

SOCIETY ACT

COWICHAN VALLEY MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

1. The name of the Society is the “Cowichan Valley Minor Hockey Association”, hereinafter referred to as the Association.
2. The purposes of the Society are:
 - a) To foster, improve and encourage amateur hockey, sportsmanship and good citizenship in Cowichan Valley and District in the Province of British Columbia;
 - b) To provide quality amateur hockey programs for children at their appropriate level of play, by encouraging fun, sportsmanship, good citizenship, physical development, and a love of the game that lasts a lifetime;
 - c) To develop, implement, and maintain policies regarding the general care, supervision, and direction of the Members of this Association;
 - d) To implement, maintain, and enforce a uniform set of playing rules, as laid down by, but not limited to, the Hockey Canada, BC Hockey, the Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association, and the Cowichan Valley Minor Hockey Association; and
 - e) To assist with the formation of leagues and to organize league competition.

Adopted April 27, 2023

Amended April 30, 2026

BYLAWS

Cowichan Valley Minor Hockey Association (the "Society")

PART 1 – DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

Definitions

- 1.1 In these Bylaws:
- (a) "Act" means the *Societies Act* of British Columbia as amended from time to time;
 - (b) "Board" means the directors of the Society; and
 - (c) "Bylaws" means these Bylaws as altered from time to time.

Definitions in Act apply

- 1.2 The definitions in the Act apply to these Bylaws.

Conflict with Act or regulations

- 1.3 If there is a conflict between these Bylaws and the Act or the regulations under the Act, the Act or the regulations, as the case may be, prevail.

PART 2 – MEMBERS

Application for membership

- 2.1 A person may apply to the Board for membership in the Society, and the person becomes a member on the Board's acceptance of the application.

Membership of parents and guardians

- 2.2 Every parent and guardian who signs a player's registration form and submits it to the Society is a member (subject to payment of fees under bylaws 2.9 and 2.10) until May 15 of the year following submission of the player's registration form.
- 2.3 For greater certainty (and subject to payment of fees under bylaws 2.9 and 2.10), if a parent or guardian signs more than one player's registration form, the parent or guardian is only entitled to one vote but each parent or guardian may sign a player's registration form if there are multiple players in the same household and each parent or guardian signing a form shall have one vote.

Membership of coaches and managers

- 2.4 Every person registered on a Hockey Canada Roster (or successor document) as a head coach, assistant coach, manager, or safety person is a member until May 15 following their registration.

Membership of on-ice officials

- 2.5 Every person who is an on-ice official of the Society is a member until May 15 following the date they were an on-ice official for the Society.

Membership of director

- 2.6 Only members in good standing and qualified, in accordance with the *Society's Act*, can be elected to Director Positions and must be of the following:
- a) Over the age of 18 years of age;
 - b) Have not been found by any court, in Canada or elsewhere, to be incapable of managing the individual's own affairs;
 - c) Have not an undischarged bankrupt;
 - d) Have not been convicted, in or out of British Columbia, of an offense in connection with the promotion, formation or management of a corporation or unincorporated entity, or of an offence involving fraud; and
 - e) Does not have a child participating in a hockey team or league not sanctioned by Hockey Canada during the course of the Association's season.

Member must be 18

- 2.7 Despite bylaws 2.2, 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6 no person under 18 may be a member.

Life Members

- a) The Board may bestow the honor of Life Member on any person who has rendered distinctive service to the Society for a period of at least ten (10) years.
- b) Nominations for Life Membership must be submitted to the Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, detailing the service for which the honor is bestowed.
- c) Nominations for Life Member status will be decided by the Board and announced at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.
- d) Life Members shall be accorded all rights and privileges of Ordinary Members, may act in an advisory capacity, or shall be entitled to hold office and to one vote per Life Member at all General Meetings of the Society.

Duties of members

- 2.8 Every member must uphold the Constitution of the Society and must comply with these Bylaws.

Amount of membership dues

2.9 The amount of the membership dues, if any, will be determined by the Board and any player registration fees are membership fees of that parent or guardian.

Member not in good standing

2.10 A member is not in good standing if the member is suspended under bylaws Part 1 or fails to pay the member's membership dues, if any, and the member is not in good standing for so long as those dues remain unpaid.

Member not in good standing may not vote

2.11 A voting member who is not in good standing:

- a) may not vote at a general meeting, and
- b) is deemed not to be a voting member for the purpose of consenting to a resolution of the voting members.

Termination of membership if member not in good standing

2.12 A person's membership in the Society is terminated if the person is not in good standing for 6 consecutive months.

Seasonal transfers

2.13 Despite 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5, seasonal transfers are members of their home team association and therefore not members of CVMHA.

PART 3 – GENERAL MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Time and place of general meeting

3.1 A general meeting will be held at the time and place the Board determines.

Notice of general meeting

3.2 Written notice of the date, time and location of a general meeting must be sent to every member of the Society at least 14 days before the meeting and not more than 60 days before the meeting.

3.3 Notice of a general meeting of the Society (if the Society has more than 250 members) is deemed to have been sent under 3.2 if:

- a) notice of the date, time and location of the meeting has been sent to every member of the Society who has provided an email address to the Society, by email to that email address, and
- b) notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting:
 - (i) is published, at least once in each of the 2 weeks immediately before the meeting, in one newspaper with circulation within the District of North Cowichan, or

- (ii) is posted, throughout the period commencing at least 14 days before the meeting and ending when the meeting is held, on a website that is maintained by or on behalf of the Society and is accessible to all the members of the Society.

Ordinary business at general meeting

3.4 At a general meeting, the following business is ordinary business:

- a) adoption of rules of order;
- b) consideration of any financial statements of the Society presented to the meeting;
- c) consideration of the reports, if any, of the directors or independent accountant;
- d) election or appointment of directors;
- e) appointment of an auditor, if any;
- f) business arising out of a report of the directors not requiring the passing of a special resolution.

Notice of special business

3.5 A notice of a general meeting must state the nature of any business, other than ordinary business, to be transacted at the meeting in sufficient detail to permit a member receiving the notice to form a reasoned judgment concerning that business.

Chair of general meeting

3.6 The following individual is entitled to preside as the chair of a general meeting:

- a) the individual, if any, appointed by the Board to preside as the chair; or
- b) if the Board has not appointed an individual to preside as the chair or the individual appointed by the Board is unable to preside as the chair:
 - (i) the president,
 - (ii) the vice-president, if the president is unable to preside as the chair, or
 - (iii) one of the other directors' present at the meeting, if the president and vice-president are unable to preside as the chair.

Alternate chair of general meeting

3.7 If there is no individual entitled under these Bylaws who is able to preside as the chair of a general meeting within 15 minutes from the time set for holding the meeting, the voting members who are present must elect an individual present at the meeting to preside as the chair.

Quorum required

3.8 Business, other than the election of the chair of the meeting and the adjournment or termination of the meeting, must not be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of voting members is present.

Quorum for general meetings

3.9 The quorum for the transaction of business at a general meeting is 20 voting members.

Lack of quorum at commencement of meeting

3.10 If, within 30 minutes from the time set for holding a general meeting, a quorum of voting members is not present, then:

- a) in the case of a meeting convened on the requisition of members, the meeting is terminated;
- b) in any other case, the meeting stands adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place, and if, at the continuation of the adjourned meeting, a quorum is not present within 30 minutes from the time set for holding the continuation of the adjourned meeting, the voting members who are present constitute a quorum for that meeting.

If quorum ceases to be present

3.11 If, at any time during a general meeting, there ceases to be a quorum of voting members present, business then in progress must be suspended until there is a quorum present or until the meeting is adjourned or terminated.

Adjournments by chair

3.12 The chair of a general meeting may, or, if so directed by the voting members at the meeting, must, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business may be transacted at the continuation of the adjourned meeting other than business left unfinished at the adjourned meeting.

Notice of continuation of adjourned general meeting

3.13 It is not necessary to give notice of a continuation of an adjourned general meeting or of the business to be transacted at a continuation of an adjourned general meeting except that, when a general meeting is adjourned for 30 days or more, notice of the continuation of the adjourned meeting must be given.

Order of business at general meeting

3.14 The order of business at a general meeting is as follows:

- a) elect an individual to chair the meeting, if necessary;
- b) determine that there is a quorum;
- c) approve the agenda;
- d) approve the minutes from the last general meeting;
- e) deal with unfinished business from the last general meeting;
- f) if the meeting is an annual general meeting,

- (i) receive the directors' report on the financial statements of the Society for the previous financial year, and the independent accountant report, if any, on those statements;
 - (ii) receive any other reports of directors' activities and decisions since the previous annual general meeting;
 - (iii) appoint directors;
 - (iv) appoint an auditor, if any;
 - (v) deal with new business, including any matters about which notice has been given to the members in the notice of meeting; and
- g) terminate the meeting.

Methods of voting

3.15 At a general meeting, voting must be by a show of hands, an oral vote or another method that adequately discloses the intention of the voting members, except that if, before or after such a vote, five (5) or more voting members request a secret ballot, or a secret ballot is directed by the chair of the meeting, voting must be by a secret ballot.

Announcement of result

3.16 The chair of a general meeting must announce the outcome of each vote and that outcome must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Proxy voting not permitted

3.17 Voting by proxy is not permitted.

Matters decided at general meeting by ordinary resolution

3.18 A matter to be decided at a general meeting must be decided by ordinary resolution unless the matter is required by the Act or these Bylaws to be decided by special resolution or by another resolution having a higher voting threshold than the threshold for an ordinary resolution.

Official Rules of Order

3.19 The current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order" are the official rules of order covering all meetings of the Society's members, except where they are at difference with the Society's Bylaws in which case the Society's Bylaws shall take precedence.

Casting vote

3.20 The President shall be entitled to cast a vote at general meetings.

PART 4 – DIRECTORS

Directors on Board

- 4.1 The President, Vice President, Development Coordinator, Treasurer, Competitive Director, Female Coordinator, U15/U18/U21 Divisional Coordinator, U11/U13 Divisional Coordinator, U6-U9 Divisional Coordinator, Risk Manager, Equipment Manager, and Referee-in-Chief shall be the Directors of the Society and the Board.

Note: The Board will appoint a Director of Hockey Administration to conduct the administrative duties of the Society, report to the Board, and attend Board meetings. This is a paid position and is non-voting. **See 4.4**

Election of directors

- 4.2 At annual general meetings held in even years, the voting members entitled to vote for the election of directors must elect or acclaim the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Competitive Director, U15/U18/U21 Divisional Coordinator, and Equipment Manager. At annual general meetings held in odd years, the voting members entitled to vote for the election of directors must elect or acclaim the Development Coordinator, U11/U13 Divisional Coordinator, U6-U9 Divisional Coordinator, Female Coordinator, Risk Manager and Referee-in-Chief.
- 4.3 Separate elections shall be held for each office to be filled in Bylaw 4.2. An election may be made by acclamation otherwise it shall be by secret ballot.

Appointment of the Director of Hockey Administration

- 4.4 The Board will renew or fill this appointed position in May and the annual contract will be included as a section in the CVMHA Policy Manual. This is an annual employment contract that will go from June 1- May 31 annually. **See 6.9**
- 4.5 The board may hire additional employees to fulfil the administrative duties of the Society as it sees fit.

Directors may fill vacancy on Board

- 4.6 The Board may, at any time, appoint a person as a director to fill a vacancy that arises on the Board as a result of the resignation, removal (in accordance with Sections 4.8 and 4.10), death, or incapacity of a director during the director's term of office or expiry of the term of office. Prior to any such appointment, the Board will provide members no less than fifteen (15) days' notice of the vacancy and the Board's intention to fill the vacancy, and afford members the opportunity to recommend persons to be appointed. The Board will then hold a vote to determine the appointment of one of the recommended persons.

Term of appointment of director filling casual vacancy

4.7 A director appointed by the Board under section 4.6 to fill a vacancy ceases to be a director at the end of the unexpired portion of the term of office of the individual whose departure from office created the vacancy.

Removal of directors

4.8 A director of a society may be removed from office in accordance with the Act.

4.9 At the meeting at which a director is removed by the members, the members may elect or acclaim in accordance with these bylaws a person to fill any vacancy in the office of President, Vice President, Development Coordinator, Treasurer, Competitive Director, Female Coordinator, U15/U18/U21 Divisional Coordinator, U11/U13 Divisional Coordinator, U6-U9 Divisional Coordinator, Equipment Coordinator, Risk Manager, or the Referee-in-Chief created by the removal.

4.10 A director may be removed through the following means:

- a) Special General Meeting of members.
- b) If they cease to be qualified as set out in the *Society's Act* or these bylaws, or they become incapable of performing the business of the Association.
- c) If they become, or are discovered to be, an undischarged bankrupt.
- d) By resolution of the Board, if:
 - i) they are absent from three (3) or more regularly scheduled meetings of the Board in a year without satisfactory reason;
 - ii) they are contravening the Director's Agreement, if one is in place;
 - iii) they have failed to properly account for monies or other property belonging to the Association;
 - iv) they have been found guilty of a criminal offence regardless of whether the offence directly affected the Association; or
 - v) they continuously fail in the performance of their duties.

PART 5 – DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

Calling directors' meeting

5.1 A directors' meeting may be called by the president or by any 3 other directors.

Notice of directors' meeting

5.2 At least 2 days' notice of a directors' meeting must be given unless all the directors agree to a shorter notice period.

Proceedings valid despite omission to give notice

5.3 The accidental omission to give notice of a directors' meeting to a director, or the non-receipt of a notice by a director, does not invalidate proceedings at the meeting provided that a quorum of duly notified directors was present and the omission was not intentional.

Conduct of directors' meetings

5.4 The directors may regulate their meetings and proceedings as they see fit.

Quorum of directors

5.5 The quorum for the transaction of business at a directors' meeting is a majority of the directors.

Resolution without meeting

5.6 The directors of the Society may pass a directors' resolution without a meeting if a majority of the director's consent to the resolution in writing including by fax, email or other electronic means.

Casting Vote

5.7 Each member of the Board, other than the President, shall be entitled to cast one vote at all Director's meetings. In the case of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

PART 6 – BOARD POSITIONS

Role of President

6.1 The president is the chair of the Board and is responsible for supervising the other directors in the execution of their duties.

Role of –Vice President

6.2 The Vice President is the vice-chair of the Board and is responsible for carrying out the duties of the President if the President is unable to act. They are responsible for complaints and investigations and reporting all findings in writing to the President.

Role of Development Coordinator

6.3 The Development Coordinator is responsible for coordinating all player and coaching development activities of the Society and establishing and monitoring of player development and coaching policies of the Society.

Role of Divisional Coordinators

6.4 The Competitive Director, Female Coordinator, U15/U18/U21 Divisional Coordinator, U11/U13 Divisional Coordinator, and U6-U9 Divisional Coordinator are responsible for supervision of the head coaches, assistant coaches, managers, and business of the division they represent.

Role of the Treasurer

6.5 The Treasurer is responsible to ensure the financial duties of the appointed Director of Hockey Administration are complete and for the oversight of the financial management, reporting, and internal controls of the Society. They shall present monthly financial statements to the board.

Role of the Equipment Manager

6.6 The Equipment Manager is responsible for maintaining the equipment of the Society and establishing and monitoring the equipment policies of the Society.

Role of Risk Manager

6.7 The Risk Manager is responsible for doing or making the necessary arrangements for establishing and monitoring the risk management policies of the Society.

Role of Referee-in-Chief

6.8 The Referee-in-Chief is responsible for coordinating the on-ice officials of the Society and establishing and monitoring the on-ice officials' policies of the Society.

Role of the Appointed Director of Hockey Administration and Other Employees

- 6.9 The roles of the appointed Director of Hockey Administration and other employees are as follows:
- a) The Director of Hockey Administration is a paid employee of Cowichan Valley Minor Hockey whose hours and duties are to be determined in an annual contract that is reviewed at the May Board of Directors meeting.
 - b) The Bookkeeper is contracted by CVMHA. The Bookkeeper' duties are to be determined in an annual contract that is reviewed at the May Board of Directors meeting. The Board of Directors will renew or fill this contract in May. This is a contract position that will go from June 1 to May 31 annually.
 - c) Alternate contract positions could arise throughout the season; contracts require approval in accordance with the Signing Authority set out in Section 8.2 prior to the contract being executed.

Note: The President and Vice-President will deal with all employee and contractor related issues throughout the respective contracts.

PART 7 - COMMITTEES

Establish committees

7.1 The directors shall have authority to establish committees of the Society and to appoint members of committees including the chair and vice-chair of any committee or delegate authority for appointing members of committees including the chair and vice-chair.

Authority of committee

7.2 The directors may delegate any, but not all, of their powers to committees.

Role of committee chair

7.3 The chair of a committee is responsible to chair the committee meetings and report to the directors.

Role of committee vice-chair

7.4 The vice-chair of a committee is responsible for carrying out the duties of the chair of the committee if the chair of the committee is unable to act.

Calling committee meeting

7.5 A committee meeting may be called by the committee's chair or by any 3 other committee members.

Notice of committee meeting

7.6 Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, at least 2 days' notice of a committee meeting must be given unless all the committee members agree to a shorter notice period.

Proceedings valid despite omission to give notice

7.7 The accidental omission to give notice of a committee meeting to a committee member, or the non-receipt of a notice by a committee member, does not invalidate proceedings at the meeting provided that a quorum of duly notified directors was present and the omission was not intentional.

Conduct of committee meetings

7.8 A committee may regulate their meetings and proceedings as they see fit.

Quorum of committee

7.9 The quorum for the transaction of business at a committee meeting is a majority of the committee members.

Resolution without meeting

- 7.10 The members of a committee may pass a resolution without a meeting if a majority of the committee members consent to the resolution in writing including by fax, email or other electronic means. Resolutions may pertain only to matters in which the committee has been granted authority by the Board.

PART 8 – REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS AND SIGNING AUTHORITY

Remuneration of directors

- 8.1 These Bylaws do not permit the Society to pay to a director remuneration for being a director, but the Society may, subject to the Act, pay remuneration to a director for services provided by the director to the Society in another capacity.

Signing authority

- 8.2 A contract or other record to be signed by the Society must be signed on behalf of the Society:
- a) by the President, together with one other director,
 - b) if the President is unable to provide a signature, then the Vice President together with one other director,
 - c) if the President and Vice President are both unable to provide signatures, then by any 2 other directors, or
 - d) by one or more individuals authorized by the Board to sign the record on behalf of the Society.

Indemnity of Directors

- 8.3 The Society shall indemnify and save harmless any director and their heirs, executors, administrators and estate from all costs and expenses incurred by the director in the management, or supervision of the management, of the activities and internal affairs of the Society if the director acts in accordance with the Act, Regulations, Constitution, Bylaws, or any regulations, policies, procedures, or decisions made by the Society.

PART 9 – APPEAL COMMITTEE

Appeal Committee

- 9.1 The President shall appoint up to 2 directors and 3 other persons to the Appeal Committee to serve until the next Annual General Meeting. The President may, at any time, appoint a person as a member of the Appeal Committee to fill a vacancy that arises on the Appeal Committee as a result of the resignation, death or incapacity during that person's term on the Appeal Committee of any person appointed by the President provided that not more than 3 persons shall be appointed who are not directors.

- 9.2 The President may appoint the chair or vice-chair of the Appeal Committee from its members. The Committee may appoint a chair or vice-chair if one has not been appointed by the President.

Appeal

- 9.3 Any team, player, team official, referee or member may appeal to the Appeal Committee any suspension of that team or person by the Society.
- 9.4 An appeal to the Appeal Committee from the decision of the Society may only be taken after all levels of appeal provided within the Bylaws and Policies of the Society have been exhausted.
- 9.5 The Appeal Committee can only hear an appeal under one of the following grounds:
- a) The decision of the original hearing was made without authority or jurisdiction;
 - b) Irregularities in procedure of the original hearing that may have caused an unjust decision;
 - c) The decision of the original hearing was reached in an unjust manner;
 - d) New evidence not used in the original hearing can be presented which may have an effect on the decision – provided that there is a reasonable explanation for the failure to present that evidence at the original hearing.
- 9.6 The person or a representative of the team may provide written notice to the Society of the decision to be appealed, the grounds of the appeal and any other information necessary for the appeal with payment of \$100 to the Society.
- 9.7 The Appeal Committee may request any information necessary to adjudicate the appeal including information from the person(s) that made the decision under appeal.

Notice of appeal hearing

- 9.8 The Appeal Committee shall provide to any person appealing a decision at least 7 days' notice of the Appeal Committee meeting at which the appeal will be considered and will include any materials to be considered by the Appeal Committee not provided by the person appealing a decision including, without limiting the foregoing, any reports of referees, linesmen, or other game officials.
- 9.9 Written notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting at which the appeal will be considered must be sent to the member that appealed and every member of the Appeal Committee at least 7 days before the meeting. Notice is deemed to be sent when notice is mailed to the last address of the person appealing and each person on the Appeal Committee provided to the Society or, if a person appealing, each person on the Appeal Committee has provided an email address to the Society, by email to that email address, or if delivered in person to the person appealing or each person on the Appeal Committee.
- 9.10 The accidental omission to give notice of an Appeal Committee meeting to a person appealing, or the non-receipt of a notice by the person appealing, does not invalidate the suspension or the denial of an appeal.

- 9.11 If the person appealing attends the Appeal Committee meeting, the person appealing will be given an opportunity to state their position and answer any questions of the Appeal Committee.

Quorum of Appeal Committee

- 9.12 The quorum for the transaction of business at an Appeal Committee hearing or meeting is 3 members of the Appeal Committee.

Decision

- 9.13 Upon hearing the appeal the Appeal Committee may, by a resolution passed by a simple majority of the votes cast, re-admit any member or participant, and may uphold or modify any decision under appeal.

PART 10 – BORROWING

- 10.1 The Society may borrow money only from chartered banks, or credit unions authorized by the BC Financial Services Authority (BCFSA), and only with the approval by majority vote of the Board. Furthermore, the Society may not grant a mortgage or security interest in its assets without the approval of a Special Resolution..

PART 11 – ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

- 11.1 Unless otherwise provided, the Constitution and these Bylaws must not be altered or added to except by a Special Resolution.

PART 12 - AFFILIATION

- 12.1 This Society shall be affiliated with Hockey Canada (formerly the Canadian Hockey Association), BC Hockey (formerly the British Columbia Amateur Hockey Association) and the Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association and shall operate in a manner consistent with those organizations' constitutions, bylaws, regulations, policies, and rules.

PART 13 – DISSOLUTION

- 13.1 Upon dissolution of the Society and after the payment of all debts and liabilities the remaining property of the Society shall be distributed or disposed of to charitable organizations or organizations the object of which are beneficial to the Cowichan Valley as the Board of the Society may specify. This provision may only be altered by:
- a) a resolution passed at a general meeting by all of the votes cast by the voting members, whether cast in person or by proxy or
 - b) a resolution consented to in writing by all of the voting members.