



Promoting good sportsmanship and good citizenship amongst all its members;
Providing and developing amateur hockey for the benefit of all members; Organizing
leagues and operating teams in inter-district competition and provincial playoffs; And
promoting youth and adults to work toward common goals in closer harmony,

SINCE 1973

2009/10 HOCKEY HANDBOOK

1. HOCKEY PROGRAMS

1.1. INITIATION HOCKEY (4 YEAR PROGRAM)

- a) This program will follow the Hockey Canada Initiation Program (I.P.) which was created to make the youngsters' first contact with hockey a safe and positive experience. L.M.H.A. fully supports the philosophy of the I.P. and will follow a model, based on the I.P. Manuals, and other materials designed for the Initiation Program.
- b) The Initiation Program is designed to teach skating skills and hockey fundamentals to young hockey players through organized practices and actual games. This program will be progressive in nature, and built up over four different skill levels covering all players from 5 to 8 years of age. It has long since been recognized that players who develop their skills in all areas of the game, will be the players who contribute the most to their team, and take from the game the greatest amount of enjoyment, success and personal satisfaction.
- c) The four levels of the program have been designated by the P.C.A.H.A. as "Hockey 1", "Hockey 2", "Hockey 3" and "Hockey 4". "H1" will be for the beginner players with little or no skating skills who are generally in their first year of organized Minor Hockey. "H2" shall consist of 6 year olds , and in their second year of Minor Hockey. "H3" shall consist of 7 year olds, and who are in their third year of Minor Hockey. "H4" shall consist of 8 year olds and are generally in their fourth year of Minor Hockey.
- d) Age will be the determining factor for each level however the ability of each player may factor into which group they will start in. Players of small size or weak ability may be moved down one level to allow them to play at a level that will give them a better chance of gaining confidence and learning the skills that are necessary for their level. Players of exceptional skill for their age level may be moved up a level to allow them to play at a level that will continue to challenge their skills. Such movements CANNOT take place without the written approval of the PCAHA Managing Director.
- e) There will be approximately 200 plus hockey players at the Initiation levels (4). Except for "H1" which is an introduction to hockey and does not play formal structured games, there will be enough teams at each of the other 3 levels to be able to have games. We will also look at interlocking with local associations for H2, H3, and H4 starting after teams are formed. All players will participate in the evaluation sessions at the beginning of the season. From this evaluation session, players will be assigned to a team.
- f) The players will be divided evenly to ensure that at each level the teams will be as balanced as possible. Teams will be formed shortly after the evaluations. There will be a short grace period to move players between teams in order to achieve the optimum balance. No movement will happen after picture day.
- g) Each team will be assigned 2-4 coaches. The coaching staff will then be able to select a "Team Manager" and "Team Mom" but only after the teams have been formed. There will not be a player draft at any level. The Division Coordinator, based on the above criteria, will make up the teams and assign the coaches. Some initial work on forming the teams will be done in advance, based on the coach's player evaluations that were completed at

the end of the previous season. This is intended to ensure balanced teams at every level. Coaches will be able to coach their own son's team.

- h) Practice plans and outlines will be prepared and distributed for all the Coaches to follow during the group practice sessions leading up to the skills evaluation session. They will stress the development nature of the program. These plans and outlines will be developed by the Coach Coordinator and the Division Coordinator, following the guidelines of the Hockey Canada Initiation Program. Coaches will be asked to evaluate/grade their players during the season to ensure the season's program runs its full course. At season's end, the Coaches will then grade their players, and submit these evaluations to the Initiation Coordinator to help in the following year's preparation and placement.

2. RECREATIONAL - "C" HOCKEY

Atom, PeeWee, Bantam, Midget & Juvenile Divisions

- a) Recreational, House league or "C" hockey is the type of hockey played by the majority of amateur players. It is "fun hockey" for fitness and fellowship. This is where the masses of Canadians participate in hockey. This program is considered of primary importance to LMHA. The expansion of recreational hockey is seen as an important means of prolonging the average playing career beyond minor hockey ranks.
- b) The objectives of the "C" program are to:
- provide a game to fit the needs of the participants to allow for fair ice time;
 - to de-emphasize the importance of winning;
 - allow enjoyable participation for the fun aspect;
 - assist in an individual's physical development;
 - create a sociable environment;
 - allow an individual to participate freely in other sports and activities;
- c) Controlled team drafts will be conducted for the Atom, PeeWee, Bantam and Midget Division by the Coordinator and Coaches to create balanced teams. Skills evaluation and/or a scrimmage may be conducted at the beginning of the season, and this information together with any last years' evaluation data and coach' input will be used by the Coordinator to compile a list for the draft. This compilation will include information as to the players position of preference and whether they are a first or second year player in that division. The skill level of each team will be as similar as possible and where possible to include an equal number of first year and second year players within each Division. The Division Coordinator will supervise individual player evaluations and compile a list ranking all players, as per the player assessment policy in Section C. Coordinators may assign Rep Releases to the draft by way of a number (i.e. Rep Release #1, Rep Release #2, etc.)
- d) Initiation and all "C" teams shall normally consist of 15 skaters and 1-2 goalies. The LMHA Executive reserves the right to rule on the minimum or maximum roster size annually, based on player demographics and talent levels available.

3. REP "A/B" HOCKEY (COMPETITIVE - "A/ B" HOCKEY)

Atom, PeeWee, Bantam, Midget & Juvenile Divisions

- a) This program is designed for players who have the desire and ability to play at a high level of competition, and who are willing to invest a considerable amount of time for on and off ice activities and training. Parents must also make a significant contribution of time and resources for players to participate at this level.
- b) The objectives of the Rep “A/B” competitive programs are to:
 - achieve a degree of excellence, according to the players interest and potential;
 - provide an opportunity for achievement in an enjoyable and self-fulfilling environment;
 - provide an opportunity to progress to a higher level of competition;
 - stimulate development both from an individual and overall sport point of view;
 - the emphasis is on improvement of all basic skills, plus tactical and psychological preparation.

***Please Note - preparation for a possible professional career is not an objective.**
- c) Rep hockey is an expensive proposition and must be carefully considered by parents and players before entering tryouts to play on a Rep “A/B” competitive team. Beyond the supplementary Rep fees, additional expenses for travel, hotel and meal costs, extra game and practice ice time, tournaments and miscellaneous expenses ie.: team jackets, track suits, dress clothes, etc. may be incurred. These costs can easily reach \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 per player per year. In addition, significant time commitments are normally required for ongoing fund-raising activities and tournament involvement.
- d) Furthermore, a commitment to this program must be for the entire season. For the purpose of ensuring that a players commitment to a Rep team is their first sports priority, the Coach may exercise reasonable discretion and limit a player’s activities outside hockey and not allow participation on other recreational teams. This includes practices or tryouts during the season with non LMHA “select” or “all-star” hockey teams. Suspensions may result if the Coach feels that a players commitment is questionable. The Coach will always recognize the importance of a player’s education, and as such, there will be an expectation of reasonable academic success.
- e) LMHA Rep “A/B” teams consist of a maximum of 15 skaters and 2 goalies for the atom, pw and bantam divisions. The midget division consists of a maximum of 16 skaters and 2 goalies. The LMHA Executive reserves the right to rule on the minimum or maximum roster size annually. These decisions will be based on player demographics, coaches input, talent levels available and adhering to the rules and regulations of LMHA’s governing bodies.
- f) The number of LMHA Rep “A/B” teams and the structure of these teams may change from year to year. The LMHA Executive reserves the right to rule on these matters annually. These decisions will be based on a number of factors. IE: The availability of ice, the age demographics of the Association in any given season and complying with the rules and regulations of LMHA’s governing bodies.

Teams may have a combination of 1st & 2nd year players, based on the result of evaluations and coach selection.

4. COACHES RULES AND REGULATIONS

4.1. GENERAL

- a) All Rep and House Coaches must be appointed, approved or be ratified by a majority vote of the Executive.
- b) All Coaches must have the required Coaching Certification, or be willing to attain same, as designated by LMHA and its governing bodies.
- c) All Coaches must be willing to attend all meetings or instructional sessions as directed by the Division Coordinator, Head Coach or Coach Coordinator.
- d) All Coaches are expected to allocate ice-time in a fair manner to all players and abide by the BCAHA "Fair Play Code for Coaches".
- e) All Coaches must be acutely aware of the Harrassment and Sexual Abuse Policies in this booklet.

4.2. ADMINISTRATION

- a) All Coaches may appoint Assistants or other Team Officials and delegate numerous duties to anyone they deem necessary; however, the Executive reserves the right to remove any person selected.
- b) All Coaches are responsible for ensuring that their teams financial and fundraising activities as well as any tournament arrangements, comply with applicable LMHA policies.
- c) All Coaches shall ensure that a copy of their game schedule is supplied to their team sponsor, within two weeks of receiving same.

4.3. COACH'S RESPONSIBILITY REGARDING CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE OF PLAYERS

- a) All Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their team at all times, while under the jurisdiction of LMHA, and are subject to a performance review by the Head Coach or an appointee of the Executive when necessary.
- b) All team Coaches may temporarily suspend a player from their team only after obtaining the approval of their Division Coordinator, the Association's Head Coach and the Vice President Hockey Operations or President. For the purposes of this section, sitting a player for a full game for disciplinary measures will be considered as a suspension, and the Coach must obtain the approval of both the Head Coach and one of the Vice Presidents or President.

5. REFEREES AND GAME OFFICIALS

- 5.1. All Rep Coaches may not release a Carded Rep player without the approval of the Head Coach, one of the Vice Presidents or the President.
- 5.2. All Coaches are expected to dress neatly and present a neat and clean appearance in the course of their duties at all games. Rep Coaches should wear an approved LMHA jacket, approved Track suit or business attire and ensure their team uniformly does the same. Team budgets should include purchasing the necessary coach team apparel at the team's expense.

- 5.3. All Coaches, whose team is designated as the HOME team, are required to:
- a) Obtain an official PCAHA game number and record same on the official game report for any game.
 - b) Provide a timekeeper and scorekeeper for the game.
- 5.4. All Coaches, in Bantam "C" and all categories below, whose team is designated as the HOME team are required to:
- a) Advise LMHA's Referee Assigner of rescheduled or cancelled games at their first opportunity upon learning of the change and no later than seventy-two (72) hours before a game.
 - b) Utilize LMHA Officials for any game at any Langley Arena, and must contact LMHA's Referee Assigner at least 72 hours in advance for scheduling. The assigning of Game Officials requested on short notice will be left to the discretion of the Referee Assigner.
 - c) Sign the Referees pay sheet for scheduled games.
 - d) Pay the Referees in cash at PCAHA rates, prior to the start of any exhibition or otherwise unscheduled game.
- 5.5. All Coaches, in Bantam Rep and all categories above, whose team is designated as the HOME team, must follow PCAHA's policy regarding Referees and Linesmen.

Where Referees fees have been paid to a team in advance by the LMHA Treasurer, the Coach must ensure that these funds are properly expended. They are not to be used for exhibition games, and any unused funds must be returned to LMHA.

6. EVALUATION

- a) All Coaches will be evaluated by the Coach Coordinator on approved LMHA forms at the end of each season. The Coach Coordinator may request players and parents to also complete an approved LMHA Coaches evaluation questionnaire.

7. FIRST AID

- a) All Coaches will ensure that their First Aid kit is readily accessible, and at least one team official is accredited with First Aid training and is in attendance, on the bench at all games and practices.
- b) All Coaches should be able to manage minor injuries according to basic injury management principles and also recognize injuries which require a player to be removed from action, and refer players to medical professionals when necessary. In the event a player is taken for emergency treatment, a Mutual Aid form must be completed and submitted to the Registrar.
- c) All teams will be required to have at least one CHSP - certified official registered with the team by not later than December 1st of the upcoming hockey season.

8. COACH SELECTION PROCESS

- 8.1. LMHA will strive to provide the best coaching possible and will provide ongoing support and training through CHA programs to our Coaches at all levels, as needed.
- 8.2. Applications received will be reviewed and the appropriate checks will be done, to select coaches who will represent the best interests of Langley Minor Hockey.
 - a) Coaches for the Initiation Division and the C teams will be selected by the Division Coordinator in consultation with the Vice President Hockey Operations, and the Association's Coach Coordinator and Head Coach.
 - b) In all other rep categories the Coach will be selected by the Coach Selection Committee consisting of the President, VP Hockey Operations, VP Administration, Head Coach, Coach Coordinator, plus 2 other executive members selected by a vote of the LMHA executive. Preference may be given to an incumbent coach or coach within the association who has demonstrated behaviour consistent with the LMHA constitution. Preference may be given to a coach who has coached in LMHA. When two or more returning coaches apply for the same team, or when there is more than one applicant for a team and a decision would be difficult or controversial, a "Coach Selection Committee" will review the applications and may conduct interviews with the applicants, or any other person(s) deemed necessary, in order to select and recommend to the Executive, the most suitable candidate. Non-parental coaches may be appointed in the Summer. Parental coaches may not be appointed until after their child is evaluated and assigned to a rep pool.
 - c) There are many facets to coaching a hockey team, more at some levels than others. The bottom line is that the players have an enjoyable season, develop their sportsmanship, their individual and team skills and have a desire to return the following season. Therefore, it is felt that one method of measuring a coach's effectiveness could be an assessment by the players who have played for him/her. Anytime during the season, the players may be verbally interviewed or asked to complete a coaching assessment and confidentially express their views on a variety of categories. These assessments will contain questions which are appropriate for the age of the Division. Similarly, parents may be verbally interviewed or asked to complete a confidential coaching assessment questionnaire. Finally, players or parents may be invited, or may of their own volition, provide letters to the Executive outlining their experiences during the hockey season. Completed assessments may be used for future consideration and will be kept by the Division Coordinator, Head Coach, or Coach Coordinator, for consideration in subsequent years coach selections. These assessments and letters remain confidential in nature. As a consequence the coach may be provided with a summary of the assessment and questionnaires, however the identities of the individuals sending forth letters or assessments shall remain strictly confidential. In the case of criticisms of the coach the responsible party, whether it be the Divisional Coordinator, Head Coach or Coach Coordinator shall contact the individuals involved and attempt to verify the concerns raised. In those cases, when coach selection occurs, the coach selection committee shall review both the comments of the players or parents and as well the responses by the coach.
- 8.3. Traditionally, minor hockey programs encompass parents or guardians in coaching their children. LMHA supports and encourages this philosophy. Parents or guardians of different players may coach together in the Initiation or Recreational "C" Divisions, but will not be approved until the team's are made. Where these players are of a similar caliber and would create unbalanced teams coaching together will be discouraged. LMHA also believes that at

the appropriate levels, more effective coaching can be obtained by utilizing an independent coach. Whatever the situation, coaching is a voluntary duty which must consider the best interests of the team, and not one individual.

- 8.4. Every coach has a different style and disagreements with players or parents may arise from a variety of issues over the course of the season. Although one may disagree with the coach, he/she should be supported as far as possible. Failing to deal with concerns in a responsible manner may result in agitated people causing friction within the team. This may eventually be felt by the players and have a negative impact on the team. Many good coaches become bewildered and choose to quit because of situations which get out of control. If there are legitimate concerns, they should be addressed as they occur with the coach, or the Division Coordinator. If a situation is felt to be serious enough, it should be documented and addressed at the Executive level. Thoughtless people who are counter productive to a team's wellbeing, may be subject to having their LMHA membership reviewed. Likewise, a coach is responsible for his or her actions, and the actions of their team. If it appears that a coach's performance is detrimental to LMHA, they are also subject to review.
- 8.5. LMHA supports Hockey Canada and BC Hockey policy which discourages Spring and Summer Hockey, and therefore persons will not be permitted to coach in LMHA where it is apparent that their interests are only in choosing to coach spring or summer 'select' teams outside of LMHA, but contain LMHA players. It is felt that a person who is not a Coach or Assistant-Coach in LMHA is taking advantage of our programs and benefiting from the dedication of our many coaches who have worked hard to develop the 'selected' players through the season, while they have not made any coaching contribution to our association. LMHA resources shall not be used for Spring or Summer Hockey.

9. PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS

9.1. OVERVIEW

- a) All Players attempting to qualify for Rep Competitive Hockey must have completed the Tryout and Rep Hockey application form online, and paid the rep tryout fee as set by the Executive by the deadline set by the Executive which is July 1st. Anyone who fails to meet the deadline will not be able to register for rep hockey without leave of the Executive. LMHA, subject to the other provisions hereof, may require a doctor's note prior to exempting any player from the tryout process and if no note can be produced the player will not be eligible for rep tryouts without leave of the Executive. The Executive will only consider granting leave where there is a supplemental fee of \$250 paid for each application.
- b) Competitive Rep "A/B" team tryouts are a stressful time not only for players and parents, but also for the Coaches and volunteers who must coordinate this particular program each year. The policies and procedures for the Rep "A/B" hockey programs' within this Handout allow all participants to know in advance what they are entitled to, and how all facets of the Rep "A/B" selection process are administered.

9.2. EVALUATORS

- a) Qualified Volunteer Evaluators will be sought for all Divisions. They may be past or current members of LMHA, or independent of our Association. In all cases, persons will be carefully chosen by the President, VP Operations, Coach Coordinator, Head Coach and Division Coordinators. They will have a solid hockey background with the ability to conduct a fair and unbiased assessment of the players in the Division they are assigned to.
- b) In selecting evaluators LMHA shall consider the following:
 - (i) Where Evaluators have relatives involved in the tryouts they will not be assigned to that Division and it will be preferable that they are assigned at least two Divisions away;
 - (ii) The LMHA Executive reserves the right to hire professional Evaluators when necessary or desirable;
 - (iii) The Evaluators and non-parental Rep "A/B" Coaches must attend a meeting with the Vice President Hockey Operations or Head Coach during the week preceding tryouts, and any subsequent meeting to assess the evaluation process;
 - (iv) The Evaluators are not to be approached by players, parents or Coaches during the evaluation process. Any comments or concerns should be addressed through the Division Coordinator;

9.3. REP TRYOUT PROCESS

- a) As in any competitive team selection process, not all applicants will qualify nor will all highly skilled players choose to participate in this program because of other outside activities and commitments. Any player seeking to play rep hockey must register as such and make full payment of all base registration and tryout fees in full by the deadlines mandated by the Registrar. Rep tryout camps shall consist of ice sessions that progressively evaluate the individual players skills and abilities. These may be in the form of skills or scrimmage sessions.
- b) Players will be divided into groups and unique identifier numbers will be issued to each player, which will be used during the tryouts to identify an individual player's evaluation. Players will not be identified by name to the Evaluators. Players are not to wear any jerseys or socks that suggest prior play on rep or elite teams. The continuing evaluation process of elimination becomes more scrutinized, whereby the players are judged as to being "top, middle or bottom" in their category while scrimmaging. Evaluators will record gradings on official LMHA forms which will be turned in to the Division Coordinator at the end of each session. These forms will not be duplicated.
- c) It is extremely important that the Evaluators and Coaches be neutral in their comments or with gestures during evaluations to avoid incorrect perception by players or parents. It is strongly recommended that during evaluations, the coaches do not, unless absolutely necessary, speak with parents of players being evaluated.
- d) At the end of each round of evaluations, the data will be entered and then verified by someone other than the person entering the data. This data will be sorted in descending order. A copy of this spreadsheet will be provided to the coordinator and at least one Vice-President.

- e) Individual player evaluation records are confidential and may only be released for examination to the player, upon written application and approval by the Vice-President Hockey Operations. Copies will not be provided.

10. REP "A/B" HOCKEY (COMPETITIVE - "A/ B" HOCKEY)

Atom, Peewee, Bantam, Midget & Juvenile Divisions

The objectives of the Rep "A/B" competitive programs are to:

- achieve a degree of excellence, according to the players interest and potential;
- provide an opportunity for achievement in an enjoyable and self-fulfilling environment;
- provide an opportunity to progress to a higher level of competition;
- stimulate development both from an individual and overall sport point of view;
- the emphasis is on improvement of all basic skills, plus tactical and psychological preparation.

***Please Note - preparation for a possible professional career is not an objective.**

11. LMHA Rep teams normally consist of a maximum of 15 skaters and 2 goalies for the atom, pw, and bantam divisions and to a maximum of 16 skaters and 2 goalies for the midget division. The LMHA Executive reserves the right to rule on the minimum or maximum roster size annually. These decisions will be based on player demographics, coaches input, talent levels available and adhering to the rules and regulations of LMHA's governing bodies.
12. LMHA is classified as a "AAA" association and the Rep "A/B" teams may be allotted as follows:
- 3 Atom A1, A2, A3
 - 3 Peewee A1, A2, A3
 - 3 Bantam A1, A2, A3
 - 3 Midget A1, A2, A3
 - 2 Juvenile A1, A2
13. REP TRYOUT PROCESS ATOM – MIDGET (Note: All notifications of placement at the completion of Round #1 and Round#2 will be done by email. If you do not have an email account, when you register the first day of tryouts, please sign the sheet with your name and phone number and you will be contacted by phone)
- 14.
- 14.1. A POOL ROUND #1
 - 14.1.1. At the commencement of tryouts players will be divided into groups of approximately 12-15 skaters and 2-3 goalies. Each player will be allotted 3 scrimmage times and 1 skills evaluation session. **See goalie section 18. for goalie process.**
 - 14.1.2. At the conclusion of round #1 evaluations, the top 30 evaluated players(18 forwards and 12 defencemen) and 4 goalies will advance to round #2 in the A pool and the balance of players will advance to round #1 of the B pool. Notification of placement will be made by email.
 - 14.2. A POOL ROUND #2
 - 14.2.1. At the commencement of round #2 tryouts, players will be divided into groups of approximately 15 skaters and 2-3 goalies. Each player will be allotted 3 scrimmage times of 1.25 hours.
 - 14.2.2. At the conclusion of round #2 evaluations, the top 20 evaluated players(12 forwards and 8 defencemen) and 3 goalies will advance to round #3 in the A pool and the balance of players will advance to round #2 of the B pool. Notification of placement will be made

by email.

14.3. A POOL ROUND #3

14.3.1. Round #3 will consist of practices, scrimmages and exhibition games for the remaining 20 players and 3 goalies. During round #3, players can be released to the B pool until the final roster is set with approximately the top 15 evaluated players and 2 goalies advancing to the AAA team. Notification of placement will be made by the AAA coaching staff and either the Competitive Director or a member of the executive by way of a meeting and evaluation letter.

14.4. B POOL ROUND #1

14.4.1. At the commencement of tryouts players will be divided into groups of approximately 12-15 skaters and 2-3 goalies. Each player will be allotted 3 scrimmage times and 1 skills evaluation.

14.4.2. At the conclusion of round #1 evaluations, the top 30 evaluated players(18 forwards and 12 defencemen) and 6 goalies will advance to round #2 in the B pool and be joined by approximately 10 players from round 2 of the A pool and the balance of players will advance to the evaluation round of the C division pool. Notification of placement will be made by email.

14.5. B POOL ROUND #2

14.5.1. At the commencement of round #2 tryouts each player will be allotted 2 scrimmage times of 1.25 hours.

14.5.2. At the conclusion of round #2 evaluations, the top 15 players(9 forwards and 6 defencemen) advance to round 3 – A2 and the next 15 players(9 forwards and 6 defencemen) advance to round 3 – A3. This notification will be done by email. Two goalies will advance to each of the A2/A3 B pool round 2.

B POOL ROUND #3

Round 3 will consist of practices, scrimmages and exhibition games.

14.6. A2/A3 B POOL ROUND

14.6.1. During the A2 and A3 B pool round, players will join the A2 pool from the A pool. During this round, players can be released to the A3 pool or C Division until the final rosters are set with approximately the top15 evaluated players and 2 goalies advancing to the A2 and A3 teams. Notification of placement will be made by the A2/A3 coaching staffs and either the Competitive Director or a member of the executive by way of a meeting and evaluation letter.

NOTE:

1. The player numbers moving from pool to pool are approximate and can be revised during the process, based on the number of players trying out in the various pools and to ensure a fair and equal process for all players trying out. Any change in the numbers must be approved by the Competitive Director and the V.P. of Operations. Changes to the rep process may occur only with executive approval from the President and V.P. of Operations if the change is deemed to be equally fair to all players impacted.

2. If evidence becomes apparent with a player that has been released to a lower level and it is clearly evident that this may have been an error, the Head Coach, VP Operations and Competitive Director may approve that this player move back up to the higher level for a re-evaluation. This player may still be released back down at a later date.

15 REP TEAM SELECTION

- a) The Rep Coaches will be finally and formally appointed in accordance with the provisions hereof, after establishment of the pools. The Rep Coaches are authorized to select players for their team from their pools and subject to the restraints provided in this Section from the pools below, and they are not entirely bound by the Evaluators decisions. The Evaluators results, however, have proven to be of great value to the Coaches when they are making their final decisions and Coaches will consider these results and consult with the Competitive Director on all decisions.

* Coaches may not release a player at any time throughout the rep tryout process without acceptance from the Competitive Director *

- b) Those players assigned to the C level will be drafted or placed on to league teams in the "C" Division, and will be contacted by their respective Coaches. Players released from rep pools, if any, will be assigned to "C" Teams, as equitably as possible, by the Division Coordinator. These released players must play a minimum of one game and one practice with the "C" team they are assigned to.

16 FINAL PLAYER SELECTIONS

- c) After evaluation of the players in the A and B pools the rep coaches will have the responsibility to evaluate the players in their pools and form their teams. The players in the B(A2/A3) pools will be formed with the A2 coach selecting his players first, followed by the A3 coach selecting his players.
- d) After consultation between the A1 and A2/A3 coach's the rep A2/A3 coaches will release the necessary number of skaters and goaltenders to complete the "C" team rosters, if necessary. The remaining players in the "B" pool plus the final releases from "A" camp should be sufficient to form the complete "B" team rosters. Any player released after round #3 by the A pool after this stage by the coach responsible for that team shall not be permitted to be released to a maximum of two levels. The result of this means that an A pool player may be released to A2 and ultimately to the A3 pool, but not to the C pool. Further, the A2 or A3 players may be released ultimately to the C pool. In the event that it is apparent to the coach or Division Coordinator that an error has been made and that an A pool player shall be released to the C pool, such player shall be released upon the Vice-President Operations, Head Coach and Competitive Director being satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances. This also applies to players who were exempt or missed a portion of the tryouts due to valid reasons. Those players, after initial placement, shall only be released a maximum of two levels.
- e) The Rep "A" Coaches will now proceed with exhibition games, practices and scrimmages with a goal of determining the "A" roster no later than September 14th ;
- f) The Rep A2coach will now proceed with exhibition games, practices and scrimmages with a goal of determining the A2 roster no later than September 20th;

- g) The Rep A3 Coach will now proceed with exhibition games, practices and scrimmages with a goal of determining the A3 roster no later than September 25th.
- h) At this point the players will have been divided into groups: Rep "A1/A2/A3". All Rep Coaches in the Division shall mutually agree to the placement of these players in their respective groups. The final list shall be reviewed by the applicable Competitive Director, the Rep Director and/or the Division Coordinator.
- i) Any disagreement among the Coaches and Competitive Directors regarding the placement of players shall be settled by notification to the VP Operations or Head Coach for their review and input.
- j) If further clarification is required regarding the placement of players, it shall be settled by the Evaluation Committee, chaired by the Head Coach or Vice President Hockey Operations. The Committee Chair shall select up to 3 members of the Executive to complete the Committee.
- k) Coaches, shall not use parents as assistants or helpers until player selection is complete. Further, any assistant or helper, regardless if they are temporary or permanent, must have completed the Speak-Out Program, or be registered to complete it by December 1 of the current hockey season. In addition, they must have completed the applicable coaching levels or be registered to complete it by December 1 of the current hockey season.

17. MIDGET & JUVENILE DIVISION

- a) Due to the experience and maturity of players at this level, this policy should be considered as a guideline, however, it is not a requirement. The Rep Coaches in these Divisions, in consultation with the Vice President-Hockey Operations, will mutually agree on the process to be used, to determine the candidates for Rep teams and placement to "C" teams. The Division Coordinator will oversee the program.
- b) Whatever process is utilized, it will be monitored to ensure that it is a fair system and the players are treated equally and further shall ensure no player is released more than one level at this stage.

18. GOALTENDER ASSESSMENT & SELECTION

- a) Initiation Hockey 1, 2, 3 - Normally, all players will be encouraged to play in goal on a rotational basis, over the entire season in keeping with the Initiation Program. An unwilling player will not be forced to play in goal.
- b) Initiation (Hockey 4) - For the first half of the season, as many players as possible will be encouraged to play in goal, on a rotational basis. For the second half of the season the Coach should identify two goaltenders to share the position equally. An unwilling player will not be forced to play in goal.
- c) Atom to Juvenile (Rep & "C")

- (i) A current player, skater or goaltender, wishing to tryout as a goaltender must notify the registrar, by indicating on their pre-registration form at the end of the current season, that they wish to tryout as a goaltender, for the following season;
- (ii) Any reserved, wait listed, new or returning players must notify the registrar that they wish to tryout as a goaltender, at the time of their initial contact or registration.

18.2. Evaluations for Goaltenders

The player evaluation process as previously outlined shall apply to goaltenders provided however that the following shall also apply:

- a) At the beginning of the season, all goaltenders that have been identified by the registrar will be invited for an evaluation session for their division where resources and time permits. Qualified Evaluators will assess the players during one or more on-ice sessions, using appropriate LMHA approved forms and drills players may request copies of the forms in use. The Division Coordinators will prepare a list ranking these goaltenders, based on the grading assessments.

Note:

LMHA has determined that more than 2 goalies per team is detrimental to the goalies and their teams, therefore it may be necessary when an excess of goalies occurs in a division that the evaluations will be done by independent evaluators to determine the 2 goalies per team. The LMHA executive will work to try and place the excess goalies in other positions or with other associations. A process to place more than 2 goalies per team, particularly in the Atom and Midget divisions, will also be explored when the excess goalie situation arises.

- b) If the number of players trying out exceeds the number of goaltenders required in the division, after completion of evaluation, which for rep players will include the phasing and pool selection those with the lowest ranked scores will not be selected as goalies. They will be given the opportunity to return as a skater, and possibly be placed in a backup goalie position.
- c) A player choosing not to return as a skater, may apply for a pro-rated refund, and be placed on a "goaltenders reserve list". At the Atom division, coaches are urged to utilize a second goaltender in order not to discourage those players wishing to develop as goaltenders. Should a goaltender vacancy occur, players on the reserve list will be notified, before any wait listed goalies, and offered the available position. These positions must be held by the player for the entire season. Any adjusted registration fees must also be paid.
- d) Regardless of the level played by a goaltender or player during the previous season, all prospective goalies will be required to attend the open tryouts.

18.3 Rep "A/B" Goaltender Tryouts

18a. Those goaltenders who have completed the tryout and rep hockey

acknowledgement form, and paid the fee as stipulated by the Executive prior to the start of tryouts for their division, will participate in the evaluation process.

18b Goalies registering for rep tryouts may be required to attend 2 goalie skills sessions prior to the start of scrimmage evaluation games. The LMHA competitive director, Rep Director, Goalie Coordinator, Head Coach and/or Vice President Operations will direct and supervise 3 evaluators from independent goalie schools who will assess and rank the goalies through two separate skills session. The intent is for the goalie evaluators to reach a consensus on rankings. If a consensus on rankings is not agreed upon by the evaluators, the Competitive Director must notify the V.P. Operations or Head Coach for review. Approximately the top 11 goalies will be selected to continue on in the rep selection process . The top 8 will proceed to round 1 A pool scrimmage evaluation games. Goalies ranked 9 through 11 will proceed to Round 1 B pool scrimmage evaluation games.

18c. Qualified goalie evaluators will be sought for Round 1 in the A and B pools and also in round 2 in the event that a head coach has not been selected prior to the start of round 2. The LMHA Competitive Directors, Rep director, head coach and VP Operations will direct and supervise 2 evaluators from independent goalie schools who will assess and rank the goalies through scrimmages and a skills session. The intent is for the goalie evaluators to reach a consensus on rankings under the supervision of the LMHA Competitive Director, Rep Director, Goalie Coordinator, Head Coach and VP Operations. If a consensus on rankings is not agreed upon by the evaluators the Competitive Director must notify the V.P. Operations or Head Coach for review.

18d. Those goaltenders advancing to A1 and A2 and A3 pools will continue to be evaluated by the Rep coaches who may consult with the qualified evaluators if necessary. Goaltenders released after selection to a A or A2 or A3 pool will be guaranteed a position as a goaltender in their "C" division.

18e. The goaltender selections for the Rep teams will be made after A1 and A2 and A3 pools have been mutually agreed to by the Rep coaches.

19. RELEASE PROCEDURES

- a) There are many components to be considered when choosing players for a Rep hockey team. The decisions are very difficult for the Coach, especially when selecting players of similar skill and ability. Coaches will have certain reasons for selecting players to their team. From the Coach's perspective, each player possesses individual characteristics which will be a contributing factor to the teams' success. Regardless of where a player has played before, not all players trying out will make the team.
- b) At no time should a Rep "A/B" Coach announce that a player has made the team, prior to the final releases. As well, the Coach should not make any comments to a released player

that might offer a false sense of hope that they may be recalled to the team.

- c) The release of players not selected for a competitive Rep team can be a very traumatic experience for young players. A Coach must handle this with tact, care and caution. The Coach must be very thoughtful and careful in their choice of words. An improperly chosen word could injure the self-esteem of a young player.
- d) All releases will be made in the following manner:
 - (i) Following the completion of preliminary evaluations, all players released to the C pool will be advised by email from Division Coordinators, as soon as possible;
 - (ii) After selection to the A1 or A2 or A3 pool, no player shall be advised of his release by telephone. Any further release will be done in person by one of the Rep Coaches and such release will only be done at a Langley arena with a member of the Executive present. The purpose of this provision is that no player should be released in an opposing team's arena and suffer the long ride home after release. As a consequence in special circumstances the coach may elect to release a player at a Langley location other than a home arena. In particular, releases of individual players at their homes in exceptional circumstances is permitted, but must be approved by the VP Hockey Operations. Generally, however it is preferable to have a player released at a neutral location such as a home arena or such other location as approved by the VP Hockey Operations or the President;
 - (iii) Released players will be interviewed in a private location, only after a home game or practice, and may be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Preferably in a quiet location at or near an exit door of the arena, to provide unobstructed departure.

At the time of release the Coach should endeavour to give brief specific reasons for the player's release. The Competitive Director must be consulted with and agree prior to any release being made by a coach.

20. SUSPENSIONS - PLAYERS, COACHES AND MEMBERS

- e) Divisional Coordinators and/or the Association's Head Coach may invoke a temporary suspension of a Coach or player only after obtaining approval from the President or a Vice-President.
- f) Only the President has the authority to suspend any coach, player or member without prior approval of the Executive. A Vice-President shall be contacted and must agree for the suspension to be invoked.
- g) Any appeal shall be in writing and in compliance with the Constitution or Bylaws, and be submitted to the President, a Vice-President or the Secretary within seven days of the event.
- h) In the event of an appeal, an Appeals Committee of four members may be formed, consisting of two elected members of the Executive and two members of the general membership of the Association, who are not involved in the subject matter of the appeal. The committee shall be formed by the President or a Vice President of the Association.

- i) Any Appeals Committee may dismiss allegations or make recommendations to the Executive to suspend or recommend disciplinary action regarding any member of the Association upon whom they have adjudicated.
- j) Any disciplinary action or suspension may include a term of probation with or without conditions, including monetary settlement. The decision to place any member on probation, or impose conditions, will require a majority vote of the Executive.

21. APPEAL PROCEDURES - PLAYER SELECTION

- a) An Evaluator's decision may be appealed to the Division Coordinator who may alter the player's assignment to a rep pool, or amongst the rep pools, only if there are clear and compelling reasons to do so.
- b) A Coach's exercising of judgment will not be made the subject of an appeal. Any appeal must instead be based on the error or bias, not on exercised judgment by a coach. The onus is on the appellant to establish error or bias.
- c) An appeal under this Section may only be made by a player within 48 hours, by delivering a written "Notice of Appeal" and a \$50 fee (cash or certified cheque) to the Vice President - Hockey Administration, for review. Any Notice of Appeal shall be detailed and contain all relevant information outlining the reason(s) for the appeal.
- d) The Vice President - Hockey Administration will determine if there are grounds for appeal. If grounds exist, an Appeals Committee shall be formed to render a decision as soon as possible or the process described herein be deemed to have occurred.

LMHA shall retain the \$50 if the appeal is dismissed and if the appeal is upheld, the \$50 shall be returned to the player.

22. ILLNESS OR INJURY PROCEDURES

- a) This is a very difficult area to regulate. There are countless situations and scenarios which could occur from very minor to very serious. As such, rules cannot be developed to cover every situation.
- b) It will be incumbent upon the affected player and parents, to maintain communication with the Coaches most likely to be affected by this player's situation, and advise the Doctor's opinion with respect to the problem. After having been provided with sufficient information, the Coaches must make decisions in the best interest of their teams.
- c) Notwithstanding the foregoing:
 - (i) In the event that a player cannot participate in the scheduled Rep evaluation process due to illness, a written submission, accompanied by a Doctor's certificate, must be made to the President and VP Operations for further consideration. The player must sign in for the scrimmages that the injury prevents he/she from competing in, unless the severity of the injury makes it impossible to be present.
 - (ii) In the event of an injury, where a player cannot complete the Rep

- tryout process, the player will be assessed following the earliest medical approval date, by the Rep coaches, as a committee, and/or by designated Evaluators;
- (iii) The Assessor's will decide what level the player will safely be capable of playing, upon their return. Coaches may have to seek a direct opinion from the Doctor in certain cases;
 - (iv) Coaches or Assessor's may consult with the Division Coordinator and Head Coach or Vice President Hockey Operations as to what would constitute a reasonable time, to hold a roster position open for the player (this has been dates for rosters being finalized 4-6 weeks after the start date of tryouts);
 - (v) Coaches or Assessor's may consider any other factors they deem important, to the specific situation, to assist them in arriving at a decision.

23. JUNIOR AND MAJOR MIDGET HOCKEY TRYOUTS

- a) LMHA is justifiably proud when any of our players are invited for a tryout with a Junior or Major Midget team, and we wish them every success. We also feel that it is in the best interest of the players and their parents or guardians to educate themselves as much as possible when entering these tryouts, by being realistic with future plans and expectations.
- b) While LMHA supports the endeavours of these players, it is also necessary to remind them that while they are trying out for a Junior or Major Midget team, LMHA must continue with player evaluations and team selection in their respective Division. The Coaches of the affected teams can only hold a roster position for a certain period of time before having to make decisive team plans.
- c) It is therefore incumbent upon any player trying out for a Junior or Major Midget team, to know that a roster position will be held for them no later than December 1st of the current season. They must also inform the Registrar if they are not released in the first round of cuts made by the junior coach.
- d) Roster positions will only be held if the player has met all eligibility requirements of LMHA, including payment of all registration and tryout fees.
- e) The Registrar shall forward a letter to each LMHA player eligible for the Bantam, Midget or Juvenile Division before July 31st of the upcoming season. The letter will advise the players of their responsibilities for registration and returning to LMHA, with a copy of this policy attached. Any newly registered players will also be provided with a copy of this letter.
- f) Players are strongly encouraged to make every attempt as outlined in tryouts letters, if at all possible, to attend LMHA's player evaluation sessions. If unable to attend, they must contact the Registrar and advise where they are and the junior team they are trying out for.
- g) The Registrar will contact any players remaining with a junior team approximately November 15th of the current season to remind them of this policy, and will report to the affected Coaches that this has been done.
- h) Players who are released by Junior or Major Midget teams will be assigned to the appropriate level by the Division Coordinator, VP Operations or President. After assignment the player shall only be eligible for release by one LMHA coach following

release from a Junior or Midget program.

- i) Players who fail to follow the outlined procedures must realize that they are jeopardizing their ability to play for LMHA or any other associations.

24. TOURNAMENT TRAVEL AND TRAVELLING CONDUCT

a) TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

After you have made your calls and have been accepted into a tournament, the following procedure is to be followed:

- (i) Review Section of the PCAHA Rules and Regulations handbook for USA or out of Province teams follow the procedures therein;
- (ii) Call your PCAHA League/Division Manager (the same person you mail your gamesheets to) for a "Permission to Enter a Tournament" PCAHA number and form letter;

25. TRAVEL

- a) The Executive may limit the number of teams that attend major out of town tournaments.
- b) Teams wishing to travel will be required to present Budgets to the Executive for approval, where fundraising would exceed the maximum limits as outlined in the Fundraising Policy. Teams must give notice in writing at least 60 days prior to the event. Evidence must also be provided that a minimum ratio of 1 parent to 2 players will travel with and supervise all team activities.

26. BCAHA TRAVELLING TEAMS CODE OF ETHICS

- a) Remember a first appearance is very important, dress accordingly in a neat and clean appearance.
- b) Show respect for people who have gone out of their way to host you and your team. Make sure they are acknowledged for their time and effort.
- c) Winning is important, but more important is "Will your team be asked back for future games?" Players following in LMHA would enjoy the same experience.
- d) Your conduct on and off the ice will reflect not just yourself, but LMHA and all of hockey in British Columbia.
- e) Be on your best behavior. Do not use profane or abusive language on or off the ice.
- f) Ensure that all the team members know what conditions they are going into and what is expected of them.
- g) The use of any alcohol or drugs will not be tolerated.
- h) Make sure that all players have read the "Fair Play Code" and are told they must abide by

them. Each year the Association receives complaints from spectators or tournaments about the behaviour of LMHA players. Remember you are being scrutinized at all times.

27. SUPPORT FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES

a) TEAM MANAGER DUTIES

The duties of the Team Manager are to assist the coach and arrange for scheduling of exhibition games, payment of referees, completion of game sheets, compilation of statistics if required, and general management of dressing room in the coaches absence. The Team Manager is also responsible for all financial aspects of the team, subject only to the coaches ultimate responsibility. The Team Manager shall be responsible for supervising the Team Parent and other supporting parents.

b) TEAM PARENT DUTIES

The duties of a Team Parent are to assist the Coach and Manager. Duties may include:

- (i) phoning players, re: games, practices & team events. Sometimes on short notice;
- (ii) at the beginning of the season, arrange a short training session for operation of the time clock and scorekeeping;
- (iii) distribution of LMHA material to team members;
- (iv) coordinate volunteers for various duties (tournaments etc.);
- (v) liaise with Fundraising Coordinator when applicable;
- (vi) liaise with Team Mom Coordinator;
- (vii) organize team windup and Coaches gifts;
- (viii) Prepare schedules for duties to be shared among team parents, such as:
 - 1) 50/50 draws for all home games;
 - 2) Scorekeeping for all home games;
 - 3) Timekeeping for all home games;
 - 4) Music;
 - 5) Fundraising.

Remember that as a team parent you are a member of the team and cannot perform all the duties alone. Ask other parents to help.

c) FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR

Hockey is expensive. LMHA has a Sponsorship Fundraising Policy. It is suggested one parent be appointed to review and coordinate fundraising options available under the Policy.