

East Central Minor Hockey League Constitution

Updated April 2025

Table of Contents

1. Name	Page 2
2. Objectives	Page 2
3. Members	Page 2
4. League Executive	Page 3
5. Organizational Meetings	Page 4
6. Duties and Powers of the League Executive	Page 5
7. Duties and Powers of the President	Page 5
8. Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer	Page 6
9. Duties of the Statistician and/or Webmaster	Page 7
10. Qualifications and Duties of the Commissioner	Page 7
11. Qualifications and Duties of Referee in Chief	Page 7
12. Amendments to the Constitution	Page 8
13. Affiliation with Hockey Saskatchewan	Page 8
14. Postponements	Page 8
15. Schedule	Page 9
16. Referee Systems	Page 9
17. U9 Playing Regulations	Page 10
18. Playoffs	Page 10
19. Suspensions	Page 12
20. Protests	Page 12
21. Score Sheets	Page 12
22. Trophies	Page 12
23. Changes in Coaches or Managers	Page 12
24. Withdrawals	Page 13
25. Overage Players	Page 13
26. Items Not in Constitution	Page 13

1. Name

The organization shall be known as the East Central Minor Hockey League, herein referred to as the ECMHL or 'the league.'

2. Objectives

The objectives of the league shall be to control, improve and foster amateur hockey in the area. The ECMHL will operate within the framework of Hockey Saskatchewan, hereinafter referred to as Hockey Sask. The league encourages all teams to use the P.A. systems in the areas at every game so that players, coaches and fans will have a better understanding of the game of hockey.

3. Members

- A. Applications for entry into the ECMHL will be considered on a per division basis, when a center submits a letter requesting entry 14 days prior to the Spring or Fall Organizational Meeting. If requested they will make a presentation to the entire league membership at the Spring or Fall Organizational Meeting.
- B. Each team must be willing to comply with and abide by the rules and regulations of the league upon acceptance of their application. There shall be a one-year probationary period for each new team.
- C. When a center applies to enter the ECMHL, they must apply per division. Centers that take a one-year leave of absence from a division do not need to re-apply the following year for that division, providing the center is in good standing with the league.
- D. The annual membership fee is \$20 for each team registered. **This fee must be paid to the league Secretary-Treasurer before such teams can participate in any league hockey games.** U7 teams are exempt from this membership fee.
- E. A performance bond must be posted each year by each center. The amount of the bond will be \$500.00 per center and must be kept current at all times.
- F. A quorum will be considered as 50% plus one.

4. League Executive

- A. The league executive shall consist of the President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer. The Past President shall act as a consultant/advisor.
- B. The league executive may appoint other members to the executive as a Commissioner, Referee-in-Chief, Statistician, Webmaster, etc. These positions will be voted on by the league representatives.
- C. **Each center shall appoint one league representative.** If a problem of a serious nature occurs and requests are made by a majority of the affected centers, a general meeting of the executive and all league representatives will be called.
- D. A league representative must be registered with the league executive before such center can participate in league games. League representatives must be submitted to the league Secretary-Treasurer at the 2nd Fall Organizational Meeting. All communications by the league will be through the league representative.
- E. The President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer positions will be a 2-year position and the communities listed must have a minimum of one team in the ECMHL to serve as President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer.

Rotation for President/Secretary will be as follows:

2015 – 2017	Humboldt	Colonsay/Viscount
2017 – 2019	Muenster	Lanigan
2019 – 2020	Drake	Strasbourg
2021 – 2023	Watson	Raymore
2023 – 2025	LeRoy	Watrous
2025 – 2027	Nokomis	Davidson
2027 – 2029	Imperial	Lake Lenore
2029 – 2031	Bruno	Wadena
2031 – 2033	Quill Lake	Wynyard
2033 – 2035	Kelvington	Rose Valley/Archerwilll
2035 – 2037	Foam Lake	Colonsay/Viscount

- F. The upcoming vacancies for league executive will be announced based on the schedule listed above.

5. Organizational Meetings

- A. The Annual Spring Organizational Meeting will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of April.
- B. The first Fall Organizational Meeting shall be held each year on the first Wednesday of October. The second Fall Organizational Meeting shall be held on the third Wednesday of October.
 - a. The place and time of such meeting shall be designated by the President. Each center shall have due notice of all meetings.
- C. The adoption of the new executive will take place at the first Fall Organizational Meeting.
- D. Each center will be allowed one vote per division in which that center hosts a team. If the team consists of players from more than one center, then the centers must share a vote.
- E. Each center must state which teams they are prepared to enter at the first Fall Organizational Meeting.
- F. The type of schedule will be decided at the second Fall Organizational Meeting.
- G. Playoff format to be decided upon by every team in each division by January 5th. Executive reserves the right to set a playoff format in the event a format cannot be agreed upon by teams in the division.
- H. Any center that does not have a representative at each Organizational Meeting will be fined \$250.00 for each violation. Centers with U7 teams only will be exempt from being fined for absence at Organizational Meetings.

6. Duties and Powers of the League Executive

- A. To conduct the business of the league in its entirety between Organizational Meetings and have complete control of the hockey activities within its membership.
- B. To act as sole custodian of all league trophies, be the sole judge as to where such trophies shall be stored and maintained, accept or refuse any new trophies, and purchase any new trophies for hockey competition if deemed advisable.
- C. To procure and make available a copy of the constitution to teams and referees.
- D. To deal with and rule on any protests.
- E. To suspend, expel, or fine any representative of a center, coach, manager or player refusing to accept and obey the rulings of the executive for proven foul play or for unfair and unsportsmanlike conduct, individually or collectively, at any place where hockey is being played or at any meeting under the jurisdiction of the league.

7. Duties and Powers of the President

- A. The president will have the right to represent any or all of the executive committee on any occasion and will be responsible to his executive for the same.
- B. To call meetings whenever deemed necessary.
- C. To chair all meetings.
- D. May have signing authority for league cheques along with the Treasurer.

8. Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer

A. The primary responsibilities would be to:

- a. Record all minutes of meetings.
- b. Attend to all correspondence.
- c. Record all receipts and payments.
- d. Deposit all monies received in a Financial Institution of the league's choice.
- e. Pay all accounts of the league as directed by the executive.
- f. Prepare a statement of receipts and payments for information at each meeting.

B. To send notices to league members of all meetings when directed by the President.

C. To supply a copy of the constitution to the Hockey Sask Secretary.

D. To supply any other information to each league representative.

E. To send affiliation fees and names of the teams to the Secretary of Hockey Sask.

9. Duties of the Statistician and/or Webmaster

A. Statistician:

- a. To maintain statistics and suspensions for each team in each division.
- b. Keep in contact with the league commissioner regarding suspensions.
- c. Have statistics available to the webmaster for posting on ECMHL website.
- d. To ensure a copy of all suspensions are forwarded to the Hockey Sask Secretary.

B. Webmaster:

- a. Maintain ECMHL website.
- b. Post all current game sheets provided by the statistician.
- c. Update the website with the schedule, playoff format, suspensions, and any other information the ECMHL executive approves for the site.

10. Qualifications and Duties of the Commissioner

- A. They shall be interested in and have a good knowledge of hockey.
- B. They shall act in an advisory capacity to the league executive and assist on rulings on matters such as protest, suspensions, etc.

11. Qualifications and Duties of the Referee in Chief

- A. They shall be interested in and have a good knowledge of hockey.
- B. They shall act in an advisory capacity to the league executive.
- C. They shall act as a mentor to on-ice officials if present during games.
- D. They shall review any video footage in regards to player safety or suspensions only.

12. Amendments to the Constitution

- A. This constitution may be amended at the Spring Organizational Meeting or the first Fall Organizational Meeting. A notice of Motion must be forwarded to the league at least 14 days prior to the meeting. The Notice of Motion shall be posted on the website one week prior to the meeting and then presented and discussed at the meeting. Any amendment to the constitution will be made with a simple majority vote.

13. Affiliation with Hockey Sask

- A. All hockey teams in the ECMHL shall be affiliated with Hockey Sask.
- B. It shall be the duty of each league team to forward a sum required to affiliate their teams with Hockey Sask to the Hockey Sask Executive Director, in addition to other dues. Fees must be submitted prior to the first game played. The first game includes tournaments, league and exhibition games.

14. Postponements

- A. A postponed game shall be rescheduled immediately with the home team notifying the league statistician immediately by telephone or email.
- B. Postponements, except for weather, must be arranged at least twelve hours before the game has been scheduled. Postponements of regular scheduled games will not be allowed in order for a team to attend a tournament, unless mutually agreed to and the game has been rescheduled. Should evidence be presented to the league executive showing that a team did in fact cancel and attend a tournament and didn't reschedule the game, the executive will award the scheduled game to the opposing team and assess a fine of \$200.00. If the opposing team was the home team they will be awarded the \$200.00. If not, the fine will be retained by the league.
- C. The penalty for cancelling a game without proper notice will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, with a potential fine to the cancelling team of up to \$200.00. The team who has had the game improperly cancelled shall report it to the league executive immediately.
- D. If two teams cannot agree on a new date for a postponed game due to weather within 48 hours of the postponed game, the executive may be contacted and shall set the new date.

15. Schedule

- A. The number of games shall be decided by the teams of each division at the second Fall Organizational Meeting.
- B. League End Date
 - a. All U9 and U11 regular season games must be completed before the second Friday in March.
 - b. All U13, U15 and U18 regular season end dates will be determined at the first Fall Organizational Meeting.

16. Referee Systems

- A. For all age divisions, at least one referee must be a minimum of two age divisions above the division they are refing. It is recommended to pair new officials with more experienced officials whenever possible to encourage personal development with newer officials.
- B. At least one linesperson must be a minimum of one age division above the age division they are linesing.
- C. During the regular season it is unadvisable to use parent or sibling refs. During playoffs it is prohibited to use parent or sibling refs unless approved by the Referee in Chief at least 24 hours prior to the game.
- D. If a team requests a neutral official for any regular season game, the requesting team will pay for all costs for all officials (fee + mileage). Neutral officials must be requested at least 72 hours prior to the start of the game.
- E. The required number of officials for each age division are:
 - a. U9 shall use one OR two officials.
 - b. U11 shall use two referees and one linesperson OR two referees and two linespersons.
 - c. U13 & U15 shall use two referees and one linesperson OR two referees and two linespersons.
 - d. U18 shall use two referees and two linespersons. One referee must be of a senior age division.

17. U9 Playing Regulations

- A. All games will be played in the half-ice format.
- B. Shifts shall be three (3) minutes in length, and the buzzer will sound at the end of each shift.
- C. The clock shall run in straight time for the duration of the game.
- D. After goals have been scored, the attacking team will back off to half ice and allow the defending team to take possession of the puck.
- E. Game length shall be a minimum playing time of 48 minutes to a maximum of 60 minutes, coaches are to discuss the game length before the start of the game.
- F. Mini nets are recommended, but regular ones are accepted.

18. Playoffs

- A. U9 & U11 playoffs will be conducted in a tournament format over two weekends on the second and third weekends in March.
- B. U13, U15 & U18 playoff format shall be decided by a vote within each division at the second Fall Organizational Meeting. The format can be amended by majority vote of all teams in the division that is affected by the change prior to January 5th.
- C. U9 & U11 carded tournaments will be scheduled for the following dates:
 - a. Second weekend of December
 - b. Third weekend of January
 - c. Third weekend of February
 - d. Fourth weekend of March

No games for U9 or U11 may be scheduled for these dates.

- D. (1) Seven days will be allowed for a two game total goal series.

(2) Ten days will be allowed for a two out of three series.

(3) The league executive may grant an extension if circumstances warrant, but in no cases except the final series will that extension be more than three days.
- E. In case of a tie in team standings at the end of regular season, the standings will be determined according to Hockey Sask rules.
- F. The team finishing in the higher position shall have the choice of home ice advantage.
- G. Dates and games shall be set before a playoff series begins and the league executive shall be notified immediately.
- H. If a team requests a neutral official in any round, the requesting team will pay for all costs for all officials (fee + mileage). Neutral officials must be requested at least 72 hours prior to the start of the playoff series.

19. Suspensions

- A. All suspensions follow Hockey Sask guidelines in the Hockey Sask Governance Policies.

20. Protests

- A. Any team wishing to protest a game must contact their division rep within 24 hours upon completion of the game. The division rep will consult the league executive as necessary.

21. Score Sheets

- A. Score sheets must be emailed to the statistician within twenty-four hours following the game. If suspensions were awarded, score sheets must also be mailed and postmarked within 3 days or the winning team may forfeit the game. If no suspensions were awarded then the hard copy of the score sheet does not need to be mailed.
- B. The winning team shall send in the score sheet. If the game is tied, the home team shall send in the score sheet.
- C. Playoff results shall be emailed to the league statistician within twenty-four hours of the game by the winning team.

22. Trophies

- A. Trophies must be returned to the secretary-treasurer at the first Fall Organizational Meeting or the second Fall Organizational Meeting.
- B. Trophies shall remain the property of ECMHL. Any cost for lost or damaged trophies will be accrued by the center last responsible.
- C. The winning team will be responsible for the costs of engraving the trophy.

23. Changes in Coaches or Managers

- A. The secretary must be notified immediately of any change in coaches or managers.

24. Withdrawals

- A. If a team withdraws during the season without playing each team at least once, then all points gained with the withdrawn team shall be deducted.
- B. If a team withdraws after playing each team once, only those points gained in the first game played with the withdrawn team shall count.
- C. Any team that withdraws after the second Fall Organizational Meeting will be fined.

25. Overage Players

- A. Overage players are defined as FEMALE players who are no more than one year above the age limit for the division they wish to play in.
- B. Any female player that meets the above criteria are granted automatic approval by the league and do not need to apply for a concession to play down a year.
- C. All Overage players must be clearly identified on game sheets by marking "OA" beside the players' name.
- D. All overage players may only play in the division that they have received a concession for. If they play a game with their regular age division the player will automatically forfeit their concession privileges and must play the remainder of the season with their appropriate age division.

26. Items Not in the Constitution

- A. Hockey Sask rules shall apply for items not covered in this constitution.