

YELLOWKNIFE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL AWARDS

RULES AND CRITERIA

Approved: 30 May, 2009

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

At the end of each season, a number of awards are presented to players who have participated in Association programs. These awards are usually presented at a year-end awards ceremony. This statement is intended to:

- Describe the general rules relating to awards;
- Identify the awards which are available for presentation;
- Describe the criteria or factors which will be considered when identifying worthy recipients;
- Describe the process for determining award recipients; and
- Identify the roles of various volunteers in selecting award recipients.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

“League” refers to the League Program.

3.0 GENERAL

The following considerations shall apply to the selection of award recipients;

- The Association may present awards at the following levels: team, division, league and Association.
- A player is eligible for a Division award only if he or she is playing in his or her appropriate division or playing-up. Overage players may be eligible only for a team award.
- All team winners will be recognized at the award ceremony and the Division winner will be selected from the team winners.
- All team winners will be suitably acknowledged and the Division winner will be presented with an award which recognizes his or her achievement.
- Players in the Initiation and Novice divisions are eligible for only one award per season.
- Players in the Atom Division and above are eligible to receive more than one award. However, the awards should be broadly distributed among team and division players where possible.
- Nominations for Association awards may be presented to any governor or member of the Executive Committee who will forward them to the Awards Committee. Nominations should be in writing and support the criteria of the award.

- Year-end awards shall be presented in two separate events:
 - Initiation and Novice; and
 - Atom, Pee wee, Bantam and Midget

4.0 AWARDS AND CRITERIA

Association awards recognize demonstrated merit into the following general categories:

- A specific team and Division;
- On an Association-wide basis; or
- Special awards in memory of special persons.

4.1 Team Awards

The Team Esso Awards (medallions) are available to each team in each division for the following categories:

- Most Dedicated Player
- Most Improved Player
- Most Sportsmanlike Player

Both male and female players on a team are eligible for Esso awards. These awards should be presented at a team function rather than at the Annual Awards Event.

Award	Each Team	All Divisions
Most Sportsmanlike Player	x	
Most Improved Player	x	
Most Valuable Player	x	

4.2 Division Awards

Division awards available to Atom, Pee wee, Bantam and Midget players are as follows:

Award	Team Nominee	Division Award
Forward of the Year	x	x
Defenseman of the Year	x	x
Most Valuable Player	x	x
Goalie of the Year	x	x

Awards available to female players, in Junior and Senior categories, are as follows:

Award	Junior Award	Senior Award
Forward of the Year	x	x
Defenseman of the Year	x	x
Most Valuable Player	x	x
Goalie of the Year	x	x

The Junior category includes players from the Atom and Pee wee divisions and the Senior category includes players from the Bantam and Midget divisions. Due to the limited number of female players, awards may

be presented without identifying a nominee from each team. As these awards span two divisions, the awards should reflect the consensus decision of the coaches and governors from both divisions.

4.3 Association Awards

The potential recipients of the following awards are considered on an Association-wide basis:

The **Wade Hamer Scholarship Award** is awarded to the Association male player who best exemplifies Wade's qualities of excellence, sportsmanship, congeniality and potential. The nominee from each division receives a small trophy. The graduating Midget player gets a small trophy, their name engraved on the Association trophy and a scholarship worth five hundred dollars.

The **Ruby Young Award** is presented to the Most Valuable Male Player in the Association. This award traditionally goes to a midget-aged player who exemplifies a competitive nature, a sportsmanlike approach to the game and is respected by his peers. In addition to outstanding hockey skills, the individual promotes the sport of hockey in Yellowknife, through his school, community and other avenues. This award is generally presented to a graduating player from the midget division.

The **Elaine Whitford Memorial Award** is presented to the Most Valuable Female Player in the Association. In addition to outstanding hockey skills, the individual promotes the sport of hockey in Yellowknife, through her school, community and other avenues. This award is generally presented to a graduating player from the most senior division.

The **Shawn Cadieux Memorial Award** is presented to the player who has demonstrated determination and perseverance under challenging circumstances. Players in all divisions are eligible for this award. Nominations, including a brief description of the circumstances, should be submitted to the appropriate governor by the player's coach.

The **Coach of the Year Award** is presented to a League team or Development team coach who has demonstrated a strong commitment to:

- The Association vision, mission, values and operating principles;
- Sportsmanship and fair play;
- A positive experience for all players;
- Teaching life skills in addition to the technical and tactical skills of hockey.

All criteria are of equal value. Nominations may originate from coaches, governors, players, parents or other Association members. The nomination should include a written statement which provides a rationale for the nomination. Final selection will be made by the Awards Committee.

The **Prince of Wales Award** is presented to the Association Volunteer of the Year. It recognizes the person who has given most freely of their time to advance the objectives of the organization and to promote minor hockey in Yellowknife. A nomination may be submitted to the Awards Committee by any Association member. The nomination must include a written rationale for the nomination.

The **Joe Walsh Award** is presented to the individual who has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to the development of hockey in Yellowknife and who, like Joe Walsh did it "for the love of the game."

An **Official-of-Year Award** is presented to:

- One adult on-ice official; and
- One junior on-ice official

who, through their dedication and efforts as an official, have made a significant contribution to the overall success of Association programs. These awards shall be presented in consultation with the President, Referees' Association.

4.4 Special Awards

The **Peter Langlois Memorial Award** is presented to the Atom player who is chosen as the Most Sportsmanlike player in the **Atom Division**.

The **Jim Hall Memorial Award** is presented to the Pee wee player who is chosen as the Most Sportsmanlike player in the **Pee wee Division**.

The **Clinton Talbot Memorial Award** is presented to the Bantam player who is considered by his or her peers to be "the players' player." This award is determined through a vote of the Bantam players.

4.5 Selection Criteria

The following criteria will be considered when considering nominees for awards.

Award	Criteria	Max. Pts
Forward of the Year	Individual skills: skating, shooting, passing, puck handling	10
	Team Concepts: fore checking, back checking , positional play	10
	Life Skills: Sportsmanship, leadership, team work, respect	10
Defenseman of the Year	Individual skills: skating, shooting, passing, puck handling	10
	Team Concepts: fore checking, back checking , positional play	10
	Life Skills: Sportsmanship, leadership, team work, respect	10
Most Valuable Player	Individual skills: skating, shooting, passing, puck handling	10
	Team Concepts: fore checking, back checking , positional play	10
	Life Skills: Sportsmanship, leadership, team work, respect	10
Goalie of the Year	Individual skills: angles, skating, shot blocking. Rebound control, puck handling	10
	Team Concepts: puck handling, positional play	10
	Life Skills: Sportsmanship, leadership, team work, respect	10

5.0 SELECTING AWARD RECIPIENTS

The process for selecting award recipients shall be as follows:

- The coaching staff of each team shall be responsible for selecting the team nominees and providing those names to the relevant governor by the indicated deadline. If the coaching staff of a team does not wish to nominate players from their team, the other divisional coaches and/or the governor may do so.
- Each governor shall meet with the head coaches in his/her division and determine the division winners. Each head coach and the governor shall have one vote each when making their decision. A head coach may not vote for the player from his/her team.
- Each governor shall submit his or her list of award recipients to the Chair, Special Events Committee by the indicated deadline.

- Nominations for Association awards shall be submitted to a governor who shall present the nomination and rationale to the Awards Committee for consideration. Nominations must be in writing and address the criteria for the award.

6.0 AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Awards Committee shall consist of:

- Chair, Special Events Committee;
- Assistant Chair, Special Events Committee; and
- The governor of each division.

7.0 RETENTION OF AWARDS

- All award winners shall be presented with a small award which may be retained by the player.
- Recipients of Division and Association awards shall have their name engraved on the award and shall have the opportunity to have their picture taken while holding the trophy.
- All Division and Association awards shall remain in the possession of the Association.
- All Division and Association trophies shall be put on permanent display in the Yellowknife arenas as space and facilities permit.