victory. The overtime will be twenty minutes and the sudden victory (the 1st goal scored) will decide the winner. If still tied at the end of the first overtime the same sequence will repeat which is a ten-minute break with a flood and a twenty-minute period. This sequence will continue until a winner is declared.

## 13. Body Checking

Is permitted in U15 and U18 category A only
Is prohibited in all other divisions and categories and all female hockey. A minor penalty or, at the discretion of the referee, a major penalty and a game misconduct shall be assessed any player who, in the opinion of the referee, intentionally body checks/bumps, shoves or pushes any opposing player. If a player is injured, a major penalty and a game misconduct penalty must be assessed.
14. Banquets held during provincial tournaments will be at the discretion of the host association and will not be scheduled for the last day of the tournament. Teams failing to attend the banquet shall be fined $\$ 250.00$ payable to the host association.
15. Mercy Rule: Where a ten (10) goal differential occurs anytime during the game in all divisions, the game is officially declared as per the score at that time. At the discretion of the referee and the Hockey NL Coordinator, and in consultation with the coaches, a decision may be made to let the game continue after the ten (10) goal differential, however, no further goals will be recorded, only penalty infractions. In the consultation process, both coaches must agree to continue the game. If both coaches do not agree with continuing the game, then the game is finished at that point. (Passed June 2019)

## 16. Player Pick Up:

An association will need a minimum of six of their own players before they can start soliciting players from other associations to form a team to be placed on the grading to participate in a provincial tournament.

Any association that doesn't have the maximum number of players for a team, as per paragraph 9, shall have until 7 days prior to the commencement of the provincial tournament week to submit pick up forms to their respective Director(s). No pickup player shall be permitted to be added to a team roster after this date.

A female player must be registered in Minor by February 10 in order to be eligible to play in the minor provincial tournaments. A minor team can only pick up a player that is registered solely in female if a player is required to reach the minimum of 11 players to participate in a provincial tournament.
17. Game Rest Periods: During Provincial Tournaments, each team must have a minimum of two (2) hour rest periods before each game. (Passed September 1992)
18. Code of Ethics: It is considered unethical for a manager, coach, trainer, director of operations, league executive member or any member that is affiliated with Hockey NL to make direct derogatory or disparaging remarks to the media or public domain about any other person, member, or affiliate of Hockey NL (Passed September 1992)
19. Time Outs: One (1) "Time Out" of 30 seconds will be permitted per game (including overtime). The "No Time Out Rule" still applies in house league competition. (Passed June 1993)
20. Skills Competition: Host centers that do not have a full complement of teams and wish to have skills competition may do so with the approval of their Minor Director. The skills competition will be optional for teams/players with the participate. (Passed September 2004)
21. Hockey NL Minimum Coaching Requirements will apply for all teams.
22. Provincial Tournaments have priority over High School, League Payoffs, Exhibition and Out-of-Province Tournaments.
23. Any Minor Hockey Association that does not wish to have their teams compete in provincial tournaments must advise the Grading Committee prior to the final grading. Minor Hockey Associations who have not stated their intentions to be excluded for provincial play by this time will be expected to fulfill their commitment. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

## 24. Protests:

Protests of games may be made only regarding interpretation of the rules of competition and not in regard to the judgement of a referee or other official.
(a) Verbal protest must be registered by the captain of the aggrieved team to the referee at the first reasonable opportunity after the action or decision complained of, but in all cases must be made within five minutes after the end of the period or overtime period in which such action or decision is made. The referee shall note such protest on the game report. Such verbal protests shall be ignored if not followed up as hereinafter described.
(b) any protest of a game regarding matters outside the game officials' jurisdiction such as scheduling, player eligibility, etc., may be made without the verbal notice or time limit required in (a) above.

All protests and all evidence in support thereof must be made in writing in duplicate and must be signed by two authorized representatives of the protesting team, league or association and must be accompanied by the applicable protest fee.

At Provincial Minor tournaments any protest must be presented in writing to the Hockey NL Coordinator at the tournament at the conclusion of the game for which the protest is being made and it must be accompanied with a $\$ 50$ non-refundable protest fee payable to the Hockey NL Minor Council. No protest will be entertained on the outcome of any final championship game.

When necessary, a decision on any protest must be given at least six hours prior to the next game in which the protesting is to compete.

The decision on a protest will be made by the official named above to receive the protest who will solicit advice or information from any source which he/she feels will be of assistance in rendering a decision.

The Chairperson of the division concerned, and the President of Hockey NL shall be informed as soon as possible of any protests.

Where the protest has been ruled on by a League President or minor tournament representative an appeal may be made to the Chairperson of the division concerned and where the protest has been ruled on by a Minor Director or a Hockey NL Chairperson an appeal may be made to the Appeals Committee of Hockey NL. Appeals to the Hockey NL Appeals Committee must be accompanied with $\$ 200$ fee made payable to Hockey NL. $\$ 100$ will be refunded if the appellant is successful.

In all divisions of hockey, any such appeal must be made in writing within 48 hours of the original decision being given and must be accompanied by a payment of $\$ 200$. A decision of the appeal must be given within a further 48 hours. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.
25. When a game is declared forfeited due to a team having insufficient players to continue play, either through injury and/or penalties, the non-offending team shall be declared the winner and the score shall be recorded as per the Official Game Report if the non-offending team was in the lead at the time of the infraction or as 5-0 if the non-offending team was not in the lead. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned up to the time the forfeit was declared.
26. Suspend able Offences (for coach outside the playing rules):

Teams failing to participate in opening ceremonies of the Provincial Tournaments will result in the Head Coach of said team being suspended for the next two (2) games his/her team participates in following the opening ceremonies.

Teams failing to send a representative to the Coach's Meeting held prior to the Provincial Tournament shall result in the Head Coach being suspended for the first two (2) games that his/her team participates in.

Any team who does not dress a player for any reason other than injury, illness, suspension or team discipline will result in the Head Coach of said team being suspended for the next two (2) games his/her team participates in.

## ADDITIONAL RULES

Any team dropping out after the final grading is complete shall pay a fine of $\$ 1000$ to the host association and $\$ 1000$ to Hockey NL Minor Council.

No U15 age player is eligible to register or participate with a U18 team unless numbers warrant, and permission is granted from the Minor Council Executive. (Approved June 2002)

All minor hockey associations with teams traveling outside of their association within the Province of Newfoundland \& Labrador must complete and file a "Minor Hockey Travel Notice Form" with their respective Minor Member. Failure to comply with this requirement shall result in a $\$ 250$ sanction to the Minor Hockey Association. This excludes travel within a sanctioned league. All leagues shall file their schedule with their respective Minor Member and
with the Hockey NL Branch Office. Minor Hockey Associations who host games and/or tournaments with teams from outside of their Association will be required to request a 'Travel Notice Form" for each team. Failure to comply with this shall result in a $\$ 250$ fine to the Host Association.

A Minor Hockey Association refusing to host a Provincial Tournament will be fine $\$ 1000$ and further, refusing to host said tournament may result in said association not being permitted to participate in the Provincial Tournament. (Passed September 2003)

It is mandatory for all coaches and on ice staff to wear a CSA certified hockey helmet with chin strap while attending practices. The following sanctions have been adopted for those members who do not adhere to the mandatory helmet policy:

First Offence: Warning
Second Offence: Thirty (30) day suspension to the coach and a $\$ 500$ fine to the home association

Third Offence: Indefinite suspension to the coach and association to be reviewed by the Executive Committee of Hockey NL

## CODE OF ETHICS

Managers and coaches are expected to share with game officials the responsibility of orderly conduct of the contest by the following:

By acknowledging the authority of officials and by communicating with them in a respectful manner

By exercising control over players in their charge and serving as a stabilizing agent during contentious moments of games

By exercising control of their own conduct so as to avoid inciting players, officials and spectators

By conducting themselves at all times in a manner which is appropriate to the responsibilities of their position

