



MEMBERSHIP POLICY

“Organization” refers to: West Ottawa Ringette Association

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this Policy is to govern the admission and governance of Membership within the Organization and the responsibilities of accepted Members to stay in good standing.

2. CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Categories – The Organization has the following categories of Member:
 - a) Player Member – Membership in the Organization shall be composed of individuals who, having paid the prescribed registration fee as a player, has agreed to abide by and comply with the policy and procedures, regulations and playing rules of the Organization. Player members must reside within Organization boundaries (Open players are not bound to this limitation). Player Members living outside the Organization boundaries must have the annual approval of the Board of Directors for Player Member status.
 - b) Voting Member – Any individual, who is a participant (18 years of age or older at time of vote), Director, on parent or legal guardian per Player Member under the age of 18, coach or other registered bench staff, official, referee, or administrator, who is registered with the Organization, and who has agreed to abide by the Organization’s By-Laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.

3. AUTHORITY OF MEMBERS

- 3.1 The Members of the Organization will have the following powers:
 - a) To appoint the Auditor
 - b) To amend the Bylaws
 - c) To elect Directors; and
 - d) As provided in the Act and in these Bylaws

4. ADMISSION AND RENEWAL OF MEMBERS

- 4.1 Any candidate will be admitted as a Member or renewed as a Member if:
 - a) The candidate member makes an application for membership in a manner prescribed by the Organization;
 - b) The candidate member was at any time previously a Member, the candidate member was a Member in good standing at the time of ceasing to be a Member;

- c) The candidate member has paid dues as prescribed by the Board;
- d) The candidate member is not an employee or contractor receiving \$500 or more in compensation from the Organization;
- e) The candidate member agrees to uphold and comply with the Organization's governing documents;
- f) The candidate member meets any other condition of membership determined by the Board;
- g) The candidate member has met the applicable definition listed in Section 2.1; and
- h) The candidate member has been approved by Ordinary Resolution by the Board or by any committee or individual delegated this authority by the Board.

5. MEMBERSHIP DUES AND DURATION

5.1 Year – Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the membership year of the Organization will be September to May.

5.2 Dues – Membership dues will be determined annually by the Board.

5.3 Duration – Membership duration is accorded on an annual basis and Members will re-apply for membership annually.

5.4 Deadline – The Board via designate shall notify member(s) in writing of the membership dues or fees at any time payable by them, and if the membership dues are not paid within thirty (30) days of the membership renewal date or notice of default (or unless a payment plan has been approved by the Board), the Member in default will automatically cease to be a Member of the Organization, but any such members may on payment of all unpaid dues or fees be reinstated by a majority vote of the Board.

6. TRANSFER, SUSPENSION, AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

6.1 Transfer – Membership in the Organization is non-transferable.

6.2 Suspension – A Member may be suspended, pending the outcome of a discipline hearing in accordance with the Organization's policies related to discipline, or by Special Resolution of the Board at a meeting of the Board provided the Member has been given notice of and the opportunity to be heard at such meeting.

6.3 Termination – Membership in the Organization will terminate immediately upon:

- a) The expiration of the Member's annual membership, unless renewed in accordance with these By-laws;
- b) The Member fails to maintain any of the qualifications or conditions of membership described in Section 2.1 of these By-laws;
- c) Resignation by the Member by giving written notice to the Organization;

- d) Dissolution of the Organization;
- e) A decision made by a panel in accordance with the Organization's applicable discipline policies;
- f) The Member's death; or
- g) By Ordinary Resolution of the Board or of the Members at a duly called meeting, provided fifteen (15) days' notice is given and the Member is provided with reasons and the opportunity to be heard. Notice will set out the reasons for termination of membership and the Member receiving the notice will be entitled to submit a written submission opposing the termination.

6.4 May Not Resign – A Member may not resign from the Organization when the Member is subject to disciplinary investigation or action by the Organization.

6.5 Arrears – a Member will be expelled from the Organization for failing to pay membership dues or monies owed to the Organization by the deadline dates prescribed by the Organization.

6.6 Discipline – In addition to expulsion for failure to pay membership dues, a Member may be disciplined in accordance with the Organization's policies and procedures relating to the discipline of Members.

6.7 Dues Payable – Any dues, subscriptions, or other monies owed to the Organization by suspended or expelled Members will remain due.

7. GOOD STANDING

7.1 Definition – A Member will be in good standing provided that the Member:

- a) Has not ceased to be a Member;
- b) Has not been suspended or expelled from membership, or had other membership restrictions or sanctions imposed;
- c) Has completed and remitted all documents as required by the Organization;
- d) Has complied with the By-laws, policies, and rules of the Organization;
- e) Is not subject to a disciplinary investigation or action by the Organization, or if subject to disciplinary action previously, has fulfilled all terms and conditions of such disciplinary action to the satisfaction of the Board; and
- f) Has paid all required membership dues.

7.2 Cease to be in Good Standing – Members that cease to be in good standing, as determined by the Board or a Disciplinary Panel, will not be entitled to vote at meetings of the Members or be entitled to the benefits and privileges of membership until such time as the Board is satisfied that the Member has met the definition of good standing.