



NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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BULLETIN #1

October 2011

NOHA Office Hours

The NOHA office will be open to the public and available to answer your calls from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. – Monday to Friday.

If you require any service after these hours, please contact your NOHA District Council Director.

NOHA Summit

The NOHA Membership held Chapter One of the NOHA Hockey Summit on August 5-7, 2011 in Sudbury. All those who attended enjoyed the topics and the discussions. All documents that were presented and developed are located on the NOHA Website.

The NOHA is currently working on an Elite Hockey review and an Officiating review.

Head Contact

Please be advised that at the 2011 Hockey Canada Annual General Meeting, a new rule to address contact to the head was approved. The following rule changes will come into effect immediately for the 2011/12 season:

Rule 6.5 – Head Contact

(a) In minor hockey and female hockey, a minor penalty shall be assessed to any player who accidentally contacts an opponent in the head, face or neck with his **stick or any part of the player's body or equipment.**

(b) In minor hockey and female hockey, a double minor penalty or a major and a game misconduct penalty, at the discretion of the referee and based on the degree of violence of impact shall be assessed to any player who intentionally contacts an opponent in the head, face or neck with her stick or any part of the **player's body or equipment.**

(c) In junior hockey and senior hockey, a minor and a misconduct penalty, or a major and a game misconduct penalty, at the discretion of the referee based on the degree of violence of impact, shall be assessed to any player who checks an opponent in the head in any manner.

(d) A major and a game misconduct penalty, or a match penalty shall be assessed any player who injures an opponent under this rule.

(e) A match penalty shall be assessed any player who deliberately attempts to injure or deliberately injures an opponent under this rule.

Note: All contact above the shoulders (neck, face and head) is to be called Head Contact under one of the above (In minor hockey and female hockey).

(Letter attached)

On-Ice Team Officials to Wear Helmets Starting with the 2008-2009 Season

The Ontario Hockey Federation passed the following motion on February 16, 2008:

"All Minor Hockey team officials, volunteers and NCCP Instructors are required to wear CSA approved helmets during all on-ice activities. Trainers or any other team officials who enter the ice surface for the purpose of attending an injured player are exempt from this rule. Any person found to be in violation of this rule will receive a warning for a first offence, a two week suspension for a second offence, and a one year suspension for a third offence." For further information or clarification, please contact your Executive Member.

(see letter attached)

Hockey Canada Booklets

The booklet "Safety Requires Teamwork/Safety For All" that outlines the Hockey Canada insurance program, risk management and harassment and abuse guidelines is now available on the NOHA website under Safety and Risk Management - Insurance. They will not be available in print format.

Team Travel Insurance

Please read the attached memo from the Ontario Hockey Federation regarding travel insurance. It is highly recommended that teams traveling outside of the province obtain additional insurance.

Hockey Canada Volunteer Insurance

There will be no charge for HC Volunteer Insurance. Volunteers are covered for HC Liability Insurance only. These volunteers are not covered to be on the ice or on the bench.

Injured Players on the Bench

The NOHA has received many calls about injured players being on the bench during hockey games.

Please be advised of the following Hockey Canada Playing Rule 9 (c):

“Only players in uniform and a maximum of five team officials shall be permitted to occupy the players’ bench. These individuals shall be registered and entered on the Official game report. A maximum of five team officials may be recorded on the Official Game report.”

Residential Move Form

Please find enclosed the OHF Minor Hockey Player Transfer form for Residential Moves. This is a required registration document that must be completed and **approved before a player’s registration is validated. Please read it carefully.** The OHF Residential Move Form **must be attached to the player’s record in the HCR** for approval. At the request of the President of the NOHA, the signing officers of an Association, Club or single team entry, shall submit to the office of Executive Director of the NOHA, verifiable proof, in writing, of the residency of any player registered in the current season. In the case of disputed residency the ruling of the President shall be final. Any player moving residency within their own association may submit a completed Residential Move form only. **No additional documentation is required (i.e. driver’s license, bill etc.).**

Speak Out Certification

HC/OHF/NOHA regulations require all Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Trainers and Managers to complete the HC Speak Out seminar.

Body Checking in House League Hockey

NOHA Regulations States:

R.11.14. No Rep Team will be allowed to play in a House League Tournament.

R.11.15. All teams or groups within the NOHA under the house league umbrella must play non-body checking.

(See letters attached)

Specialty Clinics

As part of the National Coach Mentorship Program (NCMP), Hockey Canada has developed a series of Specialty Clinics to offer coaches a practical session on teaching various skills, tactics and systems. The Northern Ontario Hockey Association is pleased to offer the following five specialty clinics – Skills and Drills, Small Area Games; Shooting and Scoring; Puck Control; and Skating.

Please contact Jason Marchand at 705-474-8851 or via email at jmarchand@noha.on.ca for further information.

Mouthguard Policy

The NOHA adopted a policy at its' Annual General Meeting in May, 2004, for the mandatory use of intra-oral mouthguard protection by each player participating in a Northern Ontario Hockey Association game or practice. At the AGM in May of 2004, the final policy regarding the use of an intra-oral mouthguard and the specifications for acceptable mouthguards were presented to the membership. The policy and specifications are as follows:

Intra-oral Mouthguard Specifications:

An intra-oral mouthguard will:

- *Be of any colour;*
- *Not be clear or translucent in colour;*
- *Be of one piece (1) construction;*
- ***Be easily sized by the participant or the participant's parents;***
- *Be of an even thickness from the front to the back of the device;*
- *Engage the biting surface of all of the teeth of the upper jaw and the lower jaw;*
- *Maintain alignment of the upper and lower jaw in a neutral position;*
- *Be able to be attached externally to the face mask or shield, or be form-fitted or custom-fitted to the teeth;*
- *In the case of non-contact play, will provide not less than one (1) millimeter of shock absorbent thickness between the teeth of the upper and lower jaw of a player; and,*
- *In the case of contact play, will provide not less than two (2) millimeters of shock absorbent thickness between the teeth of the upper and lower jaw of a player.*

Hockey Tournament Sanction

A tournament sanction permit will be issued only to the Minor Hockey organization which is the recognized governing body in a centre which is affiliated with the NOHA.

The sanction fees, a copy of the tournament rules, and a copy of the invitation **must** accompany your applications into the NOHA office 60 days prior to the tournament.

A copy of the proposed tournament schedule **must** be forwarded to the NOHA office and the Council Director **10 days** prior to the start of the tournament.

All tournaments (house league and rep) are required to submit a tournament reconciliation to the NOHA office **thirty (30) days** after the completion of the tournament. Tournament hosts must also submit all game sheets and tournament permits, a final game schedule and HCR approved Rosters to the NOHA office with their reconciliation.

All tournaments are required to check the HCR approved rosters of the players and staff of each team participating to verify their eligibility.

Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a fine of **\$100.00** and may result in refusal of future tournament sanction permits.

NOHA sanctioned tournaments will be added to the NOHA website once approved by the Council Director. It is suggested the earlier you submit your applications to the NOHA office, the more exposure your tournament will receive.

Tournament Permit Request Form

Attached is a Team Tournament Permit Request form. This form is to be photocopied and used by both rep and house league teams. This form is to be completed in its entirety and submitted with payment to the NOHA office at least two (2) weeks prior to the tournament you are attending. At the NOHA AGM in May of 2007, a motion was passed stating that requests received after this **may** be subject to an additional charge of \$25.00. You DO need a permit to participate in all tournaments, including those in your home association. **WE WILL NOT FAX PERMITS OR ACCEPT FAXED REQUESTS.**

Harassment and Abuse Report Form

All Associations must provide documentation of their Harassment and Abuse implementation efforts to the NOHA office on an annual basis. Please find attached the form which was to have been completed and returned to the NOHA office by May 1st. If you did not already complete this form, please do so and return to the NOHA Office immediately.

NOHA Award Winners

Angus Campbell Merit Award
Ken Neeb Memorial Award
Rick F. Albert Memorial Award

Don McLean, Sudbury
Lynda Flintoff, Valley East
Mike Mulryan - Timmins

HC/NOHA Officials Awards

Most Deserving Official – Don Brown – North Bay
Jim Connors Memorial Award – Justin Sawyer – Kapuskasing
Most Improved Official – Josh Houslander – Sault Ste. Marie
Most Promising Official – Cavan Laferriere – Haileybury

NOHA Officers and Council Directors

A listing of the NOHA Officers and Council Directors for the 2011-2012 season is included with this bulletin. Please contact them with any concerns you have.

Registered Officials/Risk Management

To be on the bench as a registered official of a team, you must be a minimum of 16 years of age and at least two (2) years older than the team you are registered with. Also, once again this season, there will be no registering as a stickboy. All coaches, assistant coaches, trainers and managers must be certified to go behind the bench or on the ice and be registered in the Hockey Canada Registry. **(See certification requirements attached)**

NOHA AGM 2012

The NOHA Annual General Meeting for 2012 will be held in Timmins on May 4-6, 2012. More information will be available shortly.

NOHA Under 17 Update

The 2011 NOHA Under 17 Camp was held from April 15-17, 2011 at the Don Shepherdson Memorial Arena in Temiskaming Shores. A total of 84 players from all across Northern Ontario were in attendance looking to earn a chance to represent their province at the upcoming World Under 17 Challenge in Manitoba.

We are pleased to announce that the following players have advanced to the Team Ontario Under 17 Camp to be held in Thunder Bay from July 6-10, 2011:

Kenneth Appleby – North Bay	Tyler Bertuzzi – Sudbury
Michael Caruso – Sault Ste. Marie	Danny Desrochers – North Bay
Ryan Erickson – Sudbury	Ryan Kujawinski – Iroquois Falls
Michael Laidley – Little Current	Brendan Pheasant – Wikwemikong
Matt Pinder – Sault Ste. Marie	Tyler Sehovic – Sault Ste. Marie
Jacob Smith – Hanmer	Shane Snow – Sudbury

We wish these players well in their quest to make Team Ontario.

Nine officials also attended their own Development Camp during the weekend. They are:

Danny Clermont – North Bay
Andrew McKenney – Sault Ste. Marie
Owen Rigg – Timmins
Justin Sawyer – Kapuskasing
Alexandre Papineau – Cochrane

Jordan Favaro – Sault Ste. Marie
John O’Hara – Sudbury
Nick Rivet – North Bay
James Warmington – Sault Ste. Marie

These officials should be commended for their dedication to improving themselves. We hope that each player and official enjoyed their time in Temiskaming Shores and came away with a positive development experience and new friends.

Please visit the HDCO website at www.hdco.on.ca for further information.

Canadian Flags

Enclosed is an order form for Canadian Flags for your sweaters. Canadian Flags must be worn on all hockey sweaters on the upper right chest or left sleeve.

STOP Patches

As a result of the following motion passed at the NOHA AGM (2003), it is now mandatory for all teams to have a STOP patch on their sweaters.

- A. All teams registered in the Hockey Canada Registry (excepting NOJHL Junior A) within the NOHA shall be required to wear or have embossed on the back of their jerseys a standard STOP patch directly above the numbers and below the sponsor/name bar.
- B. A team’s failure to comply shall be reported to the President.**



Affiliation Declaration Form

Please find attached the NOHA Affiliation Declaration form. This form is to be completed by all Associations/Teams to declare which one of the three affiliations they will be using for the season. It must be forwarded to the NOHA office by **October 15th** duly signed by the two signing officers of the Association (not the team). If a team is declaring the Specially Affiliated Players List (19 At Large Affiliation), this must be noted and the listing of the 19 players must also be submitted to the NOHA office. The final date for submission of the 19 At Large Affiliation List is January 15th. No more players may be added after this date.

Please note – a player may not participate as an affiliated player until the Executive Director of the NOHA has approved the affiliation declaration.

If using the 19 At Large Affiliation, the list must be in the NOHA office and approved prior to a player participating as an affiliated player. Failure to comply may result in loss of affiliation privileges for the season. Please refer to the NOHA Constitution, Regulation 7.

Please note: House League teams are considered major teams and cannot affiliate with minor teams.

Harassment and Abuse

It has been brought to the attention of the NOHA Executive that some members of the NOHA have been verbally abusive to the NOHA Executive and NOHA office staff. **In today's society and with the HC Speak Out program**, this type of behaviour will not be tolerated. The NOHA Executive and office staff are here to help you and by working together and communicating in a civil manner, this will benefit everyone. Thank you for your cooperation.

Late Payments

A motion was put forth at the September 1999 Executive Meeting "that the NOHA start charging an interest rate of 2% per 30 days on late due monies owed to the NOHA after a 30 day period." The NOHA office will be enforcing this motion for the 2011-2012 season. Two percent per month will be charged on overdue accounts.

Video Recorders – Cell Phones

The NOHA has banned the use of video recorders, including cell phones and other electronic devices with video capabilities (still and motion) from the bench area at all NOHA sanctioned events.

E-Bulletin – Rink Report

For those of you that we have an email address for, you have been receiving the NOHA Rink Report (weekly e-bulletins). This has been developed to help keep our membership informed. If you would like to receive this email bulletin, please email cpenny@noha.on.ca.

NOHA Annual Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the 92nd NOHA AGM are available on the NOHA website.

NOHA Website

Please visit the NOHA website at www.noha.on.ca for forms, tournaments, clinics, etc.

NOHA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

The NOHA Playoff Committee is still working on the confirmation of the dates and locations. Once they have been confirmed they will be posted on the website under Tournament of Champions 2011-2012. Please ensure that you complete the Registration form (attached) and submit it to the NOHA Office along with the appropriate fees by December 1st. Please review NOHA Regulations 9.3, 9.4 and 9.5.

R.9.3.

A) Participation in the Tournament of Champions is optional. Teams who want to participate must send their application and applicable fees to the NOHA Office by December 1st. Teams not wishing to participate must send a letter stating such to the NOHA Office by December 1st. If no letters are received at the NOHA Office by December 1st, then the NOHA will assume your team is participating in the Tournament of Champions and will invoice your Association accordingly. After December 1st, the NOHA will not accept any entries.

B) Where Associations have more than one (1) team per Division, they must determine which team attends the Tournament of Champions (one per Division). In any category if the Tournament of Champions requires more teams, Associations may send more than one (1) team per Division as determined by the NOHA Play-off Committee. This must be done by December 1st.

R.9.4. If an Association has been awarded to host a NOHA Tournament of Champions, they must declare, in writing, by October 1st, if they are unable to register a Team.

R.9.5.

A) Any team withdrawing from the Tournament of Champions after December 1st shall forfeit their monies to the NOHA.

B) Any team, in the opinion of the NOHA Board of Directors, which fails to fulfill its obligation in any league play-offs or NOHA Tournament of Champions during any season shall be refused entry in the NOHA for the following season and all players registered with said team shall be declared free agents.

NOHA Tournament of Champions Criteria for Change of Category information is attached. Please ensure that all information is submitted by December 1st.

Please contact your Council Director to set up Coaches, Trainers, Initiation, Checking, and Speak Out clinics in your area.

Attached:

- Memo regarding on-ice personnel wearing helmets
- Memo regarding Checking Clinics
- Body Checking in Tournaments within OHF Policy
- USA/Hockey Canada Protective Equipment Agreement
- NOHA Affiliation Package
- Tournament Permit Request Form
- Request to participate in Exhibition game
- Harassment and Abuse Report Form
- NOHA Officers and Council Directors listing
- Team Staff Certification Requirements
- Position Changes for Team Staff
- Specialty Instructors – Insurance
- NOHA Mouthguard Policy
- OHF Team Travel Insurance Information
- Hockey Canada Injury Report Form
- Canadian Flag Order Form
- OHF Minor Suspension List
- OHF Penalty Codes
- NOHA Regulation 4.44 – Overage players
- OHF Minor Council Changes Head Checking penalties
- NOHA Head Contact Rule – September 8, 2011
- Hockey Canada Head Contact/Concussion Awareness – Pre-Season meetings
- NOHA Standard of Play Letter – 2011-2012
- NOHA Tournament of Champions Criteria for Change of category
- NOHA Tournament of Champions Registration form
- **Inserts –**
- NOHA Constitution OHF Constitution Hockey Canada Playing Rules
- NOHA Calendar Hockey Canada Constitution- Associations only