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**U7 (Cross-Ice) Guidelines**

**Intent**

MLMHA follows all regulations for U7 hockey as set forth by Hockey Canada and Hockey Saskatchewan. As such, it is the responsibility of team Officials (Coaches, Managers, etc.) to familiarize themselves with the playing guidelines and to ensure that they are being followed at all times throughout the season.

Hockey Canada has a national policy in place ensuring that U7 hockey is played in smaller, modified spaces and in the 2017/18 season, made it mandatory that all games played by U7 category age participants are played in the cross-ice/half-ice format. However, **under Hockey Saskatchewan regulations, all U7 games and practices must be played in the cross-ice format for the duration of the season.**

**Under-7 Regulations (Hockey Saskatchewan)**

**6.04.13 U7**

1. All Minor Hockey Associations must constitutionally adopt and implement the U7 curriculum for hockey in the age classification of 6 years and under.
2. All U7 games and practices must be in the cross-ice format.
3. There will be no U7 games sanctioned by Hockey Saskatchewan until December 1st annually.

NOTE: All U7 “play” until December 1st is practices.

1. The maximum number of games a U7 team can play is thirty-five (35) per season. (See 6.04.15 Note)

NOTE: Any coach, team and/or association found to be non-compliant with the U7 Cross-Ice format at any time during the season; or the U9 Half-Ice format; or the seasonal maximum game limits for U7, U9 and U11, will be subject to sanctions from both the Minor Hockey Association and/or Hockey Saskatchewan.

Sanctions may include but are not limited to:

* Head Coach suspension
* Minor Hockey Association (and members) not being able to enter Hockey Saskatchewan Provincial Playoffs.
* Minor Hockey Association (and members) not being able to host any Hockey Saskatchewan sanctioned event.
* Minor Hockey Association (and members) not being able to attend any Hockey Saskatchewan sanctioned event.
* Minor Hockey Association’s Hockey Saskatchewan membership reviewed.

**Non-Compliance (Association level)**

Non-compliance with the regulations as set out by any of our governing bodies, including any league that MLMHA may choose to participate in will not be tolerated.

**If a team is found to be in violation of the U7 cross-ice format, the seasonal maximum game limit, or any other regulations as set out by our governing bodies at any time throughout the season, the following minimum sanctions may be applied, but are not limited to:**

* **A minimum one (1) game suspension of the Head Coach.**
* **The team losing the right to have any Home games sanctioned by MLMHA for the remainder of the season.**
* **The team having their ice time suspended for a length of time to be determined by the Board.**
* **Any other sanction that may be deemed appropriate at the discretion of the Board.**

**Repeated violations may result in a team Official being removed from the team roster, suspended from participating in any MLMHA sanctioned event in any capacity, or complete expulsion from MLMHA.**

For more information on U7 hockey guidelines and regulations visit the Hockey Canada and Hockey Saskatchewan websites:

* <https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/hockey-programs/coaching/under-7>
* <https://hockeysask.ca/where-fun-wins/under-7>

**If you have any questions, please contact the U7 Division Commissioner.**