



DEFINITIONS



Wherever the context herein permits, reference to the male shall be inclusive of all gender identities and gender expressions.

Highlighted sections and/or paragraphs are new or changed sections.

DEFINITIONS

In all By-Laws, Regulations and resolutions of the OMHA, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

Act: means the Ontario *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010*, S.O. 2010, c.15, and any statute amending or enacted in substitution therefore, from time to time.

Additional Entry: means an additional Representative Team from a Minor Hockey Association that already has a Representative Team entered in the same Division and Category.

Affiliation: means the process by which an Association joins the OMHA for the purposes of eligibility to compete within the jurisdiction of the OMHA.

Affiliated Player (AP): means a player who is eligible to participate for their registered team and other team(s) of a higher division or category.

Age Group: means a grouping of ages within a division (e.g. U15 13 & 14 years).

Alliance Hockey: means Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario.

Amalgamation: means the joining together of two or more active Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations to become one new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporation.

Annual Meeting: means the Annual Meeting of the OMHA.

Area: means a section of a Region.

Area Convenor: means an individual appointed by the Board who has been delegated the same power and authority and assumes the same responsibilities as a Regional Director in disciplinary and administrative matters within a designated area.

Articles: means the Letters Patent of the OMHA, as may be amended from time to time by articles of amendment filed pursuant to the Act.

Assessment: means an amount each Association remits to the OMHA for each participant and/or team.

Associate Member: means all individuals affiliated with the OMHA who assist in the administration, instruction and/or operation of development programs, league operations, convenor duties, and game officiating and who come under the supervision of a Regional Director, Development Program Chair and/or OMHA Officer.

Association: means a Centre or Zone, which is registered with the OMHA.

Ballot: means a secret paper or electronic mechanism used to register a vote.

Base Categories: means the category levels to which a Centre's teams have been assigned by the OMHA and which dictates the level of competition in which its teams will compete.

BNQ: means Bureau de Normalization du Quebec.

Board: means the board of directors (elected or appointed) of the OMHA.

Branch: means a recognized member of Hockey Canada. The OHF is a Member Branch of Hockey Canada with jurisdiction over the territory as defined by Hockey Canada Constitution.

Business Day: means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or any day on which the principal commercial banks located at the City of Toronto are not open for business during normal banking hours.

By-Laws: means this By-Law and all other By-Laws of the OMHA that may be enacted from time to time hereafter.

Categories: means a Centre's level of competition, or in instances, teams within a Centre. Example: House League, Local League, Minor Development, B, BB, A, AA, AAA.

Centre: means a recognized minor hockey organization within the OMHA from a city, town, village, municipality or geographic sub-division which has corporate limits or boundaries accepted by the OMHA for the purpose of determining hockey eligibility of players for competition within the jurisdiction of the OMHA.

Coach: means the individual on a team who is responsible for conducting the team's activities during sanctioned activities.

Coach-In-Charge: means the individual who is responsible for the team in a particular game.

Code of Conduct: means the code of conduct policies and procedures established by the OMHA, as amended from time to time.

Concurrent Tournaments: means tournaments held in different locations in the same time period.

Contact Person: means the person in a Member Association who is documented to be a liaison between the Association and the OMHA and receive all OMHA information. A Member Association may have two (2) persons registered with the OMHA for this purpose.

Convenor: means an individual appointed by a Regional Director to support the Regional Director with duties, including auditing tournaments, approving electronic rosters and monitoring Leagues. Not to be confused with Area Convenor.

CSA: means Canadian Standards Association.

Delegates: means individuals authorized to represent an Association and vote at any Meeting of Members, as determined in accordance with the By-law.

Director: means an individual who has been elected or appointed to the Board.

District: means a grouping of Regions that have been established solely for the purpose of electing candidates for Vice-President with responsibility for that specific District comprised of two Regions. The OMHA shall have three electoral Districts, referred to as the Western, Central and Eastern Districts, as set out in Appendix A to the By-law.

Division: means an age group within an Association (i.e. U21, U18, U15, U13, U11, U9, U8 and U7).

Electronic Registration: means the method, approved by Hockey Canada which allows the OMHA to register and approve players and Team Officials.

Electronic Roster: means the electronic document on which a Registered Player or Team Official is assigned and is approved by the OMHA to participate in sanctioned activities.

Exhibition Game: means a game that is neither a league, playoff, OMHA Championship nor tournament game.

Game Report: means the official record of a game which must be signed by the responsible game officials.

Governing Body: means an organization which has the authority to govern a group of members.

League: means a group of three (3) or more OMHA member teams of the same division playing a regular schedule.

GTHL: means Greater Toronto Hockey League.

HC: means Hockey Canada (or such other name as HC may in the future legally adopt).

HCR: means Hockey Canada Registry

HCOP: means the Hockey Canada Officiating Program.

Head Coach: means the Coach of a team who is responsible for the conduct of a team prior, during and after any game.

Host Branch: means a branch of Hockey Canada which is authorized to host a sanctioned Hockey Canada event.

House League: means a group of teams that compete regularly in a recreational league within a Centre.

House League Team: means a team, which competes regularly in a recreational House League within a Centre through which it must be affiliated with the OMHA.

HTCP: means the Hockey Trainers Certification Program.

IIHF: means International Ice Hockey Federation.

In Good Standing: means unless the context otherwise requires, this refers to a Member who has paid their membership dues or other fees owing to the OMHA and who is not the subject of any disciplinary investigation or sanction by the OMHA.

Independent House League: means an Association affiliated with the OMHA, which does not have Representative teams. May affiliate through the local OMHA Association or directly to the OMHA with approval of the OMHA Board of Directors.

Local Association: means an organization which provides minor hockey for its specific community or area.

Local League: means a group of teams from a number of Associations which compete regularly in a recreational league.

Local League Team: means a team which competes regularly in a Local League.

League: means a House League, Local League and/or Representative League, as the context requires.

Letters Patent: means the letters patent incorporating the OMHA under the Predecessor Act, including any supplementary letters patent.

Manager: means the individual on a team who is responsible for all of the business concerning a team except for that assigned to the Coaches or Trainers.

Match Penalties: means severe penalties which result in immediate suspension until dealt with by the OMHA.

Meeting of Members: means any meeting of the Members of the OMHA, either separately as a class or together with all other classes, including the Annual Meeting and any Special Meeting.

Members: All classes of membership in the OMHA as provided for in the By-Law and Regulations and “member” means any member in the OMHA and includes Delegates.

Minor Development (MD) Team: means a Category that is residency compliant with no body-checking that is not competitive (i.e. AAA, B, etc) but is not recreational.

NCCP: means the National Coaching Certification Program, and includes Levels of Qualification as identified in Regulations Appendix A – Team Official Qualifications Requirements.

NOHA: means Northern Ontario Hockey Association.

Nominations Committee: means a committee that has been appointed by the Board to oversee the election of Directors in accordance with the By-law.

Non Sanctioned: means programming that is not sanctioned by Hockey Canada and its Members.

Offer of Commitment: means OMHA document signed by the coach and player and parent or guardian confirming acceptance of the offer to register with the team for the season.

Officers: means the individuals who hold the offices enumerated in the By-law.

OHF: means the Ontario Hockey Federation (or such other name as the OHF may in the future legally adopt).

OMHA: means the Ontario Minor Hockey Association Inc. (or such other name as the OMHA may in the future legally adopt).

OMHA Championships: means a group of games, based on a format as determined by the OMHA Board, between all OMHA League qualifying teams that leads to declaring an OMHA Champion in a division/category.

OMHA Executive Director: means an individual employed by the OMHA to administer the day-to-day operations of the OMHA.

OMHA Portal: means an integrated web solution deployed for use by the OMHA Board, Convenors and Member Associations.

On-ice Officials: means referees or linespersons engaged in officiating a hockey game.

OWHA: means Ontario Women's Hockey Association

Person: means, without limitation, an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, unincorporated association, unincorporated syndicate, unincorporated organization, trust, body corporate and a natural person in their capacity as trustee, executor, administrator, or other legal representative.

Playoffs: means a group of games that leads to declaring a champion in each division and category as determined by OMHA Leagues.

Policies: means written statements governing issues affecting the affairs of the OMHA which have been considered and approved by the Board from time to time, including any Code of Conduct.

Population Base: means the area from which an Association draws its players.

Predecessor Act: means the *Corporations Act* R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 38, as amended from time to time, that was replaced by the Act on October 19, 2021.

Recorded Address: means, in the case of a Member, the Member's address (email and/or mailing) as recorded in the Members' register; and in the case of joint Members, the address (email and/or mailing) appearing in the Members' register in respect of such joint holding or the first address (email and/or mailing) so appearing if there are more than one; and in the case of a Director, Officer, auditor or member of a committee of the Board, the Member's last known address (email and/or mailing) as recorded in the records of the OMHA.

Region: means a geographic grouping of Associations established solely for the purpose of electing representatives to the Board of the OMHA. The OMHA has six electoral regions, each comprised of a number of Associations as determined by the Board from time to time, as set out in Appendix A to this By-law.

Regional Director: means an individual who is elected to the Board to represent a Region.

Registered Player: means a minor hockey player registered with an Association, who is In Good Standing and eligible to be rostered to that Association.

Regulations: means the OMHA's Regulations and rules of competition and any other rules and guidelines governing participation within the OMHA.

Release: means the unconditional discharge of a player from a team.

Reorganization: means two or more active Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations that wish to incorporate a new Not-for-Profit Corporation that will jointly administer Representative Hockey for two or more active Not-for-Profit Corporations who will continue to offer and administer their own Recreational programming (House League & Local League).

Representative League: means a group of Representative Teams from a number of Associations within a geographic area that compete regularly.

Representative Team: means a team which is eligible to play for an OMHA, OHF and/or HC championship and whose players must be eligible by age and residence.

Residency: Means where the player usually resides. The usual residence shall be defined by Hockey Canada/OHF/OMHA Regulations.

Respect in Sport: means an online program designed to educate the OMHA membership in the prevention of harassment and abuse in minor hockey.

Right of Appeal: means the ability of a participant to request a hearing on a decision made by the OMHA, which may have an effect on their ability to participate.

Sanction: means approval of activities by Hockey Canada and/or its Members.

Sanction Permit: means a permit that authorizes various activities as approved by the OMHA.

Season: The annual hockey season which commences on **June 1st** and ends on **May 31st** of the following year.

Select Hockey: means a Category in which in order to be eligible, a Player must be Registered with a recognized (sanctioned) House/Local League organization and accordingly be an active participant in the corresponding Division in a recognized (sanctioned) schedule of House/Local League programming. Select Players are not required to abide by residential regulations.

Special Meeting: means any Meeting of Members other than an Annual Meeting.

Special Resolution: means a resolution approved by not less than two-thirds (2/3rds) of the votes cast at a Meeting of Members or a Board meeting, as the context requires.

Standing Committees: means those standing committees enumerated in the By-law.

Subcommittee: means a committee comprised of a specific number of Officers and Regional Directors.

Sub-division: means the lower age groups within divisions..

Team: means a group of certified Team Officials, at least one of whom must be a Head Coach and one a Trainer; and a group of rostered players who are qualified in a division and category up to the maximum number provided by regulations.

Team Entry Fees: means an amount paid by an Association for each of their teams to participate in the OMHA.

Team Officials: means all or any of the following persons involved in the management of a team and includes Coach, Trainer, Manager, and any Assistant Coach or Assistant Trainer.

Team Official at Large: means Team Officials registered and approved on an Association's approved "At-Large" Roster when an Association wishes to identify members not otherwise registered and approved on a team's roster within the Association. These members are eligible to register on a Game Report as Coach/Assistant Coach or Trainer/Assistant Trainer for a team within that Association.

Tournament: means a competition of three (3) or more teams organized and hosted by a member Association. All such events must be approved and sanctioned by the OMHA, OHF and Hockey Canada and the competition must follow the rules and regulations as stated by the governing body.

Tournament Chairperson: means the person from the host Association in charge of the tournament.

Trainer: means the individual on a team who is responsible for the safety and risk management of their team.

Travel Permit: means a document, issued electronically via the OMHA Portal for OMHA teams to participate in exhibition games or tournaments.

WOAA: means Western Ontario Athletic Association.

Zone: means an Association created by or with the approval of the OMHA for the purpose of administering and operating AAA hockey programming for a number of Centres within a geographic area.

Zone Governing Committee: means a group of individuals that administer the operations of an AAA Zone.

Subject to the above, words and expressions defined in the Act shall have the same meanings when used in OMHA By-Law One, OMHA Regulations and OMHA Policies and Procedures; words importing the singular number include the plural and vice-versa; words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter genders; and words importing persons include individuals and bodies corporate.