

SBMHA

2014-2015 7 & 8 HOUSE LEAGUE RULES

1. SAFETY

- a. Players will wear all required equipment including mouth guard and neck guard.
- b. If play is stopped due to an injured player, he must be attended to immediately. All players on the ice should return to their respective team bench area. The injured player must leave the ice until the puck is dropped to resume play. He may return to the ice for the balance of his shift if deemed able by the coach. A substitute player will be allowed.
- c. The goal pegs will be removed during all house league games. This will allow the goal to slide freely on the ice so that it will reduce injury should a player make contact.
- d. Each team will have a minimum of one player fully equipped with goalie equipment for each and every game.

2. GAMES

- a. All Hockey Canada and WMHA rules are to be applied with the exception of special league rules contained on this form. Please familiarize yourself with the WMHA handbook.
<http://www.hockeywinnipeg.ca/rulebook.pdf>
- b. Each team will play 18 games during the season lasting from October to February. No league games will be scheduled between Christmas Eve through New Year's Day inclusively.
- c. Teams need a minimum of 6 players to ice a team. If a team does not have a minimum number of players, a 1-0 win will be awarded to the opposing team. A scrimmage will ensue so as to utilize the ice time and allow the kids to have a fun skate. (teams may be split as to the coaches discretion to allow for this scrimmage)
- d. In the event of a player shortage during the regular season, temporary players may be borrowed from a younger age group (Timbits) from the same community club. A call-up list will be provided prior to the season. Please attempt to distribute evenly through this list. Call-up players do not have to be on list. It is our view that having younger age call-ups is beneficial to the program as it is an introduction to the next level of hockey. In exceptional circumstances, a house league player from an association team may be used. In this circumstance the player must be of similar playing ability. Please mark the above as a temporary player on your game sheet. Please email the house league convener of players that are being substituted.
Always attempt to have 2 full lines.
- e. All games will consist of 3 – 12 minute periods, stop time. It is encouraged to utilize the full hour of ice, so to this point the 3rd period may be extended to take advantage of the full hour. This is at the complete discretion of the timekeeper. Please do not attempt to influence the timekeepers decision.
- f. Up until Christmas, a whistle or buzzer will sound at the end of each two (2) minute shift. After Christmas, games will be changed to a change on the fly style. This includes the playoffs.
- g. Attempts should be made to create balanced lines
- h. Double shifting of players is discouraged except when a team does not have the numbers to ice full lines. Please attempt to use a call-up (see item d) Double shifting should encompass all players, and no player should be excluded from this process. Coaches that continually double shift the same players (at the expense of others) will face disciplinary actions from SBMHA.
- i. Goalies are allowed to be pulled from the net during the last 5 minutes of the 3rd period.
- j. SBMHA follows and adheres to the fair play policy and expects coaches to do the same. This policy encompasses all sixty (60) minutes of a game and includes playoffs. Equitable ice time distribution for each player is expected throughout the season.
- k. All penalties will be called in accordance with Hockey Canada and WMHA rules and interpretations. All penalties must be served. Before Christmas, all penalties will end with two minute shift change. After Christmas, all penalties will be served in their entirety or until a goal has been scored by the opposing team which would end that penalty.
- l. All league games ending in a tie will remain as a tie.

- m. In event of sweater colour conflicts, the home team will be required to change or wear alternate sweaters or “pinnies”. Contact the convener a few days prior to the game to request alternate sweaters or pinnies.
- n. League games will take precedence over tournament games or exhibition games. No league game is to be postponed or cancelled for a tournament or exhibition game at any time.
- o. Fair play, fun and good sportsmanship must be emphasized by the coaches. Remember that the house league hockey program is a development program. The emphasis is on developing the players and honing their skills. This can only be done if the child finds enjoyment in the game.
- p. Coaches are expected to ensure their players and the parents of those players also adhere to the fair play policy instituted by Hockey Canada.
- q. Timekeepers and referees will be assigned by the SBMHA referee and timekeeper assigners.
- r. Coaches and players should not question a referee's call on the ice. Referees at this age group are developing referees. We do not want to influence their decisions or intimidate them to make a certain call. If there is a problem with the way a ref calls a game, please contact the house league convener or the referee in chief for SBMHA.
- s. The home team is responsible for providing the game sheets. Once the home team has completed their section of the game sheet, they should deliver it to the visiting team. When the visiting team has completed their section, the game sheet should then be delivered to the timekeeper.
Home teams will email the game score to the following address immediately following the game.
SbmhaNoviceScores@gmail.com
- t. Coaches should phone the Referee assigner if one or both of the referees are not present 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the game. The names and numbers of these individuals can be found on the SBMHA website. If no referee shows up, and both coaches agree, than anyone present who in the judgment of the coaches has the ability to referee can do so and the game will count in the standings as an official game.
- u. The second half schedule will recognize league standings and remaining games will be played against similar record teams. All teams will play all other league teams at least once.
- v. SBMHA team functions such as practices and games take priority over other non SBMHA hockey related activities. A player found not participating in team functions due to another hockey related activity may face sanctions by SBMHA.

3. **PLAYOFFS**

- a. All teams in the league will have a direct entry into the playoffs. The teams will be divided into three (3) divisions based on the league standings. There will be a champion crowned in each division. The playoffs will be in the form of a round robin tournament.
- b. Playoffs will begin within a week or two of the regular season ending and will take approximately two (2) weeks to conclude.
- c. Temporary players may be considered in the playoffs under exceptional circumstances. These will need to be approved by the convener and a similar ability player should be selected. This rule may be modified prior to the start of playoffs with coaches' input.
- d. Double shifting will follow the same standard as set forth under the “games section” - #7. Remember, winning has to involve the whole team and the playoffs are not a time to deviate from the fair play policy at any time during a game regardless of the score.
- e. In the event of a tie, a shootout and/or overtime will commence (more details to follow)

4. **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

- a. All coaches in the SBMHA house league program must have the following certification by December 1st, of the present season:
- b. Initiation Level or NCCP Coach Level, Respect in Sport or for the 2008/2009 season “Speak Out”
- c. A member of the coaching staff has to have obtained their “Safety” certification As these are Hockey Canada rules, no deviations are allowed. Please see the Hockey Manitoba website (<http://www.hockeymanitoba.ca>) for more details on certification requirements and courses.