



RURAL AND EDMONTON U16 HOCKEY LEAGUE

Approved June 16, 2004

BYLAWS

The name of the league shall be known as the RURAL AND EDMONTON U16 HOCKEY LEAGUE. Hereafter known as the REM League.

The REM League shall abide by all the regulations, bylaws and rules of HOCKEY ALBERTA and HOCKEY CANADA.

The Objectives of the REM league shall be:

To foster and promote a high level of hockey for REM league players under its jurisdiction.

To control and administer the playing of the game of hockey in accordance with the rules and regulations and etiquette of the game.

To ensure that all persons who wish to play U16 hockey and who reside in Alberta have an opportunity to compete for a position on a team operating within their geographic zone.

To ensure keen competition within the REM league.

101 Operation and Control

A. Teams will be controlled and operated only by local minor hockey associations and shall not enter into any player contracts or agreements of any kind and with anyone except Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada.

B. Only the team members of the REM league shall be eligible for playoffs as provided in the Hockey Alberta regulations.

102 Membership

The following local minor hockey associations are members of the REM League:

- ?? Edmonton Minor Hockey Association (Edmonton)
- ?? Fort Saskatchewan Minor Hockey Association
- ?? St. Albert Minor Hockey Association
- ?? Sherwood Park Minor Hockey Association
- ?? Leduc Minor Hockey Association
- ?? Strathcona Minor Hockey Association
- ?? Spruce Grove Minor Hockey Association

103 Violations

Any violation of the bylaws or regulations of the REM League, Hockey Alberta, or Hockey Canada by any member of the REM League shall render member liable to disciplinary action and/or suspension as may be necessary.

Upon learning of an alleged violation or breach of the constitution, bylaws, and regulations of the REM league by a member team, the Commissioner or his designate shall determine whether there was a violation or breach and impose such disciplinary measures and sanctions as the Commissioner or his designate may deem appropriate.

104 Meetings - Representation and Voting.

A. General Meetings of the league will be held a minimum of four (4) times from September to June ending with the Annual General Meeting.

B. The Annual General Meeting of the REM league shall be held after the annual general meeting of Hockey Alberta or as designated by the Commissioner.

C. No team shall be entitled to be either represented at or have voting privileges at a general meeting or any meeting of the REM League unless its financial commitments to the REM League are fully met and they are deemed to be in good standing by the REM League.

D. At any meeting, each team registered with the REM League through its local association shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all matters including election of officers. In the case of a tied vote (excepting elections see 109) the Chair shall cast a deciding ballot.

E. Quorum will consist of 2/3 of the membership - to the next whole number. (e.g. 10 voting members, 7 required for a quorum). In the event a quorum is not available for a meeting, the Commissioner will re-schedule the meeting to a new date not more than thirty (30) days and not less than fourteen (14) days away and will notify all members of the re-scheduled meeting. The quorum for the re-scheduled meeting will be the members present and entitled to vote.

F. A simple majority of members present to vote shall carry all questions except as specified elsewhere in the bylaws.

G. Special Meetings are meetings requested by a minimum of six (6) REM League teams. Requests must be received in writing by the Commissioner through the local associations. Such requests shall state the purpose and business to be considered at the special meeting. Once all conditions are satisfied, the Commissioner shall immediately schedule the meeting for a date not more than 30 days after notification and give a minimum of 14 days notice to all members of the date, time, location and purpose of the Special Meeting.

105 Membership Fees

A. The annual membership administration fees shall be payable to the REM League by each team on or before the September meeting of each year.

B. All team privileges are automatically lost upon default of any monies due to the REM League.

C. The membership administration fee shall be reviewed at each annual meeting and be set after consideration of the budget

106 Declaration of Existing Teams

All local associations shall declare their intentions to operate in the REM league for the next season on or before April 30th of the current season.

107 Officers of the REM League

A. The officers shall consist of Commissioner, two (2) Assistant Commissioners, Secretary/Treasurer

B. In the event the Commissioner's position is vacated, the U16 AA Assistant Commissioner shall immediately assume the role of Commissioner for the balance of the present term and continue for the next full term. In the event the Assistant Commissioner position is vacated or the Assistant Commissioner assumes the Commissioner's position, a by-election shall be held at the earliest possible opportunity to elect a new Assistant Commissioner. In the event both the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioners positions are vacated, a new election shall be held at the earliest possible opportunity.

108 Election of Officers

The election of officers shall take place at each Annual General Meeting.

To be a candidate for Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner the nominee must reside within the boundaries of one of the local member associations.

109 Procedures for elections

A. At each annual general meeting, an independent person shall be appointed to act in the capacity of returning officer, who shall chair the meeting during election only. Said person shall not be a voting member and shall be charged with the disposition of the election in an impartial fashion.

B. Candidates may be nominated from the floor and/or by a nominating committee as selected by the REM League.

C. A candidate requires a simple majority of the voting members present to be elected.

D. In the event that three (3) or more candidates are nominated and no candidate secures the simple majority of votes required, the candidate with the least number of votes will be deleted from the ballot and a re-vote will take place.

E. This procedure will be repeated until a candidate receives the simple majority required. In the case of a tied vote a re-vote will take place. If still tied, the Commissioner elect will cast the tie breaking vote, or if the election is for the position of Commissioner the returning officer will break the tie by the toss of a coin.

110 General Duties and Powers of the Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner and Secretary/Treasurer.

A. To conduct the business of the REM League in its entirety between annual general meetings as directed by REM League members and to be accountable to REM League members.

B. To discipline any coach, manager, player, official or team or local association representative or member for refusing to accept and obey the Ruling of the REM League or its officers and for any proven misconduct, unfair or unsportsmanlike conduct, individually or collectively at any place where hockey is being played or at any meeting.

111 Duties and Power of Commissioner

- A. May represent any and all of the members of the REM League on any occasion and will be responsible to the REM League. In the absence of the Commissioner, the Assistant Commissioner may be designated by the Commissioner and shall have the powers of the Commissioner in this respect.
- B. Shall call such meetings as may be deemed necessary or call a special meeting when requested.
- C. Shall provide reports to Hockey Alberta Director or designate (Zone Manager of Operations) regarding any suspensions of clubs, managers, players or officials.
- D. Shall ensure that REM League expenditures do not exceed budgeted amounts without due consideration and approval of the REM League.
- E. To be responsible for the complete operation of the REM League.
- F. To control discipline matters within the REM League.
- G. Draw up the REM League schedule.
- H. To attend and chair REM League meetings or any other meetings relating to the REM League.
- I. Shall appoint as required, an expansion committee to accept and review on behalf of the REM League applications from prospective members as outlined in bylaw 116 and bylaw 117.

112 Duties and Powers of Assistant Commissioner

Shall be responsible for all duties assigned by the Commissioner. In the absence of the commissioner shall assume responsibility of the Commissioner.

113 Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer

- A. To manage a bank account, record all revenues and expenditures, deposit all monies received and pay all accounts of the REM League and prepare appropriate financial statements on an accrual basis as of Nov 30th for the mid season meeting and April 30 for the spring meeting.
- B. Record minutes of all REM League meetings and distribute copies to members within 14 days of the meeting.
- C. Handle such correspondence and financial matters as required by the REM League.
- D. Bank signing authority, Any (1) of the commissioner, assistant commissioner secretary/treasurer, are required to sign cheques, any (1) of the above to verify the account.
- E. Audit clause Annual internal audit is to be conducted on a yearly basis of all accounts, by two representatives of the REM League, prior to each annual general meeting.
- F. Budget:
 - 1) To prepare a draft budget, for the upcoming season, in conjunction with the commissioner for circulation to members at the annual general meeting.
 - 2) To accurately monitor expenditures, relative to budget, and advise the commissioner when budget limits are being reached.

114 Appeals

Any rulings under these Bylaws may be appealed to Hockey Alberta provided all internal REM League redress procedures have been exhausted.

115 Amendments

A. The Bylaws shall be amended only at an Annual General Meeting or at a Special Meeting convened solely for that purpose.

B. A notice of the intended amendment shall be submitted in writing to an officer of the REM League at least Thirty (30) days prior to the date of the annual general meeting or the meeting where the bylaw is to be considered.

C. Rules and Regulations may be amended at any meeting of the REM League providing notice has been given as provided in (D)

D. A notice of an intended amendment to the Rules & Regulations shall be provided to each team and their local association at least 30 days prior to either the general meeting or the meeting where the change is to be considered.

E. Amendments require a simple majority as specified in 104 E

116 Prospective Members

1. Local Minor Hockey Association wishing to operate one or more U16 team (s) in the REM League must make application in writing to the REM League commissioner no later than December 15th of the year prior to the season entry. Applications shall be accompanied by a deposit of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00). If the application is denied, the deposit will be fully refunded. If membership is granted, the deposit will be dealt with as specified in 116.5.

2. The REM League will review the application(s) taking into consideration

- a) Existing expansion committee recommendations
- b) Detrimental effect on current zoning
- c) Number of same category teams
- d) Such other factors as the REM League considers appropriate

3. Prospective members must:

Have an established feeder system consisting of at least (1) Bantam "AAA" team and 1 Bantam "AA" team and four (4) or more Pee Wee teams.

4. The REM League will determine acceptance or rejection of the application or may table the application for such period of time it deems appropriate and any decision of the REM League is final.

5. Upon acceptance the applicant must post a performance bond for a minimum period of three (3) years in the amount to be set by the REM League and contribute to the REM League an amount equal to the pro rata share of existing cash equity of existing teams as determined by the REM League. Upon delivery of the performance bond and payment of the equity payment, the deposit accompanying the team application will be refunded.

117 Expansion Committee

A. The Expansion Committee shall consist of not less than 4 REM League directors two (2) from rural and two (2) from Edmonton members, appointed by the commissioner when required. A representative from Hockey Alberta may be invited to sit as a member of the committee, at the discretion of the commissioner.

B. The committee will be responsible to ensure that all requirements are met by prospective members submission of required information, posting of financial commitments and other requirements specified in bylaw 116. After reviewing application(s) and completing investigations, appropriate recommendations to be made to the REM League on the acceptability of the prospective member.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The REM League will consist of two (2) Categories, the “ REM U16 AA” Category and the “ REM 15” Category.

The “ REM 15” Category will be restricted to teams with players who are fifteen (15) years of age by December 31st of the current playing season.

The “ REM U16 AA” Category will be open to teams comprised of players who are eligible to play U16 hockey.

Each Category may be further sub divided into divisions to accommodate balanced play.

1 Team Registration

It is the responsibility of each local minor association to ensure that their team is properly registered with their Local Minor Hockey Association, Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada.

2 Refereeing

Assignments of officials for REM League games will be done by the Hockey Alberta Referees Committee.

3 Scheduled Games

Scheduled games have priority over exhibition and tournament games as provided by the Hockey Alberta Bylaws & Regulations.

4 Playing Rules

The playing rules shall be as provided in the official rule book of Hockey Canada

5 Tournament and Exhibition Games

The Local Minor Hockey Association and Hockey Alberta are responsible for granting permission for such games and for the administration and discipline should that be necessary arising out of those games.

6 Game Sheets

The **Home Team** is responsible for the mailing, faxing or delivering of the original game sheet to the REM League officer designated by the Commissioner within 24 hours of the games completion.

7 Match and Major Penalties

Such penalties shall be reported by telephone the day after the game to the appropriate officer representing the REM league.

8 Team Failing to Present Itself

If a team fails to present itself at the time and place appointed to play in any game the game and or series shall be awarded to the opposing team and a score of 3 - 0 will be posted in favor of the offended team unless the failure was caused by an unavoidable accident or unforeseen contingency. The team manager, coach or official and/or players of the team which is responsible for a failure to attend may be suspended from the league for one year or more.

9 Playoff Structure

A. The playoffs format and overtime rules for each category will be put in place at the September REM League meeting of each year.

B. Procedure for determining playoff position in the event teams are tied:

- 1 MOST WINS
- 2 WINS FOR/AGAINST EACH OTHER
- 3 TOTAL GOALS FOR/AGAINST IN GAMES WITH EACH OTHER
- 4 TOTAL GOALS IN LEAGUE PLAY
- 5 FLIP A COIN

10 Reportable Discipline Offenses

A. Team officials are charged with the responsibility of reporting all serious offenses to the appropriate officer immediately after the game.

B. Reportable offenses

1. Major Penalties
2. Game Misconduct's
3. Gross Misconduct's
4. Match Penalties

11 Suspension Guidelines

Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada suspension guidelines will be used as a minimum. Additional REM League specific suspension guidelines will be put in place at the September meeting.

12 General Discipline

The coach of each team is responsible for the conduct of all players, both on and off the ice. If general team discipline problems exist, the commissioner will take appropriate action against the coach.

13 Suspended Coach/Team Official

All coaches / team officials suspended for any reason will normally NOT be allowed in the building from one hour prior to game time until one hour after the conclusion, while under suspension.

Where buildings are designed in such a way as to give independent public access to the spectator area officers may exercise discretion in applying this policy. Thus on approval of the officer, a coach /team official under suspension may be allowed in the public spectator area, providing the officer is satisfied the person in question has affirmed that appropriate decorum will be exercised.

14 Teams

Teams must first satisfy Hockey Alberta Rules of Registration. Teams will also adhere to the following REM League rules.

1. Teams may register players who are eligible to register in the member LMHA ..
2. Teams must provide a reasonable opportunity for players resident within their LMHA to try out and play for that team.
3. For the purpose of this regulation, "residence" of a player shall mean that place where the player normally resides with his parent(s).
4. Prior to playing an exhibition or tryout game each player registered with their Local Minor Hockey Association shall be listed on the REM League 40 player list which is used to track player movement only. Copies to be provided to REM League Commissioner. Additions can be made on the original copy with an updated copy provided to the REM League Commissioner. No more than forty (40) players can be listed with any one team. Only players listed on the Forty Player lists are eligible to participate on a REM League team.
5. A complete list of affiliated players must be submitted to the Commissioner on or before Dec.15th of the current playing season.
6. A player must try out for the team in his member LMHA and be released by the LMHA before he may try out for and play for any other team..
7. The Local Minor Hockey Associations may vary these rules in accordance with the Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations.

15 Protests.

A. Protests, including protests arising out of the playoff games shall be entertained only on an improper interpretation of the rule as set out in the playing rules.

B. Protests and all supporting evidence thereof must be in writing, signed by the authorized person of the local hockey association and submitted in duplicate to a REM League officer within seventy-two (72) hours of the advertised commencement time of the game being protested and accompanied by a cheque or money order in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) the protesting local association must notify an officer with forty-eight (48) hours of the advertised commencement time of the game being protested of their intention to protest. A copy of the protest must also be forwarded to the manager of the team protested against by registered mail within the 72 hour period stated above.

C. The protest hearing committee shall be chaired by a REM league officer and consist of a minimum of three (3) independent and knowledgeable hockey personnel and be convened within 10 days of the date the protest was received. The hearing committee shall render its decision within 5 days of the hearing date confirm the decision in writing to both parties to the protest. There are maximum time limits and therefore whenever necessary, the REM League should endeavor to expedite the hearing process and decision for the benefit of the teams involved.

D. Should the officers, whose decision shall be final dismiss the protest, the sum deposited with the protest will be forfeited.

E. Decisions of the Commissioner under Bylaw 103 (Violations) shall be heard by the appeals committee under Regulation 16 (Appeals) and not under Regulation 15 (Protests).

16 Appeals

A. Upon receiving an appeal, the Commissioner shall form a discipline appeals committee. This committee shall consist of three independent and knowledgeable hockey personnel, who shall select a member as chairman.

B. The officer shall refer to the committee any appeal of an officers ruling.

C. The committee shall consider the appeal, and render a decision to uphold or deny the appeal within 10 days of the receipt of appeal.

D. Any appeal of the officer's ruling by a team must be delivered in writing at the officers address of record, and be signed by the coach and a representative of the local minor hockey association, operating the team within 48 hours of the decision. The appeal must be accompanied by cash or certified cheque in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00)

E. If an appeal decision is not rendered within the 10 day period, the player or official shall be reinstated until such a decision is rendered.

F. The Commissioner shall ensure consistency of decisions of the Discipline committee for general REM League purposes, interlock games and playoff games.

G. In the event the appeal is denied, the \$150.00 appeal fee is forfeited.

H. Any rulings under these Rules & Regulations may be appealed to Hockey Alberta provided all internal REM League redress procedures have been exhausted.
