

STURGEON PEMBINA HOCKEY LEAGUE

CONSTITUTION & Policy Handbook

ARTICLE 1

This organization shall be called the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League.

ARTICLE 2

All rules of the C.H.A. and H.A. will be considered the playing rules of the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League except where modified by the league to suit its own programs. Such modified rules will not be in contradiction to the C.H.A. or H.A. rules and will be shown as by-laws in the Constitution.

ARTICLE 3

The object of the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League is to provide an orderly and competitive organization to which registered minor hockey associations may enter their teams.

BY-LAW 1 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- A) The Annual General Meeting of the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League will be held after the completion of all league and playoff games; on a date set at the beginning of each hockey season.
- B) Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League shall be presented and voted on at the annual general meeting.
- C) Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League shall be passed by a simple majority of the members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting.
- D) Proposals for changes to the League's Constitution must be forwarded to the President at least 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting and by the League to the League's member Associations at least 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- E) A quorum of a minimum of 70% of the SPHL membership must be present for the Annual General Meeting to take place.
- F) Roberts Rule of order (Revised) will be used to maintain order at the meeting.

BY- LAW 2 MEMBERSHIP

- A) League membership may be acquired by presentation in person at any regular league meeting, stating teams to be entered, ability to strengthen the league and expressing compliance to the constitution, by-laws and regulations of the league.
- B) New members will initially be accepted as probationary members by a majority vote of the permanent members.
- C) Probationary members must participate in the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League for a minimum of one year before being considered for permanent membership.
- D) Permanent membership shall be granted only after satisfactory performance as a probationary member and a majority vote of the permanent members at the annual general meeting.
- E) A member may resign or request a leave of absence by stating such at an annual meeting without forfeiting any dues, provided they are in good standing.

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- F) Associations having previously been a member of the league must apply for league membership as a new probationary member.
 - a) Any Association requesting membership after taking a leave of absence to play in any other League must double their set performance bond. The Association will lose their original performance bond if they take leave within 4 years.
 - b) If the community takes leave for lack of players and returns when their numbers increase this will not apply.
- G) All members must submit the completed F.O.I.P. form. The form is to be sent to the secretary prior to the posting of any public information.

BY- LAW 3 SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

- A) Suspension or expulsion may take place in the event of non-compliance with the Constitution, Bylaws, or Regulations of the league.
- B) Members or an individual team of a member may be suspended by a majority vote at any duly called league meeting.
- C) Suspension will be for a period as decided by the majority vote.
- D) Members absent from two (2) consecutive duly called league meetings will be placed on probationary status for the balance of the year and their status will be reviewed at the following Annual General Meeting.
- E) Members absent from three (3) duly called League meetings during the course of the year, (May – April) will be placed on probationary status for the balance of the year and their status will be reviewed at the following Annual General Meeting.
- F) Members may be expelled by a majority vote at the Annual General Meeting.

BY-LAW 4 DUES

- A) Each member will be required to submit fees as established at the Annual General Meeting of the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League

Fees for the Current hockey season are as follows:

Midget A	\$150
Bantam A	\$150
Peewee A	\$150
Atom A	\$150
Midget B	\$150
Bantam B&C	\$150
Peewee B&C	\$150
Female - Midget, Bantam & Peewee	\$150
Female – Atom & Novice	\$150
Atom B&C	\$150
Novice	\$150

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- B) Each member community will be required to post a \$500.00 performance bond. If at any time the bond is forfeited; the community must replace the bond within 7 days before that team's games played in that 7-day period are allowed in the standings. Failure to comply to the payment of the bond within 7 days will result in the suspension of all teams from the community. The League Executives decision will be final in the event of any dispute.
- C) A member may be required to post an additional bond if the Constitution, By- Laws or Regulations are not adhered to.
- D) The Executive will set the amount of any additional bond.
- E) If the bond of any community is pulled due to forfeiting a game, up to 50% of the bond may, at the discretion of the Executive, be awarded to the non-offending community.
- F) Association bonds will be returned, less amount owing to the League, to Associations upon request or upon withdrawal of all teams from the League. No other fees or League assets will be paid to Associations withdrawing from or being dismissed from the League.
- G) The Treasurer will cause an External Audit of the financial accounts to be completed to ensure that proper book keeping practices, as accepted in the Province of Alberta is followed by the SPHL.
 - a) An internal audit shall be completed by the SPHL on an annual basis by a minimum of 2 League members (whose association has permanent member status) who are not signing members. On each 4th year, an external audit shall be completed, or
 - b) The treasurer will propose a suitable auditor, which will be accepted by the majority vote of the SPHL membership or
 - c) The exit of treasurer or
 - d) The direction of the executive.
- H) Signing Authority will be granted to the following officers:
 - a) Treasurer
 - b) President
 - c) Vice-President

BY-LAW 5 SUBSIDIES

- A) The amount of fines and penalties collected in the previous fiscal year will be stated in the Fall at the opening meeting of the following SPHL year.
- B) Member associations may apply for a portion of this initial pool to subsidize related events in their home communities.
- C) The community must fill out the designated application form and apply according to the guidelines below.
- D) The league executive will review the application in due course to ensure it meets the established guidelines.
- E) Appropriate accepted applications will be brought to the following meeting to be voted on. The submission must be explained to the attendees by the relevant association. One vote per association present will be allowed.

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- F) This may continue until the current year's available funding is used up. Any leftover funds will be made available the following year.

BY- LAW 6 OFFICERS DUTIES AND POWERS

- A) The executive officers of the league shall consist of Past President, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President of Operations, and Vice President of Discipline.
NOTE: President and Vice President cannot hold an Executive voting position within their home LMHA during his or her term with SPHL, thereby allowing top League Executive Officers the opportunity to address all matters concerning or affecting the league during their term. All other elected positions are open to any member in the SPHL.
- B) The President and Vice President shall be elected in offsetting years. The Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President of Operations, and Vice President of Discipline shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- C) The league members shall appoint Division Directors as required for the operation of each division. Division directors will be as follows: Midget, Bantam, Pee Wee, Atom, Female, Novice.
- D) The President shall preside at all meetings and will have the power to make the final decision in the case of a deadlock.
- Uphold the rules as set out in the SPHL Constitution and by HA and the CHA.
 - Review all Overage applications and forward as applicable.
 - Keep updated and send a list of approved O/A players to the Vice President of Operations for distribution to the division Directors for monitoring.
 - Keep current all forms and documents on the website.
 - Liaise between SPHL and the Website Owner.
 - Arrange and confirm bookings for all league meetings.
 - Build meeting agendas, review meeting minutes and post both on website.
 - Monitor performance of all teams to try to keep divisions as competitive as possible.
 - Gather all Carry-Over suspensions from VP of Discipline and forward to appropriate HA contacts and Vice President of Operations each season.
 - Review meeting attendance and issue penalties as appropriate.
 - Gather and distribute proposals to the Constitution within set timelines and present at AGM for discussion and voting.
- E) The Past President shall advise and assist the President.
- F) The Vice President shall act on behalf of the President in his absence.
- Aid the president in the monitoring of the league
 - Coordinate the collection and distribution of trophies and arrange for replacements as required.
 - Supervise the distribution of game books to all teams and order replacements as necessary.
 - Responsible for ordering division banners each year and ensuring an adequate stock of medals.

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- Responsible for sourcing and purchasing volunteer appreciation gifts for the Directors and Executive members.
 - Have one vote on issues involving the league
- G) The Secretary shall record the minutes of the meetings. A copy of the minutes will be posted on the SPHL Website within two weeks after each meeting.
- Record and prepare the minutes of all Executive and Committee meetings and forward to the President for posting on SPHL's website.
 - Have one vote on all issues involving the league
 - Conduct all official correspondence of the Association if requested by the President.
 - Provide the minutes of all Executive Committee meetings to all Executive Officers, Association Representatives and Directors at each SPHL meeting.
- H) The Treasurer shall prepare an annual budget, record all revenue and expenditures and present a current financial report at each league meeting.
- Look after the accounting aspects of the SPHL bank accounts using the Simply Accounting program on their home PC.
 - Reconcile the SPHL monthly bank statement with the accounting program as a check on the previous month's activity.
 - All invoices are to be recorded and tracked in the accounting program.
 - Discuss and vote on any pertinent issues that arise during the year.
 - Enter and email billing invoices to the various communities for registration fees, league fees, fines etc.
 - Record and deposit all payments made to the SPHL.
 - At the AGM: present all financial statements for the current season. Submit the budget for the following season, outlining the expected income and expenses.
- I) The Directors are to manage the operations of their respective divisions. The Director of each division will assess and handle all participant suspensions in accordance with C.H.A. and H.A. rules. As well the Director has the power to administer additional suspensions as set by the Director in consultation with the Vice President of Operations and either the President or Vice President. This consultation must be written. A Director may not be a coach, assistant coach, manager or referee in his respective division.
- J) An Officer or Director may be removed from their position following a majority decision of the Executive Officers.
- K) The Vice President of Operations shall oversee all divisions and advise the Directors when needed with their duties throughout the season.
- Assist the President/Vice President in performing his/her duties.
 - Create and assign passwords for all Division Directors.
 - Input all teams onto the website and create individual passwords each year.
 - Ensure there is a Division Director in place for divisions prior to the start of play.
 - Instruct all Division Directors on the rules governing play as set out by HA, CHA and the SPHL.
 - Give guidance as to his/her roll and duties to the SPHL directors.
 - Assist director(s) in dealing with any problems that may arise during the Tiering, regular season and play-off games as applicable.
 - Help with decisions regarding the proper placement of teams following discussions held with director(s) and Executive.
 - Ensure the reporting in all aspects of running the various divisions is consistent throughout the League.

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- Consult with the President and/or Vice-President as situations dictate and as set out in the Constitution
- Have one vote on all issues involving the league

L) **The Vice President of Discipline**

- Be the first contact for the teams regarding discipline.
- Assist the President/Vice President in performing his/her duties.
- Shall have one vote at all elections, when reviewing protest and all other issues involving the league.
- Keep record of all suspensions.
- Summarize at the Annual General Meeting, all suspensions, gross misconducts and match penalties for League information and trending purposes from the previous season.
- To provide reports to the Hockey Alberta Minor Council Chairperson regarding any suspension of clubs, Managers, Coaches, players or officials when required.
- Chair any disciplinary review committees struck from time to time.

BY- LAW 7 APPEAL AND PROTEST PROCEDURES

- A) Notice of intention to protest any league or playoff game must be given to the Division Director within 24 hours of the completion of the game. A written protest along with a letter from the local association supporting the protest must be faxed to the Division Director and a \$150.00 non-refundable protest fee shall be mailed to the Division Director all within 72 hours of the completion of the game. A copy of the protest must also be either faxed or delivered to both the opposing team and the referee within 72 hours of the completion of the game. The opposing team and/or the referee then have a further 72 hours to file a written statement with both the Division Director and the team protesting the game. The protest will be heard by a committee consisting of the League Executive and the Division Director within 20 days of the receipt of the protest. The decision of the committee will be final.

The Committee may:

- a) disallow the protest
- b) allow the protest
- c) rearrange the points for a game or a series
- d) order forfeit of points or a series
- e) order replaying of a game or series
- f) discipline a team, player or team official

- B) Notice of intention to appeal any decision or suspension by the President, Executive, or a Division Director must be given to the President within 24 hours of receipt of notice of the decision or suspension. A written appeal along with a letter from the local association supporting the appeal must be faxed to the President and a \$500.00 non refundable appeal fee shall be mailed to the President all within 72 hours of receipt of notice of decision or suspension. If the appeal involves the decision of a League Director a copy of the appeal must be faxed or delivered to the Director within 72 hours of receipt of notice of decision or suspension. The League Executive will hear the appeal within 20 days of receipt of notice of appeal. The decision of the League Executive will be final.

The Executive may:

- a) Disallow the appeal
- b) Support the appeal
- c) Amend the decision or suspension

- C) The final appeal is to Hockey Alberta. The procedure is outlined in Hockey Alberta's Constitution and Bylaws.

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BY-LAW 8 Voting

- A) Permanent members will have one vote per community on all issues.
- B) Probationary members will have one vote per community except in matters concerning the placement of their teams or other probationary members.
- C) Executive Officers of the league will have one vote on all issues, except the President who shall vote only in the event of a tie vote.
- D) Division Directors will have one vote on all issues, which affect their division.
- E) Notwithstanding 7 A) – D), in matters related to the Tiering of teams for regular league play or for playoffs, decisions will be made by voting of the executive officers and the relevant Division Director(s) only. The executive may seek advice from affected communities, or any other sources, prior to making a decision.

BY-LAW 9 REGISTRATION COMMITMENTS

All associations will conduct registrations in order to commit to placement of teams in the league by September 15 of each year. The league may not include in its schedules any teams in which a commitment is made after this time.

BY-LAW 10 MEETING ATTENDANCE

- A) Associations not having representation at league meetings will be levied a fine of \$250.00 for the first offence and \$500.00 for each offence thereafter, in each playing season. Waiving of fines to extraordinary situations will be at the discretion of the Sturgeon Pembina League Executive.

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Policies and Procedures

1) SCHEDULING

- A) The number of games to be played each season will be determined at the first League Meeting of each season.
- B) All associations must provide to the league ice scheduler, 1-½ ice slots, times the number of scheduled home games per team(s) entered in each division.
- C) The league Ice Scheduler must receive all ice slots for the division(s) currently being scheduled, by the deadlines that are to be set at the beginning of each season.
- D) For each day past the deadline, that the ice scheduler does not receive the required ice slots, a \$100.00 fine will be levied to the offending association.
- E) If the ice slots are not received by the end of the third day past the deadline, all of the offending associations teams' in that division will be omitted from the schedule.
- F) There will be no league games scheduled to be played during the week of Provincial Departmental Exams in January for the Midget division. This week may be changed from year to year depending on the times scheduled for Provincial Departmental exams.

2) SCHEDULED GAMES

- A) If a game is not played on the scheduled day, the Director must be informed as to why and when it will be played prior to the cancellation of the game.
- B)
 - a) A minimum of two “reasonable” ice times must be offered by the home team when re-scheduling League games or scheduling Playoff games.
 - b) Multiple ice times for the same day shall not be given, unless agreed upon by both teams.
 - c) Ice times must also follow all other By-Laws as set out in this Constitution.
- C) A fine of \$1000.00 will be issued to any team that misses a league or playoff game without notifying the opposing team and appropriate Director 5 days **prior** to the game. The Directors decision will be final in the event of any dispute.
- D) Inclement weather will not constitute grounds for forfeiture. The two teams, with help from the Division Director will reschedule games not played due to inclement weather.
- E) Game sheets must be legible and filled out in their entirety including the referee's registration number.
- F) Home teams must fax game sheets to the respective Directors by 6 pm on Monday (or 6 pm Tuesday if it is a long weekend) and must send in original game sheet and be post-marked within the two-day limit. If either deadline is exceeded, a \$25.00 fine will be issued to the offending team.
- G) Re: Suspensions - It is the coach's responsibility to prevent any player from playing who has violated a rule, for which the C.H.A., H.A. or the League required a player to be suspended.
- H) Any player suspended from play in the Division in which he is registered may not play as an affiliated player in a higher Division until the suspension is served.

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- I) Any player suspended from play while playing as an affiliated player in a higher Division must serve that suspension in the Division in which he is registered and may not play either as a registered player or as an affiliated player until the suspension is served.
- J) As a show of sportsmanship the coaches should encourage their players to shake hands after the game, however if the referee feels the situation does not warrant shaking hands, he shall direct the teams to their respective dressing rooms.
- K) Teams not meeting their league commitments may be expelled from league playoffs. Teams must complete their schedule by the last scheduled game date. Directors will make exceptions only for inclement weather on the last weekend. At the Directors discretion, teams not completing their schedules by the last scheduled game date will be fined \$500 for each game not completed.
- L) In cases where teams drop out of the league schedule during the year, a \$500 fine will be assessed to the LMHA that the team resides and the Executive will review each situation on an individual basis and decide on the awarding of points if necessary.
- M) For teams missing scheduled games, that are deemed to be without suitable reasons, and that result in a team experiencing out-of-pocket team costs, all reasonable team costs must be covered by the team responsible for missing the scheduled game(s). Costs include reasonable costs for transportation and if necessary accommodations (if the team is the away team that is being offended). Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League Executive will determine which costs apply and are to be refunded by the team missing the game. The Association responsible for the offence must pay all costs. The league will deal with the Association's representative to make the restitution necessary to resolve the situation. In all instances, even where missing games are deemed to be for sound reasons, the team/association that missed the game must be prepared to travel to or host the rescheduled game if requested to do so by the non-offending team. Upon suitable arrangements being made, costs may be waived.
- N) The Home Team will supply pucks for warm-up. (20 per team)
- O) Ties in Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League shall be decided in the following order:
 - a) By the win/ loss record in League Play.
 - b) By the win/ loss record in league play in games between the teams tied.
 - c) By the goals for/ against record in league play in games between the teams tied.
 - d) By the penalty minutes record in league play between the teams tied.
 - e) By the least penalty minute record during league play.
 - f) By a coin toss if it still tied.
- P) All games are to start at an appropriate time as outlined in the SPHL's Policies and Procedures.

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3) DURATION OF GAMES

A) **Minimum game requirements:**

"A" DIVISIONS

Midget	3 - 20 minute stop time periods
Bantam	3 - 20 minute stop time periods
Pee Wee	3 - 20 minute stop time periods
Atom	3 - 20 minute stop time periods

There will be no overtime in any division during league play.

REMAINING DIVISIONS

Midget:	3 – 20 minute stop time periods.
Bantam:	3 periods: 2 straight 20-minute periods, last period stop time.
Pee Wee:	3 periods: 2 straight 20-minute periods, last period stop time.
Atom:	3 periods: 20-minute straight time, last 3 minutes of 3rd period stop time.
Novice:	3 periods: 20-minute straight time, last 3 minutes of 3rd period stop time.

B) **Minimum requirement for floods as follows:**

- a) Pee Wee and all levels above; there is to be a flood between every period.
- b) ATOM "A" and all levels below; there is to be at least one flood during the game.
- c) There must be a minimum 10-minute break between periods.

C) Teams must be prepared to play up to full three 20-minute stop time period games if time is available from the host team.

D) Penalties:

- a) "The duration of all penalties during stop time periods shall follow Hockey Canada rules."
- b) "For a Minor penalty during run time periods, any player, except a goaltender, shall be ruled off the ice for two minutes of actual playing time. The penalty is to commence at the drop of the puck following the stoppage of play. For a Major penalty during run time periods, any player, except a goaltender, shall be ruled off the ice for five minutes of actual playing time. The penalty is to commence at the drop of the puck following the stoppage of play."

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4) PLAYOFFS

- A) Playoffs start the second weekend in February. ***Any team(s) wishing to withdraw from the current year's SPHL League PLAYOFFS, must notify their LMHA President and Division Director in writing, of their intentions before or at the play-off meeting.***
- B) Overtime in playoffs will be as per the C.H.A. rulebook. In best 2 of 3 series or best 3 of 5 series all games will be played to determine a game winner. If the home team cannot provide the ice time to complete the game, the game will be continued at the opponents arena.
- C) In a 2-game total goal series, there will be no overtime played in the first game. If at the end of regulation play in the second game, the teams' combined score of both games is tied, then overtime will be played as per the C.H.A rulebook.
- D) In a 2-game total goal playoff series where there is a 10 goal or more difference after the first game, the series will be considered complete unless both teams agree to play the second game.
- E) Playoff series will not extend past the specified deadline dates unless agreed to by both teams and Director(s). If required the final decision be left to the League Director.
- F) a) Rules regarding playoff travel and playoff game start times will be as per SPHL's Policies and Procedures.
b) If a team is unable to provide appropriate ice time for each round of the playoffs. The team will give up home ice advantage and the game or games will be played in the opponent's community.
- G) Trophies, banners and medallions:
a) Banners will be presented to division champions only.
b) Trophies to be supplied for play-off champions of all divisions / categories set at the start of league play. Additional trophies will be identified and supplied after the January meeting to teams relegated to sub divisional play-off rounds. For example: if an eight team division is split into two 4 team play-offs due to significant strength differences, the league will award a trophy to the top tier AND to the lower tier play-off winners.
c) Medallions shall be given to all winners and runners up in each play-off division category and or tier.
d) Fines for not returning trophies to be set by league executive.
- H) Play-off formats will always be set so the team with the highest # of points in League play, plays the team with the least # of points in that Division, Tier etc., unless byes have been given at the meeting in which the setup of the playoffs is decided.

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5) Registration of Players and Team Officials

- A) All teams must submit a team roster sheet of players registered with H.A. showing the name, address, birth date and H.A. player card number for each player, or H.A. team sheet to their Director prior to their first league game. Additional players must be added to the team roster sheet prior to playing in any league games. **Failure to forward team rosters to Directors prior to teams' first game will automatically result in a one game suspension to the current Head Coach for the first offence. Additional game suspensions will be added for each game played thereafter.**

NOTE: refer to H.A. by-laws for deadline to register players with H.A.

- B) All teams must submit a list of affiliated players registered with H.A., as affiliated players, showing the H.A. player card number for each affiliated player or appropriate H.A. team sheet, to their Director prior to any affiliated player playing in any league game. **Failure to meet any part of the above mentioned (Policy 5B) will automatically result in a one game suspension to the current Head Coach for the first offence, and additional game suspensions will be added for each game played thereafter.**

NOTE: refer to H.A. by-laws for deadline to register affiliated players with H.A.

C) Team to Team Affiliations

Associations that place two or more teams in the same Division Level with the exception of Goaltenders, for the following Categories, Midget, Bantam, Peewee and Atom in the current playing season and who subsequently have registered both teams with Hockey Alberta as a Team to Team affiliation for Provincial Play Down series with one team as a lower Category (A, B, C, & D) will be considered "Ineligible Players". No affiliated player can participate in Pre-season, Regular Season or Play-off Games in that current year while both teams remain at the same Division Level, regardless as to their current Provincial Category given for that playing season. However, if through the Tiering process a team is moved up or down a Level within their Division, then a Team to Team Affiliation may then be re-instated, but only after all team placements have been finalized for that current playing season. Therefore, it is recommended that if faced with this type of situation, the original affiliation selections should be a named player's selection, from different team(s) of a lower tiered division level.

D) Overage players

- a) Applications are to be made to the League President in writing. They must outline reasons and evaluation of player's ability.
- b) Division Director and Executive have final authority if it is found that the subject player should be moved back to his age level. If the player should be moved back, the local association then takes the responsibility to accommodate the player in their own system.
- c) The local association is deemed responsible and accountable if the subject player or players are in fact capable of playing in the proper age level.
- d) These considerations are for the purpose of keeping late starters and weaker players in the hockey system longer.
- e) Every overage player must be marked on each game sheet.
- f) A maximum of 2 overage players may be allowed per team unless otherwise approved by the League President and H.A.
- g) Deadline for over age player application December 1. No over age player is

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allowed to play until approved.

- h) Hockey Alberta - the Zone Manager of Operations, must approve overage players.
- E)** Novice and Atom and all female team must register a minimum of 10 players. All Pee Wee teams must have a minimum of 12 players and 1 goaltender. All Bantam and Midget teams must register a minimum of 15 players and 1 goaltender.
- F)** Teams using players that are not carded with or affiliated with that team will be suspended in accordance with H.A. regulations.
- G)** All teams shall have at least one registered team official with a coaching certificate.
- H)** Only registered team officials may be on the bench at all times during all Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League games. In the event that a registered coach, assistant coach or manager is not present the game shall be forfeited, unless under extraordinary circumstances.
- I)** All Divisions must have a minimum of 4 Teams, unless there are only 3 teams willing to play in the division for the season.
- J)** All Peewee, Bantam and Midget teams shall have at least one team official that has successfully completed the Checking Skills Program.
- K)** Those LMHA's that have more than one team at any level from ATOM to MIDGET will declare that they have an A team and a B/C team, which will therefore enter into tiering and through the tiering process will be placed based on the outcome of the tiering results for regular season play. At this time, if a team feels that the results do not reflect their ability, they can appeal to the SPHL Executive following the appeal process as outlined in the SPHL Constitution and Policy Handbook before the regular season takes place. Team movement will be only considered under extraordinary circumstances, which does not include loss of games, once the regular season has started. If the LMHA removes the team from the assigned division once regular season play, the LMHA will be fined in accordance to the SPHL Constitution and Policy Handbook. However, if it is found that the team is too strong for their division through regular season play, that tiering did not identify, they may be moved into the next higher division (if there is one) for play-offs. Upon consultation and vote with the appropriate division director and league executive, the team will be granted a reasonable position within the higher division. Example: The team would play-off against the last place team of the higher division.

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6) REFEREES

- A) Game officials are the responsibility of the home team. Home teams that do not provide the minimum number and qualification of referees as stipulated in Policy 6D shall be assessed a \$100.00 fine. The fine for a second offence in the same season shall be \$150.00. A third offence will invoke By-law 4C.
- B) Referees must be carded with the H.A.
- C) All referees must be more than one level above the game being called. (i.e. Midgets can do Pee Wee).
- D) The three-man system **may be** required for all Midget "A", and Bantam "A" league and playoff games. **If a three man system cannot be utilized, then two senior officials must be used.** A two-man system may be used for all Pee Wee and lower "A" division league games; however the three man system **may be** required for all "A" Division playoff games **if they are available. If a three man system cannot be utilized, then two senior officials must be used.** A two-man system may be used for all Bantam "B" and lower "B" Division league and playoff games.
- E) H.A. regulations on referees for playoff games must be followed:
Level 2 and above Referees are required to referee all Atom "A" and above Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League and playoff games and can referee in their own communities.
Level 2 and above Referees are required for all Atom "B" Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League playoff games and can referee in their own communities.

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7) MIDGET "AA"

- A) At the conclusion of each season the Midget "AA" Director shall review the performance of all Midget teams in the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League and make recommendations for the continued development of Midget hockey.
- B) Any new team wishing to play in the "AA" Division shall make application to the Midget "AA" Director by August 1st of that year. Such application shall include:
 - a) Coaches names, outlining past experience and certification.
 - b) Team player list of not less than 17 eligible players.
 - c) Historical record of each players past performance.
 - d) Realistic descriptions of overall team strengths and abilities.
 - e) Ice time available.
 - f) Referees available.
 - g) Commitment to the league, league schedule and promotion of the league.
 - h) Ability to strengthen the league.
- C) The Midget "AA" Director shall present recommendations for participation in next seasons "AA" Division to the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League for league approval at the Sturgeon Pembina Hockey League's April meeting.
- D) The registration fee for Midget "AA" shall be \$500.00 per team. \$300.00 of this amount shall be made available to the host community of the "AA" All Star Game to assist with the purchase of All Star team sweaters. In the case that additional funds are needed to cover the cost of sweaters, the registration fee will be adjusted. Host team shall be responsible to obtain proper sanction from Hockey Alberta.
- E) All referees for Midget "AA" games should be at least Level 3 referees. Capable, experienced Level 2 referees may be used upon the recommendation of the community Referee-in-Chief and notification in advance to the League Director. If the League Director is not satisfied with the work of any referee he may request the member community to no longer assign the referee in question to Midget "AA" games.