

UPPER CANADA MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

Constitution

and

By-Laws

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UPPER CANADA MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

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UPPER CANADA MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

Article 1 - Name and Purpose

Section 1 - Name

- 1) a) This organization shall be known as the "UPPER CANADA MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE", hereinafter referred to as the League or UCMHL.
- b) League logo/colours; red and silver leaf with red stick UPPER CANADA in Silver and MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE in Black on Stick over a black background.

Section 2 - Purpose

2. The objectives of the League are:
 - a) To work toward the development and improvement of minor hockey.
 - b) To provide a healthy form of recreation for youth through participation in organized hockey at a level of competition best suited to the individual players' capabilities and interests.
 - c) To develop and encourage sportsmanship and good fellowship among all participants, officials, spectators and players alike - for the betterment of their social, physical and mental well being.
 - d) To provide regional representation of local hockey Associations to higher authorities.

Article 2 - Membership/Voting Privileges/Voting Procedures/Quorum

Section 1 - Membership

1. a) Membership to the League shall be open to all Associations within the geographical boundaries of ODMHA District One, and any other Association whose membership is annually approved by ODMHA District One Council.
- b) Membership to the League shall be contingent on Associations providing nominees for election to the UCMHL.
- c) All member Associations of the League must abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of Hockey Canada, ODHA, ODMHA, and the UCMHL.
- d) Requests for withdrawal from the League must be made in writing to the League president and/or Secretary prior to the annual meeting of the League to be effective for the following hockey season.
- e) A “special meeting” will be called in May of each year to hear applications from Associations outside the boundaries of District 1 to play in the upcoming hockey season. Applications may be made via e-mail, fax, letter or hand-delivered to District 1 Chairperson before April 30th. Applicants will be notified by the Secretary of District 1 when the June meeting will take place. Applications must be signed by the respective President of the Association requesting admittance to District 1 or by the respective District Chairperson. Applicants will be notified before July 1st if acceptance by District 1 is approved.
- f) Membership is extended only to those Associations, who are in good standing, who have paid their League fees/levies in full, and whose teams are registered with the League Registrar.

Section 2 - Voting Privileges

2. a) Only the President of an Association or his officially recognized designate shall be

allowed to vote on matters involving Constitutional Amendments, By-Laws, League Rules and Regulations.

- b) A designate may not replace the President of an Association for voting purposes unless a letter from the Association has been received by the League so designating the alternate.
- c) All Executive members of the League shall be allowed to cast one vote with the exception of the President who may only vote in the event of a tie, in which case he/she may cast the deciding vote.
- d) Only the Associations entering house league teams into UCMHL shall be allowed to vote on house league issues.
- e) At the Annual General Meeting of Upper Canada, each Association having been a member for the previous year shall have a vote. This vote to be allocated to the President or his designate. Each member of the UCMHL executive shall have a vote at the Annual General Meeting.

Section 3 - Voting Procedures

- 3. a) Simple votes will be used with one vote per Association President and one vote per Executive member. A majority vote will carry a motion.
- b) No one in the Upper Canada Minor Hockey League shall carry more than one vote.
- c) Any Executive position accepting an honorarium will forego any voting privileges for that year.

Section 4 - Quorum

- 4. a) For the purpose of all General, Executive or Special Executive meetings, the attendance of half of the Executive plus one shall constitute a quorum.
- b) For the purpose of Semi-Annual and Annual League meetings, the attendance of half of all Association representatives and Executive shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5 - Attendance

- 5. a) If an Association or designate is not present for 2 consecutive meetin Association will automatically be fined \$250.00 and voting privileges will be revoked until such fine is

paid. If an Association is not represented for four (4) or more meetings during the season, voting privileges will be forfeited at the AGM.

Meetings	– (Third Monday of each month)
August	– team declaration – vacant director seats to be filled
September	– fees
October	– overages
November	– team movement
December	– trophies tendered
January	– director’s reports – trophies tender awarded
February	– pre season end – playoffs
March	– play offs AGM Banquet date
April	– wrap up – AGM Amendments due
May	– AGM
June and July	– no meeting

Article 3 - Executive Officers/Elections/Duties of Executive

Section 1 - Executive Officers

1. a) The League shall elect the following Executive Officers to one-year terms:
 - 1st Vice President
 - 2nd Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - District 1 Referee In Chief
 - District 1 Registrar
 - Directors
 - Midget - "B" (Major & Minor) & HL
 - Bantam - "B"
 - Pee wee - "B"
 - Atom - "B"
 - Novice - House League
 - Atom - House League
 - Pee wee - House League
 - Bantam - House League
 - The immediate Past President shall gain office by succession.
- b) District 1 Chairperson shall sit as an ex-officio member (non-voting) on the Upper Canada Minor Hockey Executive
 - i) District 1 Chairperson (or designate) will be responsible for Rules and Discipline for The Upper Canada Minor Hockey Executive.
- c) Referee in Chief of District 1 and Registrar of District 1 will sit at the UCMHL table as voting members.

Section 2 - Elections

2. a) Executive Officers shall be elected annually during the months of May and before the Annual Meeting of the ODMHA.
- b) The League shall appoint a three-member nominating committee at the February meeting of the League to receive the names of nominees and coordinate the nominating

process.

- c) All member Associations shall provide the nominating committee with the name(s) of their nominee(s) no later than the March meeting of the League. The nominating committee will endeavor to establish a preliminary list of nominees and the position they aspire to. Additional nominations will be sought at the Annual General Meeting.
- d) All directors will be selected by Committee at the UCMHL meeting in August. Committee to be determined by the 2nd Vice of Upper Canada
- e) All candidates for Executive Office must be nominated and seconded either from the floor or in writing. A person may be nominated for any number of positions and may seek election to offices to which he/she has been properly nominated. Defeat in election for any office does not disqualify candidates from seeking election to any other subsequent office to which they have been properly nominated. Once elected to a position, that person shall be ineligible to stand for further nomination and election.
- f) Election to be by secret ballot when necessary, only the successful candidate will be announced and all ballots will be destroyed after each vote. The President shall appoint election "scrutineers" from the floor, for the purpose of tabulating votes - 3 persons.
- g) An ODMHA executive member shall preside over all League elections, or such neutral party as may be sought by the Executive.
- h) All directors will be selected by Committee at the UCMHL meeting in August. Committee to be determined by the 2nd Vice of Upper Canada.

Section 3 - Duties of the Executive

- 3. a) The **President** shall:
 - 1. Be the 2nd Vice of District 1 - elected at the AGM of District 1.
 - 2. Preside at all meetings of the League.
 - 3. Call all meetings as deemed necessary or at the request of half of the voting Executive plus one.
 - 4. Represent the League at all meetings of the ODMHA and otherwise represent the League in any capacity with higher hockey authority.
 - 5. Be one of the signing authorities of the League.
 - 6. Be an ex-officio member of all standing or ad-hoc committees appointed by the League, notwithstanding Conflict of Interest Guidelines.
 - 7. Vote only in tie-vote situations.

8. Report at District 1 monthly meetings.
 9. Perform all duties assigned by the District 1 Chairperson.
 10. Be one of the signing officers of District 1.
- b) The **1st Vice** shall:
1. In the absence of the President or through delegation, have all the power and perform all the duties of the President. While assuming the President position, he/she may only cast a vote in the event of a tie.
 2. Be a signing officer for the League.
 3. Be a member of all Standing Committees appointed by the League.
 4. Act in the capacity of Awards Chairperson for the League.
 5. Be responsible to arrange and to ensure the UCMHL has a functional website.
- c) The **2nd Vice** shall:
1. In the absence of the President and the 1st Vice, assume the duties of the President. When assuming the President's position, he/she may only cast a vote in the event of a tie.
 2. Be a member of all ad-hoc committees as appointed by the League.
 3. Be the Director-in-Chief.
 4. Be one of the signing authorities for the League.
- d) The **Secretary** shall:
1. Maintain accurate minutes and records of all proceedings of meetings of the League.
 2. Ensure the distribution of minutes to all Executive Officers and Associations, as well as other parties as deemed necessary by the League, not later than 15 days following the previous meeting.
 3. Carry on all correspondence on behalf of the League as instructed by the Executive.
- e) The **Treasurer** shall:
1. Ensure proper maintenance of all books, accounts and assets of the League.
 2. Be responsible for all receipts and disbursements of the League.
 3. Prepare a financial statement for each meeting of the League and a year-end consolidated financial statement for each Annual Meeting.
 4. Sign all cheques along with one other signing officer.
 5. Make recommendations regarding all fees/levies which are received and disbursed by the League.
 6. Report to the League regarding any Association which has not kept its' account in good standing with the League.
- f) Risk and Safety Co-Coordinator of District 1
1. Act in an advisory capacity to the UCMHL.

g) The **Division Directors** shall:

1. Be responsible for their Division of hockey within the League relative to Scheduling, statistics and determination of League Regular season and playoff Champions and Sportsmanship Award winners.
2. Ensure that all teams within their jurisdiction comply with all Hockey Canada, ODHA, ODMHA, District 1 and UCMHL Rules and Regulations.
3. Sit on the Rules & Discipline Committee as required for appeal hearings.
4. Work with the Registrar, the Chairperson of District One Rules & Discipline and the Referee-in-Chief regarding the performance of their duties as related to his/her Division.
5. A report for their Division must be available for each meeting of the League including: Penalty minutes, player issues, over-agers or if coach co-operation is a problem. If the Director is not available for the meeting, this information will be sent in advance of the meeting to the 2nd Vice of Upper Canada.
6. Will work under the auspices of the Director-in-Chief.
7. In the event that an issue arises that the Director cannot solve, they will contact the League 2nd Vice.

Article 4 - Committees/Conflict of Interest Guidelines

Section 1 - Committees

1. a) The League shall have Standing Committees as deemed necessary by the Executive for the review/study/recommendation or action on any matter deemed appropriate, which may be empowered by the League to act on its behalf.
- b) The League may appoint “ad-hoc” committees as deemed necessary for the purpose of recommending to the League necessary action. Ratification would be followed up at the next scheduled League meeting.
- c) No member of the UCMHL shall present or vote on a motion if it is considered to be a “Conflict of Interest”.
- d) The President of the UCMHL can declare a “conflict of interest” when deemed necessary.

Article 5 - Constitutional Amending Formula

Section 1 - Constitutional Amending Formula

1. a) Amendments to the League Constitution shall require a written notice of motion signed by two voting members of the League.
- b) Notice of motion(s) for Constitutional Amendments must be in the hands of the Secretary or President of the League one meeting prior to the Semi-annual or Annual meeting dates.
- c) All notes of motion(s) for Constitutional Amendments will be circulated by the Secretary to all Associations and Executive Officers of the League at least 2 weeks prior to the Semi-annual or Annual meetings.
- d) Notice of motion(s) for Constitutional Amendments may only be voted upon at Semi-annual or Annual meetings.
- e) Amendments are to be passed by a two-thirds majority.

Article 6 - By-Law Amending Formula

Section 1 - By-Law Amending Formula

1. a) Properly motioned and seconded proposals will be voted on at any regular meeting of the league. If said proposal is accepted it will become part of the working document.

UPPER CANADA MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

BY-LAWS

By-Law I - Administration/Procedure

Section 1 - Banking/Signing Authority

1. a) For the purpose of financial transactions, the President, 1st Vice and 2nd Vice shall be empowered by the League to be the second signing officers. The Treasurer shall sign all documents relative to disbursements/debts of the League.
- b) Any one of the above-named Executives and the Treasurer shall be required as signing authorities.
- c) In all non-financial matters, the President/1st Vice and/or Secretary shall be empowered to sign on behalf of the League as directed by the Executive.

Section 2 - Reimbursement for Expense/Honoraria

1. a) The Secretary of the League shall recover from the League all reasonable expenses (postage, telephone, secretarial supplies).
- b) The members of an Appeal Hearing Committee and one Referee/Game Official required to appear at such a hearing shall be paid traveling expenses at the rate set by ODHA Board of Directors.
- c) All neutral referees assigned by the Referee-in-Chief on behalf of the League, shall be paid at a rate set by the ODHA Board of Directors.
- d) Any Executive members appointed by the League to represent it at ODMHA/ODHA meetings shall receive traveling expenses at the rate set by the ODHA Board of Directors.
- e) Executive Officers shall be reimbursed by the League for reasonable expenses incurred

in the performance of their League duties, i.e.(postage, telephone, supplies).

- f) All claims for expenses must be directed to the Treasurer of the League on the UMHL expense form. All bills, invoices, receipts and other relevant documentation must be included.

Section 3 - League Fees

3. a) Association and team registration fees will be set in August of each year. Fees are payable before commencement of League play. All fees including other monies owed are payable before commencement of League play.
- b) All fees must be received by the Treasurer of the League for each registered team no later than that team's first League game.
- c) Failure to submit fees by first League game will result in the suspension of the affected team(s) from further League play until fees paid.
- d) All fees/fines/levies are payable to the "UPPER CANADA MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE" or "UCMHL", directly to the League Treasurer ONLY, and all debts to be cleared as of the Annual General meeting.
- e) Any financial deficit of the League shall be pro-rated among all registered Associations at the League Annual Meeting each year and shall be payable no later than the next meeting of the League. Failure to pay this levy shall result in the suspension of the Association from further League/play involvement.
- f) Any Association that has not paid its fees by the November regular UCMHL meeting will not be entitled to vote on any matter pertaining to the operation of UCMHL until such time as its fees are paid in full.

Section 4 - Procedure/Rules of Order

4. a) Each meeting of the League shall be governed by “Robert’s Rules of Order”.
- b) Each general meeting of the League shall follow a standard agenda:
 1. a) Call to order by the President or designate.
b) Roll Call.
 2. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting(s) or a motion to waive the reading of the minutes.
 - a) Errors or omissions in the Minutes
 - b) Motion to adopt the minutes as read and/or circulated.
 3. Business arising from the Minutes.
 4. Correspondence.
 5. Delegation(s).
 6. Executive Reports.
 7. New Business.
 8. Queries from the Membership.
 9. Adjournment.
- c) The Annual Meeting of the UCMHL shall be held in May of each year
- d) The Semi-Annual Meeting can be held in November of each year if required.
- e) The agenda for the Annual Meeting shall include, under Section 7, New Business, a subsection for amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws - notice of motion(s).
- f) The agenda for the Semi-Annual Meetings shall include a subsection of Section 7, New Business, a substitution for amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws - notice of motion(s).
- g) The last item of business for Annual Meeting shall be the election of new Executive Officers for the League and the turning of the meeting over to the new Executive.
- h) The League shall meet on the 3rd Monday of August, September, October, November, December, January, February, March and April each year at a location chosen by the membership. The Upper Canada Annual General Meeting will be held in May of each year. Location to be determined by the membership.

NOTE: Further meetings may be called by the President.

- I) No proxy or votes in absentia shall be allowed on any motion tabled at any League

meeting.

By-Law II - Player & Team Regulations

Section 1 - Player/Team Registration

1. a) All players must register to play for the Association in whose zone the player resides.
- b) No Association shall knowingly register a player from another zone without necessary approval.
- c) The registration of girls on carded teams shall be governed by Hockey Canada and ODMHA regulations.
- d) All teams playing in the UCMHL must have their team's lists in the hands of the Registrar for Upper Canada prior to their 1st League game of the season. All Associations must provide, by October's meeting, copies of the team lists for all teams participating in the League.
- e) All overage House League players allowed to move down one level will be designated with capital letters OA beside their name on the game sheet.
- f) All AA or A players returning to teams in the UCMHL shall be assessed by his/her home Association and placed on the appropriate skill team at his/her level. The President of the UCMHL and the appropriate District Registrar are to be made aware of the incoming player and subsequent placement. If no room is available on the appropriate team at his/her level, the UCMHL shall, after proper consideration, place the player on a team suitable to his/her abilities at the next higher House League level.
- g) If for any reason an "AAA", "AA" or "A" player is returning to their Home Association due to a disciplinary action at the higher level the Discipline and Appeals Committee of UCMHL will determine how to proceed.

Section 2 - Team Registration/Formula for Determination of Level

2. a) Only associations who enter "B" rep teams at any level may qualify for voting powers on any issues pertaining to "B" rep teams. Only associations who enter House League teams at any level may qualify for voting powers on any issues pertaining to House League teams.
- b) All Associations must enter their teams as follows:

- If an Association has three or more teams at any level of Novice they must enter ONE-THIRD of their teams at House League B and the rest at House League C. (Note: they can enter all teams at House B if they so desire but criteria above is to be met)
 - If an Association has three teams at any level (including teams to be declared at UCMHL and other teams within their association), and are not declaring a team at Rep B they must enter two teams in House League B and one team in House League C.
 - If an Association has three teams at any level (including teams to be declared at UCMHL and other teams within their association), and are declaring one team at Rep B, they must declare one team in House League B and one team in House League C.
 - If an Association has four teams at any level (including teams to be declared at UCMHL and other teams within their association), the teams must be entered as one team in Rep B, one team in House League B, and two teams in House League C.
 - If an Association has five teams at any level (including teams to be declared at UCMHL and other teams within their association), the teams must be entered as one team in Rep B, two teams in House League B, and two teams in House League C.
 - If an Association has six teams at any level (including teams to be declared at UCMHL and other teams within their association), the teams must be entered as one team in Rep B, two teams in House League B, and three teams in House League C.
 - For the declaration of teams in Midget: The Associations will follow the above outline except for Midget where “C House” will be considered “B House league – non-checking”.(Note: they can enter all teams at House B checking if they so desire but criteria above is to be met).
- c) Any Association may enter their teams in a higher Division than those required by this formula, as those are minimum guidelines.
- d) Any Association may apply to the League for “Special Consideration” with regard to the above guidelines. Special Consideration must be asked for at the August meeting of UCMHL.

- e) A team deemed to be too strong may be moved up – Division Director will make request and give reasons for such request.
- f) There will be no consideration given to any team movement down.
- g)
 1. A team moving up will play the remaining games of the schedule only.
 2. Games played by a team moving up will not be used to calculate the team standing in the new level.
 3. The points earned by the team in the new level will be considered that teams total points for the season.
 4. The results of the games played at the lower level by the moved team will remain in effect for the final standings of the lower level teams.

Section 3 - Player Regulations - Affiliation

3.
 - a) Unless otherwise legislated by the UCMHL, all Hockey Canada, ODHA, and ODMHA regulations shall apply to affiliation of players and/or teams.
 - b) All affiliated players shall be governed by the January 10th rule of only 5 meaningful games at a higher level. Upon playing a sixth game at a higher level, the player shall remain at that level
 - c) All regular season games shall be considered as meaningful games for the purpose of determining the number of games after January 10th.

Section 4 - Player/Team Regulations - Discipline/Suspensions/Appeals

- 4.1.
 - a) The UCMHL will have a Discipline Committee comprised of the President, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice and two (2) UCMHL directors.
 - b) The UCMHL Discipline committee shall have the power to suspend, discipline or expel any team, team member, bench member, or any member of an Association from participation in the UCMHL when the above mentioned people fail to observe the Code of Discipline as set out by the ODMHA, or whose conduct, in the opinion of the Discipline Committee, is detrimental to the proper conduct of hockey within the League.
 - (i) The Upper Canada MHL Discipline committee shall have the power to suspend an Association in Upper Canada if the Association fails to observe the Code of Discipline as set out by the ODMHA. Or whose conduct, in the opinion of the Discipline

Committee, is detrimental to the proper conduct of hockey within the League.

- c) All decisions of the UCMHL with regard to discipline may be appealed to District 1. District 1 Chair will determine if there are sufficient grounds for appeal as per ODMHA rules. Every effort will be made to convene such a hearing in a timely fashion. Requests for appeals must be brought forward to District 1 by the President of the Association.
 - d) Each Association requesting an appeal shall submit such request in writing to the District 1 Chair and/or his/her delegate within 72 hours of the UCMHL hearing and shall include with their written request a cheque, cash or money order in the amount of \$150.00 payable to District 1.
 - e) Refund of appeal fee will be based on the ODMHA rules and expense fees.
- 4.2
- a) All suspendable offences must be reported to the District 1 Chairperson or his/her delegate within 24 hours of the incident.
 - b) The District 1 Chairperson or his/her delegate will rule on the offense in terms of appropriate discipline as set out in guidelines by the ODMHA. Suspensions may not be lowered but at the discretion of the District 1 Chairperson may be increased depending on the circumstances.
 - c) It shall be the decision of the Head Coach who he/she determines shall be responsible to report such offenses to the District 1 Chairperson. It should be kept in mind that the Head Coach is responsible for all aspects of his team.
 - d) ALL suspensions of players or team officials must be recorded on the face-side of the ODMHA Game Sheet. For example: John Doe, Serving 1 of 5 INITIALED BY THE REFEREE.
 - e) Any issues of Risk and Safety shall be reported to the District 1 Chairperson who in turn will contact the appropriate Association.
 - f) ALL complaints to the League must be in writing before they will be acted upon.

Section 5 - Player/Team Regulations - Overage House League Regulations

- 5. a) For safety reasons, an Association may apply to UCMHL to have a player placed on a team in a division one level below that player's normal division.
- b) The player may not play at this lower level until his/her application has been formally

- presented and approved at an UCMHL regular meeting.
- c) Application by the Association must be done in writing and must be presented by the Association Representative at a regular UCMHL meeting. Applications must be presented in person.
 - d) All applications must be made no later than the regular UCMHL meeting in October of each year.
 - e) The application will include the following information:
 - a) Name of player
 - b) Age of player
 - c) Player history including teams played for the past 3 years (if applicable)
 - d) Reason to have player moved to lower division
 - e) Assessment of players skating ability, puck handling ability
 - f) Confirmation that the player has been formally assessed by the Association
 - g) Signature of the Association President or delegate
 - h) After discussion, the application will be put to a vote as per voting privileges outlined in Section 2 a) through d).
 - D) If approved, a written notice is provided to the association outlining that approval has been given for the player to play at the lower level and that this player must be re-affirmed at the December regular meeting of the UCMHL.
 - j) All overage House League players allowed to move down one level will be designated with capital letters "OA" beside their name on the game sheet.
 - k) At the November regular meeting of UCMHL, the Director responsible for the Division in which the player is now playing will provide a player impact report. This will include number of games played, team record when the player is playing, team record when the player is not playing (if applicable), goals and assists by player, percentage of goals that the player factored in on, overall impact of the player on the tempo of the game.
 - l) After any discussion, a vote, as per Section 2 a) through d) will be held, to reaffirm the player continuing to play at the lower division for the balance of the year. If approved, the player will continue at the lower division. If not approved, the player will be immediately placed on a team at the player's normal Division.
 - m) There will be no over-age player movement to a lower team if that player's level has "non-body contact" in the HC Division.
 - n) Player Development of District 1 will monitor all over-age players.

By-Law III - Game Regulations

Section 1 - Time and Length of Match

1. a) Games at all levels of the Novice and Atom divisions shall consist of 50-minute games.
- b) The time the games start is the published game time (the time on the schedule), not when referees enter the arena or the home team goes on the ice. The timekeeper puts 10 minutes on the game clock and it stops at every stoppage of play.
- c) Games at all levels of the Peewee, Bantam and Midget divisions and Juvenile shall consist of 80-minute games.
- d) The timekeeper puts 15 minutes on the score clock and it stops at every stoppage of play. A stop watch or running time clock is started at the scheduled time of the game.
- e) The coach may have his captain or alternate captain request to be informed of the time remaining in the game once, without receiving a minor penalty for "delay of game".
- f) The timekeeper (minor official) will buzz the game complete when the allotted time for the game has expired in accordance with items a) thru d) above.
- g) No time outs will be allowed in regular or playoff games.
- h) It shall be the responsibility of member Associations to inform their timekeepers of the provisions of this section and to ensure that they are complied with for all League games.
- I) If a penalty shot has been called by the referee the shot will be completed in the event the running clock has expired after the shooting play has started.
- j) The League will decide if a game is to be re-played due to extenuating circumstances during that game.

Section 2 - Game Postponements

2. a) The Division Director will be responsible for **APPROVING ALL RESCHEDULED GAMES** within his/her Division.
- b) Any team not showing up for a scheduled league or playoff game without

notification to the Division Director shall be responsible for payment of Game Officials and be fined \$100.00

- c) All games postponed for the convenience of the team (ie Tournaments) **MUST** be “re-scheduled” in advance of the originally scheduled date and time OR a date must be picked that is agreed on by both teams involved as well as the Division Director before postponement is allowed.
- d) Tournaments will not be played during play-offs **UNLESS** Division Director gives approval and the play-off series is not compromised.
- e) Twenty-four hours (24) notice must be given to the Division Director of any league or play-off games being post-poned. (24 hours prior to scheduled game time).
- f) In the case of a team showing up for a game with less than six (6) players then the game will not proceed. A game sheet **MUST** be filled out and signed by the Officials. The Discipline and Appeals Committee will investigate the circumstances surrounding the lack of players. It will be determined by this committee if the game is to be re-played or if points will be awarded to the non-offending team. The Discipline and Appeals Committee will also determine if the team that didn’t have enough players will be informed that they are responsible for the Officials fees.
- g) No games are allowed to be forfeited in the UCMHL.

Section 3 - General Game Regulations

- 3. a) League home teams will be responsible for conflicting sweater colours.
- b) All players participating in UCMHL games must wear protective equipment in accordance with Hockey Canada and ODMHA Official Hockey rules.
- c) Team handshakes, when used in League regular season or play-off game situations, shall occur at the END OF THE GAME.
- d) All games at the Rep Level of PeeWee, Bantam, Minor Midget, Major Midget and the B House Level of Pee Wee, Bantam, and Midget shall be played with body checking.
All games at the C House Level of Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget as well as all Novice and Atom levels shall be played with NO body checking.
- e) Directive for game sheets will be given to the UCMHL coaches at August meeting. Game sheet directive will come from ODMHA.

- f) The first copy of the game sheet is mailed in a self-addressed envelope provided by the League to the District 1 Rules and Discipline within 24 hours.
The second and third copies are given to the Home and Away coaches.
The fourth copy is kept by the referee.
- g) All game results shall be e-mailed by both the home and visiting team coach to their Director within 24 hours. They shall provide game details utilizing the “GAME RESULTS TEMPLATE” available on the Upper Canada Minor Hockey League website. (A coach can appoint someone else to report results keeping in mind that the coach is ultimately responsible for his team).
- h) If the Rules & Discipline does not receive the game sheet within 48-72 hours after a game is played, disciplinary action may result.

By-Law IV - Game Officials - Referees/Linesmen/Off-ice

Officials

Section 1 - General Regulations

- 1. a) All UCMHL games hosted in Canadian venues must be officiated by ODMHA registered and crested officials who are in good standing and have been certified for the current hockey season. Any referee who is suspended as a player may not referee until that suspension has been served.
- b) If any of the assigned officials do not show up for a game, BOTH COACHES must agree to play the game. If they agree to play the game, the game is played and CANNOT be protested. If they DO NOT agree, the game will not be played. Game will be re-scheduled.
 - 1. If a game is started whether the correct amount of officials are in place or not then the game will proceed to the finish. No protest of this game will be allowed.
 - 2. Incidents of the proper number of officials not showing up for games will be reported to the President of the Association. The President of the Association will in turn report this incident to the RIC of District 1. Discipline action may be taken by the Association as well as the District.
- c) Game Officials shall authorize all game sheets by printing their names and c

certification number on ALL game sheets.

- d) If there are no available referees on the ice ready to drop the puck, ten (10) minutes after the scheduled starting time, then the game is to be rescheduled - refer to By-Law III, Section 1b).
 - 1. If this happens, the incident is to be reported immediately to the District 1 Referee-in-Chief as well as the President of the Association.
 - 2. Disciplinary action can be taken by both the Association and the District depending on circumstances surrounding the no-show.
- e) The Referee-in-Chief of any Association may apply to the District One Referee-in-Chief for relief from Section 2 of By-Law IV where special circumstances exist
- f) All Associations shall file a list of their referees/officials with the District One Referee-in-Chief before or at the November meeting of the League (semi-annual meeting). This list will include names, certification level, certification number, address, phone number.
- g) Failure to supply the list as per h) above may result in the League levying a fine not to exceed \$50 to the offending Association.
- h) Rulebook 41-(o) conflict of interest.

Section 2 - Regular Season Games

2. a) All regular season games shall be refereed by Level II Officials in the Atom, Pee wee and Bantam Divisions. Level I officials are permitted to officiate these levels if approved by the UCMHL RIC based on ability. This decision must be able to be substantiated by prior supervisions.
- b) All regular season games shall be refereed by Level III Officials in the Midget and Juvenile Divisions.
- c) From Pee wee and up, a three-man system will be scheduled.
- d) The home team shall supply all Game Officials for regular season games, including Minor Officials, notwithstanding that the visiting team may exercise the right to provide a Minor Official.

Section 3 - Play-off Games

3. a) All play-off games will be officiated by a three-man system.
- b) In the event that a three-man system cannot be utilized for a game, Hockey Canada regulations governing this situation will apply.
- c) A coach, through his Association President, may request neutral officials at their own expense. (This applies to play-off games and regular season games) If there are extenuating circumstances regarding officiating, for any play-off game or regular season game, the Association is to contact the District 1 Chair. District 1 Chair will consult with Referee-In-Chief as well as the 2nd Vice of Upper Canada Minor Hockey League to investigate validity of the complaint.
- d) Except for the provisions of paragraph c) above, the UCMHL will provide neutral referees where possible. The use of a non-neutral referee shall not automatically constitute cause for a protest. (The term "non-neutral" refers to a referee who belongs to one of the participating associations.)
- e) The neutral referees shall be assigned exclusively by the District One Referee-in-Chief or designate.
- f) The home team will provide both linesmen unless otherwise agreed to by the teams/associations involved.
- g) In all play-off games, it will be the responsibility of the visiting team and the home

team to provide one minor official for the timekeeper's box and recommend one for the penalty box.

- h) Unless given prior approval by the District One Referee-in-Chief, no play-off game shall be officiated in any capacity by a Level I official.
- I) Division Directors shall be responsible for notifying the District One Referee-in-Chief of their requirements for assignment of neutral referees. If Division Director is not available, Association President must be notified.

By-Law V - Regular Season Structure

Section 1 - General Regulations

- 1. a) The UCMHL shall consist of three divisions of play as follows:
 - B Rep
 - B House League
 - C House League
- b) Entry into any Division is available to any League Association; however, minimum entry requirements are documented in By-Law II, Section 2.
- c) All Associations shall register their teams and their teams' ice time allotments for games at the August meeting of the League. A minimum of 18 ice time allotments is mandatory. It is recommended that at least three ice times be given that are not usual ice times so that if the Director has Associations that all play on the same day there is room for adjustment.
- d) A team registered within a Division of the League and incorporated in the schedule for that Division may not withdraw from that Division, nor may a team be added to any Division after schedules have been set.
- e) Division Directors shall be responsible for presentation of statistics regarding their Division at each League meeting during which their Division is in play.

Section 2 - Schedule Structure

2. a) The regular season shall consist of a total of 24 games. Home and Away in all Divisions.
 - (i) If there are 8 teams or less then there will be NO East/West split. The division will play a blended schedule.
 - (ii) If there are 9 or more teams in a division, then there will be an East/West split. The split is only used in the purpose of divisional standings. Teams will play a blended schedule.

- b) The regular season schedule shall begin and end as outlined in Schedule 1. All games, including makeup games, must be completed between these specified dates.

- c) There shall be no games scheduled from December 24th to midnight January 1, however, the following days of December 27, 28, 29 and December 30th may be used if agreed to by both coaches to make up previously cancelled games or games which may be required to be rescheduled prior to the end of the regular season for tournaments, etc.

- d) The 2nd Vice will call a meeting before the schedules are drawn up to develop a common format for the coaches package.
 1. Discuss size of league in regard to number of teams in each level.
 2. Discuss number of games for regular season schedule - home and home one, twice, etc.
 3. Discuss travel concerns (distant associations play games early in the season, while local associations play later in the season).
 4. Each Director will supply a coach's package for each coach in his/her league. This packet to contain:
 - a) schedule for the season
 - b) enough stamped, director-addressed envelopes for all home games
 - c) UCMHL Constitution
 - d) The Directors Introduction Letter
 - e) Rules and Discipline Reporting

- e) Game times are to be:
 - a) Week-nights - 6 pm to 9 pm (start times)
 - b) Week-ends - 9 am to 9 pm (start times)

- f) A meeting will be held prior to the regular season to deliver schedules to Association Presidents and/or delegates. It is mandatory that the Association Presidents' and/or their alternates are present to receive their team's schedules. Before coaches' packages are handed to the Presidents, it is mandatory that at

least TWO contact names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses are given for EACH team

Section 3 - Order of Finish - Regular Season - All Divisions

3. a) Each team shall receive two points for a win and one point for a tie.
- b) The greater the number of points the higher the finish and the order of finish in each Division shall be declared using the highest to the lowest point accumulations with the exception of a Division governed by By-Law II, Section i).
- c) Resolution of two-way and three-way ties after the conclusion of regular season play to determine regular season finish placing:
 1. Team with the most wins will be declared League Champions.
 2. If still tied, then the team with the least losses will be declared League Champions.
 3. If still tied, then the team who had the best record, head to head will be declared League Champions.
 4. If still tied, then the team with the least goals against will be declared the League Champions.
 5. If still tied, then the team with the most goals scored will be declared the League Champions.
 6. If still tied, then the team with the least penalty minutes will be declared League Champions.
- d) The team finishing with the highest number of points shall be declared the League Regular Season Champions and all other placing can be determined.

By-Law VI - Playoff Structure

Section 1 - General Regulations

1. a) A team must complete 100% of their regular season scheduled games to be eligible for playoffs. Failure will result in disqualification from any playoff hockey. (Extenuating circumstances will be looked at)
- b) Championship Finals to alternate each year by using the calendar year (in which the playoffs are in) to determine where the series starts. Even year 2012-2014-2016

And so on starts in the East. Odd years 2011-2013-2015 and so on start in the West.

- c) The score for each playoff game must be called in or e-mailed to the Division Director immediately following the game by the home coach. The next series may need to be scheduled. The game sheets must be mailed to the District 1 R&D.
- d) Preliminary playoff series will be 4 point series played to a maximum of 4 games. If the series is tied after 3 games at 3 points each, a 4th game will be played at the lower seeded team's arena. This game must decide the winner of the series. The 4th game must include a provision for overtime.
- e) The League Championship series will be a 5 point series played to a maximum of 5 games. The series may start in either team's rink, depending on ice availability. Game 2 will then be played in the other team's rink. If a deciding 5th game is required, it must be played in the rink of the team from the division that has home ice that season. If, at the end of the 5th game, each team has 5 points, sudden-victory overtime will be played to determine the winner of the series.

In any game in which overtime is required, the following rules shall govern play in the overtime.

1. 15 minutes go on the clock.
2. The team starts with 5 skaters. At the first stoppage of play after 3 minutes have elapsed, each team will remove 1 skater. At the first stoppage of play after a further 3 minutes have elapsed, each team will remove 1 skater. Play will then continue 3 on 3 until a goal is scored.
3. If a team is 2 players short during the 4 on 4, the team on the power play will add a 5th skater until the first stoppage following the return to even strength. If a team is 1 player short during the 3 on 3, the team on the power play will add a 4th skater until the first stoppage following the return to even strength.

Section 2 - Playoff Structure

2. a) The top eight (8) teams of each Division qualify for the Playoff series. These will play a Quarter Final Series
 - A) 1st versus 8th
 - B) 2nd versus 7th
 - C) 3rd versus 6th
 - D) 4th versus 5th

- b) Winners of the Quarter Finals will play a Semi-Final Series. Teams will be re-seeded based on final point standings during the regular series as follows:
 - A) Team with highest points versus team with lowest points
 - B) Team with second highest points versus team with second lowest points.

- c) Winners of Semi-finals above will play a Final Series to determine the Division Champion.

- d) The East Division Champions will play-off against the West Division Champions for the UCMHL League Championship series.

- e) If a division consists of seven (7) teams all teams will qualify for the playoff series as follows:
 - A) 1st place – receives a 1st round bye
 - B) 2nd versus 7th
 - C) 3rd versus 6th
 - D) 4th versus 5th

All remaining play-off series will follow the format outlined in 2 b), c) and d) above.

- f) If a division consists of only six (6) teams all teams will qualify for the play-off series as follows:
 - A) 1st place – receives a 1st round bye
 - B) 2nd place – receives a 1st round bye
 - C) 3rd versus 6th
 - D) 4th versus 5th

All remaining play-off series will follow the format outlined in 2 b), c) and d) above.

- g) If a division consists of only five (5) teams, all teams will qualify for the play-off series as follows:
 - A) 1st place – receives a 1st round bye
 - B) 2nd place – receives a 1st round bye

- C) 3rd place – receives a 1st round bye
- D) 4th versus 5th

Second Round:

- A) 1st place versus winner of 4th versus 5th
- B) 2nd versus 3rd

All remaining play-off series will follow the format outlined in 2c) and d) above.

- h) Home ice advantage always goes to the team that finishes the regular season with the higher number of points.

By-Law VII - Awards

Section 1 - Awards Availability Requirements

1. a) It is the responsibility of the Directors to provide the 1st Vice with the team player/bench staff lists to be engraved as soon as it is known which team will finish first.

Section 2 - Regular Season

2. a) At the end of the regular season, the first place team/teams of each Division shall be awarded a 12 x 9 plaque with each registered team member's name engraved.

Section 3 - Playoffs

3. a) Awards for all playoff series shall be presented by the Directors or representative at the conclusion of the playoff series.
 - b) Where there is not a Championship subdivision, the division playoff championship team shall be awarded the UCMHL team trophy. The winning team shall be awarded a 12 x 9 plaque inscribed Playoff Champion. Each registered member of the winning team shall be awarded a 5 x 7 plaque inscribed Playoff Champion. The playoff finalist team shall be awarded a 12 x 9 plaque inscribed Playoff Finalist. Each registered member of the Finalist team shall be awarded a 5 x 7 plaque inscribed Playoff Finalist.
 - c) When there is a Championship Division, the East division winner will receive a 12 x 9 plaque inscribed East Division Playoff Champion, and the West division winner will receive a 12 x 9 plaque inscribed West Division Playoff Champion.

Section 4 - Sportsmanship Award

4. a) The Sportsmanship award shall be given in each Division at every level of play to the team that has the lowest penalty minutes over the regular season.
 - b) The Sportsmanship award shall be given in each Division at every level of play to the team which has the lowest penalty minutes over the regular season. If there is an East and West Division at a particular level of play, then the team with the lowest penalty minutes over the regular season in each division will be recognized with the

Sportsmanship award.

- c) A team must have played 100% of their scheduled regular season games in order to be eligible for the sportsmanship award.
- d) The Sportsmanship Award shall consist of a 12 x 9 plaque.

By-Law VIII - Suspensions/Appeals/Discipline

Section 1 - Discipline/Suspensions

- 1. a) The ODMHA Code of Discipline shall form the basis of all minimum discipline with the play governed by the UCMHL.
- b) All suspend able offenses must be reported to the District 1 Chairperson by the offending team, by telephone, by e-mail, by fax, within 24 hours of the time game was played.
- c) The District 1 Chairperson will rule on the offense in terms of appropriate discipline.
- d) The Head Coach shall choose who he/she wants to liaise with the District 1 Chairperson keeping in mind that the Head Coach is responsible for all aspects of his team.
(ODMHA ruling)
- e) A five (5) minute major for Checking from Behind in the last 10 minutes of the game will carry a TWO game suspension.
- f) Game Incident Reports are to be sent to the District 1 Chairperson via email by the Referee within 24 hours of the time the game was played.

Section 2 - Appeals

- 2. a) Appeal procedures shall be as set out in By-Law II, Section 4.
- b) Appeals which are overturned or ruled against at Rules and Discipline Committee level may only be appealed to the ODMHA District One through

- it's Chairman. The League as a whole may appeal any Rules and Discipline Committee decision to the ODMHA Discipline and Appeals person.
- c) Communication regarding appeals **MUST** come from the Association **ONLY**. No individuals, team officials or players shall be permitted to file an appeal. Communication regarding the outcome of an appeal hearing shall be with the Association President **ONLY**.
 - d) Every effort will be made by the Rules and Discipline Committee to stage appeal hearings within one week of the incident. This requires that Associations notify the District One Chairperson of Rules and Discipline through their President that they will be requesting a hearing as soon as possible so that proceedings may be started. 48 hours written notice by way of an "Official Protest Form" is still required despite telephone notification of a hearing.

Schedule 1

Start & Finish Dates for UCMHL

2010 - 2011 Season

First day of regular season league play – October 4, 2010
Last day of regular season league play - February 12, 2011
Christmas break from midnight - December 23, 2010 – January 4, 2011
First playoff round starts: February 14, 2011

No playoffs during March Break

Reference: By-Law V, Section 2b)

The regular season shall begin and end as outlined in Schedule 1. All games, including make-up games, must be completed between these specified dates.