

# *LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. STATEMENT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS
2. RULE CHANGES
3. REGISTRATION
4. LAWFIELD FACILITIES
5. TEAM FORMATION
6. THE DRAFT
7. COACHES SELECTION AND QUALIFICATIONS
8. TOURNAMENTS AND EXHIBITION GAMES
9. FUNDRAISING AND FINANCES
10. POLICE DISCLOSURE FORMS
11. TEAM WEAR
12. PLAYING RULES
13. PENALTIES AND SUSPENSIONS
14. DISCIPLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
15. TIE BREAKING RULES
16. GOALTENDER REPLACEMENT
17. EXCESS GOALTENDER REGISTRATION
18. MISCELLANEOUS

*LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.*

**LMHA RULES and REGULATIONS**

As amended and accepted December 2023

**PREFACE**

**LAWFIELD Minor Hockey Association is an organized placed for children, parents, players and volunteers to come and enjoy fun House League recreational, and select hockey. We are endeavoring to keep the game in good standing with fair play and good sportsmanship utmost for all. Any verbal or physical abuse by any coach, manager, trainer, spectator, parent or guardian will not be tolerated at all.**

**Non-compliance of this may result in expulsion from the league, zero tolerance policy from the city of Hamilton and registration fees refunded on a prorated basis with no chance of renewal.**

LMHA INC, MHAO, HMHC, OHF, CHL and CHA Rules and Regulations govern Select, house league and tournament play. Changes to any rule or regulation can be made by a majority vote of the Executive eligible to vote. All coaches/assistant coaches and Executive are expected to know and follow the rules and regulations as set forth and are able to submit rules change proposals.

# *LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.*

## **1. Rules and Regulations.**

The League Executive may add, amend, or repeal the rules and regulations, in whole or in part, by a majority vote of the Executive. The rules and regulations stated herein govern House League, select and Tournament play.

# ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

## **2. Rule Changes**

**2.1** A copy of the proposed rule change(s) shall be provided to all members of the Executive at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which the proposal is to be considered. Non-Executive members of Lawfield may propose rule changes by submitting, in writing, in a sealed envelope, the proposed change to the Chairman (or designate) of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee or a member of the Board of Directors. The President (or designate) will then bring the proposal to the Executive for consideration at the next scheduled meeting in accordance with the ten-day policy.

**2.2** Any rule or regulation that is enacted, repealed, or amended shall not be enforced or acted upon for a period of seven (7) days following approval of the League Executive unless a majority vote of the executive agrees to implement the change immediately.

\*

# ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

## **3. REGISTRATION**

Registration in the Lawfield Minor Hockey Association will provide:

### **3.1 Game time, practice time and coaching.**

The Association also reserves the right to, and will be responsible for allocating the players to teams in an effort to ensure equality in competition through a draft procedure. Divisional adjustments may be made according to ability up or down regardless of age where it is in the best interest of all involved. The association also reserves the right to promote players to play at a level where they belong.

### **3.2 House League Team sweaters and socks.**

These articles remain the property of the Association until the end of the season when they are given to the players. Any player(s) given indefinite suspensions prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>, or requiring a refund for whatever reason, shall return their socks and sweaters to the league, failing which any costs incurred by the league will be deducted from their refund. Socks and sweaters must be worn at all times during all league, tournament and exhibition games, whenever not possible the convener responsible for the division must be notified. Failure to comply may result in a 7-day suspension.

### **3.3 Use of goalie equipment is on a Non – Refundable user rental basis, at a cost determined by the LMHA executive.**

### **3.4 Awards and recognition.**

### **3.5 Insurance.**

### **3.6 Priority in pre registration and subsequent registration will be given to:**

- a) Present members currently registered with LMHA for the preceding fiscal year in house league.
- b) Residents of the City of Hamilton on a first come first serve basis, and siblings of members currently registered as per (3.6-a), no earlier than April 1<sup>st</sup> annually, providing they are presently residing, or paying property taxes in the City of Hamilton.

### **3.7 The Association may request ‘proof of age’ and reserve the right to decide eligibility if proof is not available. Birth certificate is required for initial registration.**

## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

**3.8 ONE PLAYER, ONE LEAGUE.** Any player who registers and plays with another hockey program other than school leagues, (public or separate) will not be eligible to play and will be suspended from Lawfield without refund.

**3.9** Any player that participates in any other league, other than those in Rule 3.8, that conflicts with any Lawfield regularly sanctioned game or practice will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- a) Written warning to choose the league to play with.
- b) Dismissal from Lawfield without refund
- c) The Board of Directors could grant special permission.

# ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

## **4. LAWFIELD FACILITIES**

- 4.1** No member of a team or an official shall enter the ice surface until the Zamboni has completed flooding operations, has left the surface and the gates are closed. Violations of this rule shall be applicable as per LMHA Rule 13.8.
- 4.2** No person shall enter the ice surface without skates, except in an emergency and with the exception of the coaches handshake at the end of the game. All coaches and timekeepers will approach the benches from the ends of the arena. Non – compliance may result in discipline.
- 4.3** The use of alcohol or drugs, before or after any league organized event, by any member of the LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION whether at Lawfield Arena or its' practice facilities or representing Lawfield in an exhibition or tournament game will not be tolerated. A member found guilty of such an infraction will face a possible suspension, without refund (where applicable), for the balance of the season.
- 4.4** Any member of LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION who causes theft, damages or defaces any property of Lawfield arena or its' practice facilities while representing Lawfield or damages the equipment of LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION shall be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of the damaged property. The member will be suspended from league activities until such costs have been paid in full.
- 4.5** In addition to the suspension provided for in Rule 4.4, the offending member may be subject to further suspension / discipline. The period of suspension is to be determined having regard for the nature and amount of damages and all the circumstances relating thereto by the LMHA Board of Directors.
- 4.6** Any member of Lawfield who finds any damage in any part of Lawfield arena or Lawfield's practice facilities, while representing Lawfield in an exhibition game abroad should report such damage to the Convener, league official, coach or rink attendant as soon as possible for further review as per rule 4.5.

# ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

## **5. TEAM FORMATION**

- 5.1** Head coaches will be selected before the evaluations and where possible their assistant coaches also. The addition of Assistant Coaches in the timeframe covered between the commencement of evaluations and the draft, will be subject to convener approval. Persons under the age of sixteen (16) are restricted from applying for coaching positions and all Head Coaches must be a minimum of nineteen (19) years of age to apply. It is recommended that all members of coaching staffs attend each evaluation and the subsequent draft.
- 5.2** All teams are limited to declaring three (3) coaches prior to the draft. Coaches who have a protected player on their team must be on the bench while in attendance for their team's games. Only certified persons may be on the bench for games or on the ice surface for practices. Any (team) coach, manager or trainer found using uncertified persons on their team may forfeit the game and face further disciplinary action.
- 5.3** Once the draft has concluded, teams may add additional coaches to their rosters up to a maximum of four (4) including a certified trainer. Costs associated with a fourth coach shall be the responsibility of the individual team. This would include Alliance fees that must be paid for Hockey Canada insurance and other registration costs. All coaches are responsible for Respect in Sport and Police check fees.



# LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.

## 6 THE DRAFT

- 6.1 Team designation or assignment will not be given until after the draft.
- 6.2 The sequence in which draft positions are selected will be determined by a draw. The team drawing #1 position will have first choice of draft position; the second team will have second choice and so on. 1-8 and 8-1 etc.... Please note coaches who draw 1<sup>st</sup> number in a random draw have the option of selecting their drafting position. E.g. 1<sup>st</sup> out of the hat could pick 4<sup>th</sup> drafting position...etc.
- 6.3 Each team will draft only one goalie and unless protected may be chosen in any round.
- 6.4 Coach's children and/or siblings will be rated by the Divisional Convener **and** or an appointee from the Board of Directors should the convener(s) require assistance, before the draft and will be slotted by them into fixed draft positions on their parent's or siblings team according to their ability.
- 6.5 Using an "X" in the appropriate position the convener will slot placement of protected players prior to commencement of draft. Conveners will not be required to divulge who is placed where and or why. Any discrepancies of player slotting shall be the Conveners decision and all decisions will be final.
- 6.6 Siblings must be drafted onto the same team if they choose. They will be rated by the Divisional Convener and then will be slotted into their appropriate positions as per 6.5.
- 6.7 Sponsors will have their children placed on the team that they sponsored by the Conveners when drafted. Sponsors may not use a stronghold to request a specific coach as outlined in 6.1, unless all divisional head coaches and the Conveners agree. If agreeable the sponsor's child will be rated and slotted into the draft like a protected player.
- 6.8 A reasonable amount of time (three minutes) will be allowed for drafting each player.
- 6.9 Player protection for other than coaches' children will not be considered unless approved by the Conveners and all head coaches in the division.
- 6.10 All players registered after the draft has been completed will be placed on the team which was next to pick at the end of the draft sequence unless it is felt by the Conveners that this placement may affect the equality of the division and it will be the Conveners decision to place the player where he feels it may create equality within the division. Any discrepancies will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for Final Approval.
- 6.11 Any registered player that does not show for evaluations should be contacted by the Convener and asked why he/she did not show. The Convener should try to place the player into another time slot if possible. If this is not possible the Convener will try to get a rating on this player before the draft date. If the player is from another league and a rating cannot be established, the player will be held back out of the draft and placed by the Convener on the team(s) with the least number of players, by random draw.
- 6.12 The hiding of a player by any coach or coaches will not be tolerated under any circumstances. This action will result in dismissal of all coaches involved.

## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

- 6.13 All coaches will be provided with statistic sheets and player evaluation sheets for their division prior to the draft if available
- 6.14 In the event there are more goalies registered than there are teams, all non protected goaltenders will have to try out for the remaining spots available .If they do not make it as a goalie, a spot to play out will be kept available for them. If they wish, after the draft is done and he/she was not chosen to play goalie, a full refund will be given to venture to another association to play goalie. A full release will be given. Sponsors do not guarantee their child a spot unless they are coaching the team.
- 6.15 From time to time, certain circumstances may arise where there may be some player movement due to some unforeseen reason or a child's ability regardless of age. In this case the Board of Directors will look at all the pertinent factors and a decision will be made.
- 6.16 The Division Conveners and Board of Directors will address any discrepancies regarding the draft. All decisions will be final.

# **LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.**

## **7 COACHES SELECTION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

**7.1** All Head coaches in House league will require a valid PRS# and up- to- date police check and either an **LC # or Coach 2**. Assistant coaches require a PRS # and a valid police check Select Coaches qualifications are listed in the Select Guidelines.

**7.2** HL Coaches must have applied for, obtained and submitted their documentation as per LMHA Rule #7.1 prior to Dec. 1st or be suspended indefinitely until all documentation is submitted to the league .

**7.3** Minimum age requirements to coach at LMHA shall be according to the following:

- (a) Novice and Atom is 19 years for a Head Coach and 16 years for an Assistant Coach or Trainer
- (b) PeeWee is 21 years for a Head Coach and 16 years for an Assistant Coach or Trainer
- (c) Bantam is 21 years for a Head Coach and 19 years for an Assistant Coach or Trainer
- (d) Midget is 21 years for all Coaching and Trainer positions.

Younger Assistant Coaches and Trainers will be considered for all Divisions upon approval of the Board of Directors and Divisional Conveners.

**7.4** Each House league team and Select team must have a certified trainer on the bench at all times for any league, tournament or exhibition game or one must be in attendance in the arena and available immediately to enter the ice surface if injury occurs. Conveners with valid trainers may act as the team(s) trainer if no other is available.

**7.5** People not certified, cannot fill in for absent coaches under any circumstances whether it is a game or a practice. Neglect of this rule may result in forfeiture of the game and further discipline action to the head coach or assistants.

**7.6** Head coaching positions may be held in one division only. The only exception to this will be if it is impossible to find enough head coaches to fill all positions. The Board of Directors will make this decision.

**7.7** Interviews, reviews and selection of Select coaches will be the responsibility of the Select convener as soon as possible prior to the select tryouts in the fall.

## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

Selection of coaches will be announced as soon as possible at a time be-fitting LMHA.

- 7.8 Anyone certified may apply to coach a Select team and in any case where there are 2 or more candidates running for a coaching position in the same division, interviews may be completed by the Select convener and, if required, any member of the executive that might be needed to assist.
- 7.9 All Select coaches and managers children will be evaluated by the Board of Directors and the applicable Rep and in the case where it is in the best interest of the player that the child of a Select coach or manager does not warrant being on the team because of his / her ability at the discretion of the Board, the player(s) in question will be returned to house league or given a release. Any coach or manager having a child fall into this situation may remain as part of the coaching staff if he/she so chooses.

# ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

## **8 TOURNAMENTS and Exhibition Games**

**8.1** Teams wishing to enter tournaments or play any exhibition game wherever it shall be located “MUST” obtain proper permission forms and travel permits from the League or Divisional Convener before they apply. Once accepted they must inform their Convener and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president so they may deal with any game schedule conflicts. Out of Province tournaments must receive permission in accordance with the M.H.A.O policies. Any team(s) playing a sanctioned game with a team from a non member Hockey Assoc. (i.e. OMHA) will be charged a nominal fee by the Alliance for insurance purposes. In simple terms make sure you have a Travel Permit for any game or playoff game that is not scheduled by your home association. Failure to do so could result in no hockey for all of us. Insurance and Risk and Safety Management are a huge part of your responsibilities, so don't get caught out in the cold.

**8.2** Scrimmage games are not permitted at all. Any game without a sanctioned travel permit and 2 MHAO certified referees are not allowed. Insurance may be void.

# ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

## **9 FUNDRAISING & FINANCES**

- 9.1** No house league team or group of teams shall fund raise without proper permission. Any team receiving donations and/or financial assistance from any source must have approval of the Board of Directors. Such approval must be requested in writing to the League. Any coach not reporting such items will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 9.2** The LMHA Board of Directors have determined that a budget of no more than \$100.00 per player on each is recommended and that each team must submit to the Executive a “Proposed team budget” which is signed and approved by each parent or guardian of each team player prior to Dec. 1st of each fiscal year. Budget documents are available from the league. It is ultimately the head coach’s responsibility for this, therefore he/she will be liable for it. Any team not handing in their proposed budget to their convener and not forwarded to the league Board member responsible for team budgets by this date, will have their Head Coach suspended until one is completed and handed in.
- 9.3** All HL and Select teams shall keep and maintain a financial account throughout the entire season. Financial Statements are available from the league and are in the coach’s manual. The Board of Directors may request to review such an account at any time. A financial year end statement of all such accounts must be approved and signed by the team’s parents and handed in to the League by March 1st of each fiscal year. It is ultimately the head coach’s responsibility for this; therefore he/she will be liable for it. Any team failing to hand their team’s financial statement to their convener and forwarded to the league secretary prior to this date, will have their head coach suspended until one is properly filled out and handed in.

# ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

## **10 POLICE DISCLOSURE FORMS**

- 10.1**The membership as outlined in the LMHA Constitution, of the LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION must fill out and submit the disclosure form to the City of Hamilton Police Department for a search of any criminal convictions for crimes related to violence, weapons offences or sexual abuse.
- 10.2**All members must return the form to the appointed scrutinizer prior to Dec 1st. On Dec. 1st one of the scrutinizers may notify the member that the form is now past due, and they will be required to submit it prior to going on the bench for the team's next game or will be suspended indefinitely until one is produced to the league. (no exceptions)
- 10.3**Executive members will be placed in "BAD STANDING" and will not be allowed to vote until the clearance check has been submitted.
- 10.4**Coaches, either head or assistant and trainers will be suspended from their duties if disclosure is not made prior to the rule date(s).
- 10.5**All of these suspensions will remain in effect until the member has submitted the searched form.
- 10.6**No coaches or assistants are permitted to coach during a practice or game without proper designation including a police disclosure signed and/or a (coaches or trainer's certificate applied for or obtained.) minimum Speak out Certification unless submitted on or prior to the LMHA rule guidelines.

# **LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.**

## **11 TEAM WEAR**

- 11.1** Team wear is defined as but not limited to, any article of clothing (i.e. hats/shirts/jackets etc.) purchased by or donated to any team.
- 11.2** Any Executive Member, coach, trainer, player or parent that wishes to use the name and or crest of LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION, must ask for permission from the Lawfield Executive.
- 11.3** All teams wishing to purchase or have team wear donated, must receive permission from the Board of Directors before such a purchase or donation is made. Permission may be granted only after a written request has been received by the President and the Executive have voted on said request. Teams failing to ask for permission may be subject to disciplinary action.
- 11.4** Only LMHA team jerseys (colour specific) are permitted to be worn in a game situation with the exception of a goalie.
- 11.5** Last names only will be permitted on all sweaters. Players with the same last name will have their first initial added.
- 11.6** Only one "C" and up to three (3) "A"s may be affixed to team sweaters. Four "A"s are not allowed. Goaltenders will not be allowed any captaincy and must wear supplied goalie jersey. A Players favorite numbers does not justify a number change. If the jersey is too small it may be sized to fit by the supplier.
- 11.7** Ear guards are mandatory on all helmets.
- 11.8** All helmets must be CSA approved with sticker affixed to them or the helmet will be deemed unsafe and the player will be removed from the game until corrective action takes place.



# **LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.**

## **12 PLAYING RULES**

**12.1** Rules of the league will conform to the Ice Hockey rules as set down by Hockey Canada the Alliance, HMHC and LMHA. LMHA may impose additional applications over and above the rules but will not retract upon them.

**12.2** There will be body contact; however, no body checking is permitted in any division. The use of body checking in Select exhibition or tournament competition shall be governed by the existing rules of Hockey Canada and the underlying governing bodies.

**12.3** In the Bantam and Midget divisions, the minimum number of players to start a game is 7 skaters and 1 goaltender.

### **12.4**

In all other divisions, the minimum number of players required to start a game will be calculated by the following formula (One goaltender and (team roster count of skaters -5) with a minimum of 8.

**12.5** If Rule 12.3 or Rule 12.4 applies, the Convener or his designate will inform the offending team(s) that he will wait five (5) minutes. If after this period the offending team(s) has the required number of players to begin the game it will be allowed to commence. However, a two (2) minute penalty will be assessed to the offending team. After five (5) minutes has elapsed he will inform the offending team(s) that the game is forfeit. If one team is short the required number of players the score sheet will read 1-0 against the offending team. If both teams are short the required number of players the game sheet will read 0-0 and no points will be awarded. The offending team will leave the ice while the opposing team will be allowed to use the ice for a practice. If two teams are in conflict, the convener or designate will use his/her discretion as to whether to allow an exhibition game or have both teams leave the ice. Due to insurance regulations every league, tournament and exhibition must have 2 carded Alliance officials or you may be putting everyone at risk if injury or accident occurs. Do not play the game and notify the President.

## **The Golden Rule 12.6**

**12.6** Any HL Coaches not practicing a fair share of ice time in the opinion of the Divisional Convener (s) or a Member of the Board of Directors for ALL team members may receive one or more of the following:

a) A Verbal warning from the Convener that player(s) “ X’ have reached his/her fair share amount of ice time and that the coach is to adhere to the conveners request to sit the player until the Convener approves return or face disciplinary action or a further issuance of Rule 12.6.

## **LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.**

- b) A written warning that your player(s) ice allocation is out of line.
- c) A Fourteen day (14) suspension.
- d) Loss of Game Points
- e) Suspension for the balance of the season.

This rule (12.6) is not subject to scrutinization by opposing coaches, players or parents. Please DO NOT second guess our Conveners as they are doing the best job they can and do not want, nor need any redirect in regards to these issues. All decisions in regards to 12.6 are final and are not to appeal and / or protest

**12.7**When a C.H.A./O.M.H.A./M.H.A.O. sanctioned tournament game time conflicts with a regular scheduled House League game and or practice time, an application for exemption may be made if the following conditions are adhered to excluding Select:

- A) If the game affects a practice time, the team in the tournament may go and the other team which shares the ice receives the ice for its' own use.
- B) If the game conflicts with a scheduled league game, the following conditions must be adhered to:
  - i. Notice in writing should be given to the Divisional Convenir a minimum of twenty-one (21) days prior to the requested change.
  - ii. Permission signed by the head coach(s) of all team(s) affected by the change, twenty-one (21) days prior to the requested change.
  - iii. Any ice time that becomes available due to changes will be given to the teams that agree to the changes and that are not in the tournament.
  - iv. No tournament will be allowed to conflict with Super Saturday.
  - v. Any changes are subject to the approval of the LMHA Board of Directors.

**12.8** Game times shall be:

- 3 stop time periods curfewed on the hour by the arena clock

At the conveners discretion there can be a 12 minute stop time period and 2 10 minute stop time periods curfewed by the arena clock. All games on the same day must be the same time allotment.

**12.9** If the goalie has the puck covered and an opposing player makes a DELIBERATE CONTACT with the goalie, after the whistle has blown, the face-off may come out of the zone or a penalty may be issued to the offending player based on the referee's judgment.

**12.10**All players must have and wear all protective and hockey equipment, including, team jersey to play in a game. A two (2) minute penalty may be

## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

assessed to a team for players or goalies not wearing the issued jersey without Conveners approval. BNQ throat protectors are mandatory for all players and all goalies. **Failure to do so will result in a penalty as per MHAO rule 30.3.**

### **13. PENALTIES AND SUSPENSIONS**

#### **IMPORTANT**

## LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.

\* Please note that the OHF Minimum Suspension Report will be used league wide and coaches are to know and apply these suspensions according to these “Minimum” guidelines, failing which further suspensions will be levied to the head coach for not following through with the suspensions. See your coach’s manual or visit the website for clarification. [www.lawfieldhockey.ca](http://www.lawfieldhockey.ca) \*

Whenever the rules and regulations provide for a suspension, the suspension shall be exclusive of the day in which the infraction was imposed. All suspensions shall involve calendar dates of league activities, which have been scheduled by the Association. All House League Coaches, Select Coaches and players are under the Constitution and Rules and regulations of LMHA, Hamilton Minor Hockey Council, OHF, CHL, CHA and the RHL’s. Any disregards to the rules, policies or constitution in all or any, may result in further disciplinary action by LMHA Board of Directors / Discipline Committee as required. All discipline will be dealt with by the LMHA discipline committee at the earliest possible convenience. Appeal Processes are in place as per LMHA Rule 14.8

- 13.1 Any player, coach, team official or referee at LMHA receiving a suspension, shall be under suspension in all and or any other divisions that he/she may also coach or officiate in. Coaches may practice with their teams only and may not be on the bench to coach at all or in the dressing room. The coaches suspension must be served to completion in the division that it was assessed. Coaches that are rostered to both House League and Select can serve the suspension through a combination of previously scheduled games for both teams. See Alliance Manual
- 13.2 Any player or coach assessed a major penalty shall also receive a game misconduct. If the game misconduct is assessed in periods one and two they sit out the remainder of that game and any suspension as per the OHF minimum suspension list. If they receive a game misconduct in period three they will be assessed a one game suspension on top if any further suspension as per the OHF minimum suspension list. Any second game misconduct in future games may result in a further suspension as per LMHA 14.7.
- 13.3 No player or coach may participate in any league, Exhibition or tournament games while under suspension or pending suspension in any division no matter how many games he or she may miss. Non Compliance of this rule will result in further disciplinary action and the offending suspended players coach or team may forfeit the game(s) in question. This is applicable during any length of suspension. Players and coaches may participate in practices only and are not allowed on the benches while under suspension. Coaches may NOT enter the dressing room after or prior to the game.
- 13.4 If a player, coach or team official incurs a second suspension in League, Exhibition, Tournament or Select Play they will be subject to a disciplinary hearing with the LMHA Discipline Committee as well as written notice of

## **LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.**

possible additional suspensions. The LMHA Discipline Committee / Board of Directors, may at their discretion, impose further discipline / suspensions to any player or coach at any time to any player, coach, or team official as a result of their actions while a Member with LMHA over and above any penalties received under the playing rules or issued by the referee's.

- 13.5 Any player, coach or team official that verbally abuses or makes threatening gestures to scorekeeper, timekeeper or any league official may be suspended indefinitely and will face further disciplinary action.
- 13.6 Any coach or manager physically abusing a player, referee or league official shall be suspended indefinitely until further review and may be suspended for up to one year or more.
- 13.7 The coach, manager, trainer, or any other team official shall be responsible for the conduct of their players and themselves. They must endeavor at all times to prevent disorderly conduct before, during and after any games on or off the ice, cleanliness of the dressing rooms, or any place in the rink or while participating in any Lawfield activities. Whenever a coach manager or other team official fails to attempt to prevent disorderly conduct, the offending individual may be suspended for not less than (7) days to a maximum suspension of dismissal from the league for the balance of the season or more.
- 13.8 Any coach removed from a game or assessed a game misconduct by an on ice official for whatever reason, shall be suspended in accordance with the OHF Minimum Suspension List, and relieved from all coaching activities at Lawfield while under suspension in all divisions he/she may coach in.

# LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.

## Fighting

*The decision of the referee as to the assessment of a major penalty for fighting shall be final and conclusive and may only be subject to review / appeal by the LMHA Discipline Committee if unusual circumstances arise. Suspended players / Coaches are not allowed on the bench while under suspension and coaches must not allow them to or face disciplinary action.*

**13.12** *The Discipline Committee shall consist of no less than three (3) and no more than five (5) members consisting of at least one (1) member of the Board of Directors with the remaining members being any voting members of the Board or League Executive. The committee members will be selected by the President or his designate and will not include any member whom it is deemed may have a vested interest or conflict of interest in the proceeding. The membership of the committee is not static and may have different members depending on availability and the particulars of the situation. In the event of the President having a vested or conflict of interest in the proceeding, the selection of committee members will fall to the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.*

**13.13** Any player assessed a fighting major (GM-30) while playing in the LMHA shall automatically receive the OHF Minimum suspension. Additional game(s) can be added to the suspension as determined by the LMHA Discipline Committee. The player(s) involved may be required to attend a disciplinary hearing.

**13.14** Fighting while shaking hands, or in the hallways or in the parking lot while on Lawfield Property will be handle by the Discipline Committee.

**13.15** Three (3) stick infractions or Four (4) minor penalties incurred by any player in on game shall result in a game ejection for the balance of the game. If the last penalty is assessed in the last Five (5) minutes of the game a further one game suspension shall be assessed. Stick infraction penalties are to be considered, high sticking, crosschecking, slashing, spearing and butt ending for the application of this rule. A double minor penalty is considered as One (1) infraction for the calculation of this rule. A player on the ice shall serve the third penalty at the time of this infraction and the penalty is not credited to that player.

**13.16** Any player assessed a second misconduct in the same game shall automatically receive an additional game misconduct as per HC rules.

**13.17** All match penalties will be sent to the Alliance for which a discipline hearing may be called.

**13.18** The Convener(s) of each division may impose a suspension to any coach or player because of his / her conduct while at the arena (including on the bench or in the penalty box) over and above any penalties already assessed by the officials with approval of the League President.

## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

- 13.19** Any Coach, Manager or Trainer who receives three (3) GM 20's or a combination of one (1) GM20 and the following Game Misconduct Penalties (GM21, GM33, GRM60, GM81, GM64 or MP24 & MP25) will receive an additional two (2) games. A fourth (4) GM20 or three (3) of the identified Game Misconducts will receive an indefinite suspension pending a hearing by the ALLIANCE Hockey Discipline Committee.
- 13.20** Any Player who receives a total of three (3) GM20 and/or GM21 penalties in one season, shall be suspended for an additional one (1) game from all league play, playoffs, tournaments and exhibition games.  
Any Player who receives a total of four (4) GM20 and/or GM21 penalties in one season, shall be suspended for an additional three (3) games from all league play, playoffs, tournaments and exhibition games.  
Any Player who receives a total of five (5) GM20 and/or GM21 penalties in one season, subject to a discipline hearing may be suspended for the balance of the season from all league play, playoffs, tournaments and exhibition games.

# LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.

## 14. DISCIPLINE Policy and Procedures \*

*All penalties will be governed by the OHF minimum suspension list for the current year. An alpha - numeric identification is given to all penalties, and this list is part of the official Alliance game sheet. Any member of the Executive or the B.O.D reserves the right to request a discipline hearing at any time as a result of the actions of any member while representing LMHA in any league, exhibition or tournament game. This request for discipline to be approved by the League President in order to have a discipline hearing.*

- 14.1 All House League and Select Hockey at Lawfield operate under the guidelines of the Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario, Hockey Canada, OHF, and the HMHC. Record keeping of games within LMHA is now governed by the Alliance game sheet and the OHF minimum suspension list for suspensions, unless further discipline is required by LMHA.
- 14.2 Game sheets are the property of LMHA and will not be distributed until such time that the referee(s) has signed off on the sheet and presented it to the League. At this point only will it be distributed to the teams. This may or may not be done immediately following the game depending on the requirement by the referee(s).
- 14.3 All /any suspensions shall begin immediately and continue after the game concludes.
- 14.4 It is the responsibility of each Head Coach to ensure that the player(s) / team official(s) involved are notified of their suspensions as soon as possible and that these suspensions are properly served under the rules. If there is any discrepancy in rulings as per the OHF minimum suspension please contact your Convener or one of the league Presidents or the referee in chief for further clarification. Ignorance to the rules is no defense.
- 14.5 Where applicable any / all suspensions unserved in the previous year will be carried over to the following year.
- 14.6 Game protests – All protests shall be filed with one of the League President(s) within (48) forty-eight hours of the game protested. A Non- refundable \$25.00 cash deposit must accompany the protest and will be refunded only if the protest is upheld. The protest must be in writing and shall set out the rules and regulations involved, supported by evidence and are signed by the coach of the protesting team. “Judgment calls are not open to protest.” Failure to use proper procedure will nullify the protest.
- 14.7 Any player, coach, manager or trainer who is to be disciplined for any further occurrences after their first suspension, may be subject to an escalated suspension system using any prior suspensions within the league to determine the severity of the suspension being levied.
  
- 14.8 Appeals – Appeals must be in writing to the league President within 48 hours of the notice given by the Discipline Committee with an accompanying



## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

\$50.00 cash deposit and is only refunded if the decision of the Discipline committee is overturned or amended. Appellants will attend a hearing with the League President and League secretary to review the appeal at hand.

**\*Please note the President of LMHA does not oversee discipline and acts only as final Appellant within LMHA under the Constitution and By-Laws should an appeal be Submitted as per LMHA Rule and Reg. 14.8**

# **LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.**

## **15.0 Regular season, Play-offs and Championship Rules.**

- 15.1 Two-way tie for first:
- (1) Head to Head – winner advances
  - (2) Least number of games lost
  - (3) Highest plus/minus total (G.F vs. G.A.)
  - (4) Team finishing in highest total point's position in regular season excluding playoffs
  - (5) Coin toss
- 15.2 Two-way tie for second:
- (1) Head to Head in the Playoffs
  - (2) Least number of games lost in the Playoffs
  - (3) Highest plus/minus total (G.F. vs. G.A.) in the Playoffs
  - (4) If plus/minus is tied we will go to the winner versus the first place team, the fourth place team, the fifth place team, etc...!(in Playoffs)
  - (5) Team finishing in highest total points position in the Regular Season
  - (6) Head to Head in the Regular Season
  - (7) Least number of games lost in Regular Season
  - (8) Highest plus/minus total (G.F. vs. G.A.) in the Regular Season
  - (9) If plus/minus is tied we will go to the winner versus the first place team, the fourth place team, the fifth place team, etc..! during the Regular Season
- 15.3 Three way or more tie: \* Note this could be a tie for second or first or both, the team is awarded the position they are tied for. Once the three-way tie is broken the two way formula will apply.
- (1) If any one team has beaten all the other teams involved in the tie in the Playoffs
  - (2) Least number of games lost in the Playoffs
  - (3) Highest plus/minus total (G.F vs. G.A.) in the Playoffs
  - (4) Team finishing in highest total points position in the Regular Season
  - (5) Least number of games lost in the Regular Season
  - (6) Highest plus/minus total (G.F. vs. G.A.) in the Regular Season

## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

- 15.4** In the event of a tie in the championship game, at the end of regulation time, the teams will not change ends but will go directly to a 10-minute sudden death – stop time period. If still tied at the end of sudden death we will go to a 5-player shoot out until the tie is broken. Coaches should indicate their five shooters prior to game start. Any penalized players in the penalty box at the time of the shoot-out are ineligible and a replacement shooter must be chosen for him prior to the shoot-out commencing. No player may shoot twice until all on the team have shot once.
- 15.5** In the midget division semi final games, each team will be allowed one time out if required. All Super Saturday Championship teams will be allowed one time out if required,

# ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

## **16 Goaltender replacement.**

If a goaltender in any division is at any time unavailable for a scheduled game, the Convener must be notified immediately and the following procedures must be adhered to and steps followed in the proper order to ensure equality throughout the league.

16.1 The decision on goaltender replacement shall be the sole responsibility of the division conveners. The convener should be the first point of contact prior to approaching any other team. The conveners may choose to look at the equality of goaltender ability in their choice based on the following criteria.

A - Solicit the goaltenders on the other teams in the same division, and any other goaltender that may be eligible by age, but may be playing in another division for the use of their goaltender with permission from the goaltenders parent, and the teams head coach.

B - Solicit goaltenders from the division below approved by the goaltender parent, coach of the team and divisional Convener.

C - Solicit a player on the team to play goaltender approved by the parent of the goaltender and convener.

16.2 In the event no goaltender is present at the game will not be allowed to start. The convener will inform the offending team they have 10 minutes to have a goaltender ready or forfeit the game. Provisions to arrange a goalie should be adhered to as above in rule 16.0 A, B; C. If only one offending team the game sheet will read 1-0. If both teams have no goalie it will read 0-0. If by the end of the 10 minute waiting period the goaltender is ready the game will begin with the offending team receiving a 2 minute delay of game penalty and play one man short.

16.3 Coaches who illegally substitute a goaltender and supersede Rule 16 in any capacity will be suspended for seven (7) days. Any subsequent offense will result in a 21 day (3 game suspension).

## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

**16.4** If a goaltender declares in writing to the President that he/she no longer wishes to play goalie the following steps for replacement will be used :

- (1) Try to replace the resigning goaltender through registration if prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- (2) Solicit the other players on the team to see if a suitable replacement can be arranged with permission from the parent and approved by the divisional convener.
- (3) From the division below, obtain through that convener the names of all major goaltenders eligible to move up the following year. Permission must be obtained from that teams head coach and goaltender parent.
- (4) Any discrepancies in regards to goaltender replacement will be handled by the Board of Directors and all decision will be final.

## *LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.*

### 17 EXCESS GOALIES REGISTERED

17.1 LMHA will carry only one (1) goaltender per team and any excess of pre-registered goalies will have to adhere to LMHA rule 6.14.

## ***LAWFIELD MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.***

### **18. MISCELLANEOUS**

- 18.1** “Forty eight hour cool down period”. Only written complaints from a coach or parent will be accepted and only after 48 hours have passed since the incident or concern. This written report will be given to the Divisional Convener and a copy forwarded to the President.
- 18.2** Parents / Child exhibition games are restricted in any House league, and Select at Lawfield and any team’s coach caught abusing this rule will face disciplinary action.
- 18.3** Travel and exhibition permits must be obtained for all exhibition and tournament games. Any executive member within LMHA is authorized to approve permits and a copy should be kept on file with the league. Printable copies are available online at [www.lawfieldhockey.ca](http://www.lawfieldhockey.ca) but must have league approval and signed.
- 18.4** At Lawfield Minor Hockey Association all House league, Select players, all House league , and Select coaches, parents and spectators must adhere to the City of Hamilton zero tolerance policy whether on or off the ice or face further action.