

SECTION G – SENIOR FEMALE HOCKEY

1. Critical Dates

- 1.1 **June 30:** To be recognized by Hockey Alberta, a League shall submit its Bylaws and Regulations, and a list of the names and addresses of the officers, no later than June 30 of the current Hockey Season. Any amendments to the Bylaws and Regulations must be filed with and approved by HA prior to implementation.
- 1.2 **October 15:** Senior Female Teams must submit their order for Team Registration as required on or before October 15 in each Hockey Season.
- 1.3 **November 15:**
- (a) All Hockey Teams must be properly registered with Hockey Alberta prior to their first League Game or November 15, whichever occurs first.
 - (b) All Players participating on a Hockey Team must be duly registered in the Registry. Any Hockey Team whose registration is received after November 15 will not be eligible for Provincial competition.
 - (c) A Hockey Team may only register after November 15 with permission of the CEO, or designate.
 - (d) The final date to complete all required Team Official certification is November 15 of the current Hockey Season.
- 1.4 **December 1:** Last day to file a Senior Female Provincial Notice of Intent, along with the appropriate bond payment to participate in Senior Female Provincial play.
- 1.5 **January 10:** The final date to release a Player is January 10.
- 1.6 **January 15:** All Teams must designate Affiliate Players on the HCR by January 15 at 5:00PM MST.
- 1.7 **February 10:**
- (a) if allotments are available, the final date for teams to register players and submit a final roster list of not more than twenty-five (25);
 - (b) the final date for the completion of player transfers.

2. Player Registration

- 2.1 Hockey Alberta governs competition in amateur hockey in all divisions, including Senior Female which is open to Players of any age.
- 2.2 Every Player competing in the games sanctioned by HA shall be a member of a Hockey Team registered with HA and shall, prior to competing in their first League Game, be duly registered in the Registry for the current Hockey Season.

- 2.3 A player's registration in the Registry must include the Player's legal address. In the case of rural Players, both the legal land location and the mailing address must be identified in the primary address field of the Registry. In the case of urban Players, the street address or, if the street address differs from the mailing address, both the street address and the mailing address must be identified.
- 2.4 (a) A Player applying for the first time for registration with Hockey Alberta shall provide proof of age.
- (b) Any proof of age shall be an official birth certificate legally recognized by the civil authorities in Alberta.
- (c) In cases where it is impossible to secure birth certificates, the CEO (or designate) may, if supporting evidence is considered satisfactory, accept in lieu thereof duly certified baptismal certificates issued before the age of 10 years or the age at the date of entry into this country as certified by the form filled out at the port of entry or other suitable documents.
- 2.5 (a) A Player may only be registered on one Team.
- (b) A Player may only register on one (1) Team (unless released by the team she first signed with prior to January 10). Players signing with more than one Hockey Team without releases are suspended and shall remain suspended until dealt with by the CEO, or designate.
- (c) No Player may register after February 10 in any Hockey Season with any Hockey Team.
- 2.6 Players wishing to register with a Team (graduating U18 Players are exempt) other than the Team which they were registered during the last Hockey Season must first obtain a Permission to Try Out form or release from the Team which the Player was last registered with.
- 2.7 Permission to Try Out forms must specify the Hockey Team for which the Player is granted permission to try out. Upon the Player being selected to the specified Hockey Team the MHA and/or Hockey team, which the Player was last registered with, shall grant a release. If the Player is not selected to the specified Hockey Team, the Player must return to the Team which the Player was last registered with.
- 2.8 Inter-Branch Transfer
- (a) A Player desiring a transfer from a Team in one Branch to a Team in HA shall first obtain a release (if applicable, please review Hockey Canada Regulations) from the Team of which she is a member. The Team in HA will then make application in the Registry to complete the transfer between the Teams involved.
- (b) The Inter-Branch transfer must be completed in the Registry and approved by the CEO, or designate, before the first game in which the Player is to participate.
- (c) Inter-Branch Transfer Fees are set annually by Hockey Canada (see HC Regulations for details).

- 2.9 USA/International Transfer (For more details please contact the HA Office)
- (a) A Player who has previously registered with any other IIHF Member Federation wishing to register with a member Team of HA must first obtain a USA Transfer or an International Transfer from the last Federation in which she was registered.
 - (b) All transfers between USA Hockey and Hockey Canada shall be governed by the Hockey Canada/USA Hockey Transfer Agreement. The agreement is contained in its entirety in the Hockey Canada Regulations.
 - (c) All transfers between other Registered members of the IIHF and Hockey Canada shall be governed by the IIHF Transfer Regulations. The IIHF Transfer Regulations are contained in their entirety in the Hockey Canada Regulations.
 - (d) Incoming USA Transfer Fees are set annually by Hockey Canada (approx. \$150 plus GST).
 - (e) Incoming International Transfer Fees are set annually by the IIHF (may be up to a maximum of \$450 plus GST).
- 2.10 For regulations pertaining to Imports, please see Team Registration.
- 3. Team Registration**
- 3.1 There is one system of registration for Senior Female hockey Teams, a Team may only register as a Provincial Team.
- 3.2 Registration fees in accordance with the Regulations are payable upon application for Teams.
- 3.3 Teams must submit their order for Teams as required on or before October 15 in each Hockey Season.
- 3.4
- (a) All Hockey Teams must be properly registered with Hockey Alberta in the Registry prior to their first League Game or November 15, whichever occurs first. All Players and Team Officials participating on a Hockey Team must be duly registered in the Registry. Any Hockey Team whose registration is received after November 15 will not be eligible for Provincials.
 - (b) A Hockey Team may only register after November 15 with permission of the CEO, or designate.
 - (c) Any Team found to have permitted a Player and/or Team Official who is not properly registered to that team to participate in a game may be subject to a fine up to a maximum of \$500.00 per violation.
- 3.5 Hockey Teams (Players and Team Officials) will be registered in accordance with Hockey Canada Bylaws and the HA Bylaws and Regulations.
- 3.6 Senior Female Teams will not enter into any player contracts or agreements, except with HA and Hockey Canada.

3.7 Number of Players on a Hockey Team

- (a) Senior Female Teams will be provided with not more than thirty-five (35) Player registration allotments each season. Notwithstanding the above, Teams may not register more than twenty-five (25) Players at any one time.
- (b) By January 10 at 5:00pm MST, all Senior Female teams must reduce their total roster (see specifics below) to not more than twenty-five (25), including:
 - (i) the number of registered players on their roster; and
 - (ii) the number of allotted but unused Player registrations.

If twenty-five (25) players are registered, at least two (2) must be goaltenders. All players not indicated on this final list are considered released.

- (c) Any Team failing to meet this deadline shall be declared ineligible for further competition until the preceding outlined provisions are met. Non-compliance shall result in all Players being declared released from the Team.
- (d) A Team which has the maximum number of registered Players on its roster on January 10 shall not be permitted to register any further Players during the current Season. A Team which has fewer registered Players may, if it has allotted but unused registrations, register eligible Players until February 10, but once a vacancy on the roster has been filled it may not be used again.

3.8 Imports

- (a) Teams will be permitted to register Imports only to the extent that the total number of such active Imports does not exceed, at any one time during the current Season, the numbers prescribed below:
 - (i) Senior Female "AAA"
 - Four (4) Imports transferred from USA Hockey; and
 - Two (2) Imports transferred from any Federation other than USA Hockey.
 - (ii) All other levels of Senior Female - Unlimited
- (b) A Team may not exceed, at any time, its quota of Imports. However, if a Team has an unused Player allotment it may Release an Import at any time up to January 10 and register another Import that has been properly transferred and is otherwise eligible. After that date an Import may only be signed if a Team has:
 - (i) an Import vacancy;
 - (ii) an unused Player allotment; and
 - (iii) less than the maximum number of registered Players on its roster.
- (c) No Player having Canadian citizenship shall be classified as an Import.

3.10 Substitute Goalkeeper

Hockey Alberta may allow during any scheduled League Game or during any Provincial Playoff or Provincial Tournament, the use of a goalkeeper from another Hockey Team of equal or lower Division or Category if medical evidence or extenuating circumstances shows that a replacement goalkeeper is required by the Hockey Team concerned. Permission must be obtained from the Division of Hockey Chair, or designate.

- 3.11 Registered Hockey Teams must not play against unregistered hockey teams at any time. All Team Officials associated with any Hockey Team playing against an unregistered team will be suspended and shall remain suspended until dealt with by the CEO, or designate.

4. Leagues

- 4.1 In order for a League to have Hockey Alberta recognition, it shall submit its League Bylaws and Regulations and a list of the names and contact information (phone numbers, email addresses and mailing addresses) of the officers not later than June 30 of the current Hockey Season. Any amendments to the Bylaws and Regulations of any such League must be registered with HA and approved prior to implementation.
- 4.2 All Hockey Players playing in a League must be duly registered in the Registry. Teams from out of Province participating in a League that crosses Provincial Boundaries must get permission from the CEO, or designate.
- 4.3 All games involving League members are deemed to be under the jurisdiction of Hockey Alberta and all Hockey Alberta rules and regulations will apply.
- 4.4 Leagues may make special regulations which differ from Hockey Alberta Regulations provided that these regulations do not contradict Hockey Alberta Regulations and the regulations have been approved by Hockey Alberta.

5. Player Movement

- 5.1 Players shall be allowed to move to different teams provided they acquire a release from the Team they were previously registered with.
- 5.2 A minor aged Player who was registered with an MHA last Hockey Season must first obtain a Permission to Tryout form from that MHA prior to transferring to a Senior Female Team (a Permission to Tryout form is not required for a graduating U18 aged Player).

6. Releases

- 6.1 A Player who was registered with a Junior or Senior Team last Hockey Season must first obtain a release from that Team prior to registering for the current Hockey Season with any other Team.

6.2 A release must be obtained prior to registering for the current Hockey Season by all Players who:

- (a) were previously registered on a Junior or Senior team; and
- (b) wish to register with a team other than the one they were registered with previously.

6.3 Prior to obtaining a Release a Player must pay any outstanding fees, or other financial obligations, owing to the Team or Association being asked for the release.

7. Affiliation

7.1 Senior Female teams must declare their Division and Category to the CEO, or designate, prior to the filing of any affiliations with Hockey Alberta in the Registry.

7.2 Affiliation must be declared and filed with the CEO, or designate, prior to the affiliated Player being allowed to participate in any game with the Hockey Team to which she is affiliated. Affiliations will be accepted and endorsed by the CEO, or designate, up to and including January 15 at 5:00PM MST of the current Hockey Season.

7.3 Minor Players may not affiliate to a Senior Female Team outside of the Minor Region in which they reside. Senior Female Teams are deemed to be within the region where the majority of the players on the team reside.

Exception: In the case of Senior Female "AAA" minor hockey boundaries will be removed, allowing these teams to access affiliated Players within the boundaries of the Province.

Note: Senior Female teams that file affiliations involving Minor aged players must adhere to the Respect In Sport requirements outlined within the Coach Education Requirements.

7.4 Affiliation will only be recognized where:

- (a) Players are added to Teams in the Registry and identified as "Affiliates".
- (b) The CEO, or designate, has acknowledged receipt of and approved the affiliation prior to an affiliate Player participating in any game with the Hockey Team to which she is affiliated.
- (c) The affiliation has been endorsed by the Player's registered MHA or Club Team Representative.

Note: All affiliations shall terminate at the end of the current playing season.

Note: Registered Minor "AAA" Players are not eligible to affiliate to Senior "B" Categorized Teams.

7.5 Any Player participating in any game as an affiliated Player without the approval of the CEO, or designate, shall be considered an Ineligible Player and Team Officials subject to discipline.

- 7.6 A Hockey Team may affiliate up to 19 named Players that are registered on a lower Division or Category team.
- 7.7 Affiliation will not be deemed to have taken place automatically without properly filing said affiliation with the CEO, or designate.
- 7.8 Affiliated Players may participate in League, Exhibition, Tournament and Provincial games.
- 7.9 Providing Affiliation has been properly filed prior to January 15 at 5:00PM MST in any Hockey Season, an affiliated Player may play with the Hockey Team to which she is affiliated a total of ten (10) games during the regular season and playoffs. Should an affiliated Hockey Player play more than ten (10) games with the Hockey Team to which the player is affiliated, she shall be considered an "Ineligible Player". However, if her registered team completes its regular season and playoffs before her affiliated team or teams, she may thereafter affiliate an unlimited number of times.
- 7.10 Appearance of a registered Player's name on the official game report of a game shall be considered participation in the game except in the case of an alternate goalkeeper, in which case actual participation only shall be considered as taking part in the game and such participation shall be specially noted on the official game report.
- 7.11 Affiliation shall not be used to strengthen a team.

8. Categorization

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| Senior AA | Open to all teams wishing to play within a defined AA League and compete for the Senior AA Female category of Provincials. |
| Senior A | Open to all teams wishing to play within a defined A League and compete for the Senior A Female Category of Provincials. |
| Senior B | Open to all teams wishing to play within a defined B League and compete for the Senior B Female Category of Provincials. |

9. Senior Female Provincials

- 9.1 Teams that participate within a Hockey Alberta recognized Senior Female Hockey League at the categories noted above will be eligible to participate at the Provincial Championships at the same category.

10. Exhibition Games

- 10.1 Permission must be obtained in writing from the Division of Hockey Chair, or designate, for all out-of-league and out-of-Province exhibition games.
- 10.2 For exhibition games with U.S. or International based Teams, permission must be granted by the CEO, or designate, and proof of registration with the appropriate International Federation must be provided.
- 10.3 Application for permission will only be considered for Teams that are properly registered with Hockey Alberta.
- 10.4 Permission will not be given to any Team for exhibition games with any team or teams which are not registered members of HA, HC, USA Hockey, or another IIHF Federation.

- 10.5 International games, other than games with U.S. Hockey, must have permission granted from both HC and Hockey Alberta.
- 10.6 Commitments to Hockey Alberta must be met before a team is allowed any exhibition games.
- 10.7 All game sheets must be submitted within 24 hours to the Division of Hockey Chair, or designate, by the Team.
- 10.8 Leagues are responsible for sanctioning and disciplinary action for all exhibition games played among the member teams of their respective league. For teams playing exhibition games against teams from outside their league, sanctions and discipline will be issued through the Division of Hockey Chair, or designate.

11. Non-Provincial Tournament Rules

- 11.1 No Team registered with HA shall compete in any tournament unless that tournament has been granted a sanction permit by HA, another Hockey Canada Member Branch, USA Hockey, or another IIHF Member Federation.
- 11.2 Teams shall be required to request permission from Hockey Alberta to host any tournament. All tournaments requested must be submitted a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the event. In granting permission, Hockey Alberta will impose and enforce any disciplinary actions necessary against participating Teams and/or Players.
- 11.3 Teams shall be required to request permission from Hockey Alberta to travel to any tournament. For Tournaments within Canada or the USA, permits must be requested a minimum of one (1) week prior to the event. For International Tournaments, the formal request for an International Tour must be submitted a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the event. In granting permission, the host IIHF Federation will be responsible to impose and report any disciplinary actions necessary against participating Teams and/or Players.
- 11.4 Subsequent tournament sanctions may not be issued to any Team which has been found to have conducted, or participated in, a tournament which has not conformed to the Hockey Canada or HA regulations.
- 11.5 All Tournaments hosted by an HA registered Team that involve International Teams must be sanctioned by Hockey Canada through HA. An application form must be submitted to HA by the Team requesting to host the tournament at least sixty (60) days in advance.
- 11.5 No sanctioned Tournament shall accept Teams to participate unless the Team is a registered member of Hockey Alberta, another Hockey Canada Member Branch, USA Hockey, or another IIHF Member Federation.
- 11.6 Every Player competing in any sanctioned tournament must be registered, in the Registry, with that Team or be affiliated to that team. The host Team is responsible to verify the eligibility of Teams and Players. The Team must produce such registration for inspection at all tournaments.
- 11.7 Game sheets must be submitted within 24 hours of the conclusion of the Tournament to HA's appropriate Division of Hockey Chair, or designate.

- 11.8 All Teams must fulfill prior commitments for league play and provincial play (or obtain permission to reschedule) prior to committing to attend a Tournament. Failing to do so will result in the Team being prepared to forfeit any further privileges they currently hold.
- 11.9 When a suspendable offence occurs involving a Player or team official in a sanctioned tournament, the host Team is responsible for applying the Minimum Suspensions, informing the offending party of the consequences and forwarding a copy of the official game report, with all necessary supporting evidence, to HA (via the Division of Hockey Chair or designate).
- 11.10 All Teams hosting sanctioned tournaments will be responsible for keeping a copy of the tournament's official game reports for a period of one year
- 11.11 All games in a sanctioned tournament shall be officiated by Referees and Linesmen registered with Hockey Alberta.
- 11.12 All sanctioned tournaments hosted in Alberta will be played under Hockey Canada Official Playing Rules and must comply with Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations.

12. Discipline

12.1 Suspension Procedures

Hockey Alberta Responsibilities

- (a) Game sheets must be submitted within 24 hours to the appropriate Division of Hockey Chair by the Team and copied to the Team's respective League.
- (b) The Division of Hockey Chair is responsible for issuing and monitoring suspensions in exhibition, tournament play and Provincials.
- (c) When a suspension is incurred in exhibition play, Provincials, or tournament play the suspension must be served in the next consecutive games (league, tournament, or Provincial Play). Exhibition games do not count as suspended games. Players cannot play in exhibition games while serving a suspension.

When a suspension occurs during Provincials, the suspension must be served in the next consecutive games (Provincial, league, or tournament play).

Should an On-Ice Official be suspended while participating as either a Player or Team Official for no more than one (1) game, the official will be permitted to continue to officiate with no restrictions. Should an On-Ice Official be suspended while participating as either a Player or Team Official for more than one (1) game, the official will be permitted to officiate assigned games during the day immediately following the suspension. At the conclusion of that day, the On-Ice Official will be required to serve his suspension as outlined here within.

- (d) If the suspension overlaps into league play, HA will notify the Team and the League.
- (e) HA will issue a suspension notice. A suspension must specify the following:
 - (i) Number of games;
 - (ii) Which games are to be served (i.e. tournament, provincial, or league);

(iii) The Hockey Alberta Appeal process.

Upon being assessed the infraction, Players / Team Officials must not participate in any hockey games until a written suspension notice is received and their suspension is served in full.

- (f) If a Senior Female Player is assessed a suspension and is also registered as a Team Official within another Division of Hockey, the Senior Female Chair may, in consultation with the other respective Division of Hockey Chair, allow the individual to continue to participate as a Team Official while serving the suspension as a Player. This exception is not applicable if the infraction is a Match on Official infraction.
- (g) Players with carry over suspensions from the prior Hockey Season will only be allowed to serve them in regular season league games and not exhibition games. Players may request approval from the Senior Division of Hockey Chair, in consultation with the President of the Player's respective League, to defer serving the suspension until the first regular season league game.

League Responsibilities

- (h) The league is responsible for issuing/monitoring suspensions for league play. Leagues are also responsible for sanctioning and disciplinary action for all exhibition games played among the member teams of their respective league.
- (i) For teams playing exhibition games against teams from outside their league, sanctions and discipline will be issued through Hockey Alberta (Office of the CEO and Senior Division of Hockey Chair).
- (j) Game sheets must be submitted to the appropriate League representative within the specified timeframe given by the League.
- (k) When a suspension is incurred during league play, the suspension must be served in the next consecutive games (league play, tournament play or Provincials).
- (l) If a suspension overlaps into tournaments or Provincials, the league representative must notify the HA Division of Hockey Chair.
- (m) Exhibition games do not count as suspended games. Players cannot play exhibition games while serving a suspension.
- (n) In the case of an Indefinite Suspension incurred during League play, the League representative must report all information about the infraction to the HA Division of Hockey Chair. All Indefinite Suspensions shall be handled, and ruled on, according to the HA General Regulations.
- (o) The League representative will issue a suspension notice that specifies the following:
 - (i) Number of Games;
 - (ii) Which games are to be served (i.e. league play, or provincial play);

(iii) The League Appeal process.

Upon being assessed the infraction, Players / Team Officials must not participate in any hockey games until a written suspension notice is received and their suspension is served in full.

(p) If a league suspension extends into tournament games, or Provincials, the League President or their designate is responsible for notifying the HA Division of Hockey Chair.

General Responsibilities

(q) Any **11.5** infractions that involve a Player or Team Official on a referee or linesman are handled by the Hockey Alberta Provincial Match Penalty Officer(s).

(r) No suspended Player or Team Official is allowed on the bench, in the time-keepers box, penalty box, dressing room or within fifty (50) feet of the players' benches during a game.

(s) Any Player incurring a suspendable infraction with either his/her registered team or affiliated Team is suspended from all sanctioned hockey games until the suspension is served with the team they are registered with. If that Team is finished hockey for the season, this Player would be allowed to serve such suspension with his/her affiliated Team. The Player and the suspension must be listed on game sheets.

(t) Any Team Official registered with more than one (1) Hockey Team who incurs a suspension is ineligible to participate in any sanctioned hockey game until the suspension has been served with the Team with which the suspension was incurred.

(u) Suspended Players / Team Officials must be noted on the game sheet during the games comprising the suspension.

(v) Early Seasons End Suspensions

Any player who has not served a suspension from the current playing season may request in writing through their Team to the HA Division of Hockey Chair to have that suspension served in an exhibition game(s) if it cannot be served in league, tournament or provincial play at seasons end.

(w) Carry-Over Suspensions

Any player who has not served a suspension from the previous season may request in writing through their Team to the HA Division of Hockey Chair to have that suspension deferred for any Exhibition, Pre-Season, or Tournament game that is sanctioned to take place prior to October 15 of the current hockey season (Note: these deferred games will not count as games served for the incurred suspension).

(x) Pre-Season Suspensions

Any Player who received a suspension in a Pre-Season Game may request in writing through their Team to the HA Division of Hockey Chair to have the suspension(s) served in the next Pre-Season game(s).

12.2 Minimum Suspensions (please see Appendices)

- 12.3 Any Player or Team Official who is assessed a Minor Penalty and a Game Misconduct, a Major Penalty and Game Misconduct, or any other infraction resulting in a Game Misconduct or Gross Misconduct, within the last ten (10) minutes of regular time, in overtime, or at the conclusion of the game (and prior to the Player or Team Official entering his/her dressing room) shall automatically be suspended for a minimum of the next regular League, Playoff, Pre-Season, Tournament or Provincial Game. This is in addition to any other suspensions directed by Hockey Alberta.

13. Coach Education RequirementsHockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP)

All Hockey Alberta teams must have one (1) Team Official registered to their team who has completed the Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP).

Teams must have a registered and eligible (as defined below) safety person by November 15 of the current Hockey Season. Teams failing to adhere to this regulation may jeopardize their eligibility for Provincial, Regional and National Playoffs.

An eligible safety person is defined as a person who has successfully completed the requirements for the Hockey Canada Safety Program. This program is valid for a period of three (3) hockey seasons from the date of the clinic attended to August 1 of the third hockey season.

Respect In Sport - Coach

Senior Female teams are exempt from Respect in Sport (RIS), UNLESS they have a Minor aged player or Minor aged Affiliate registered on their team. If they have a Minor aged player or Affiliate, then the Respect In Sport program must be taken as outlined below.

By November 15 of the current Hockey Season, each Hockey Team in the province of Alberta must have all registered Team Officials complete the Respect in Sport - "Activity Leader/Coach" program.

See General Information section for further details.