



# NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

110 LAKESHORE DRIVE  
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**MINUTES OF THE  
NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
97<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
63<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL MINOR MEETING  
MAY 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

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**1) APPROVAL OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Moved/Hugh Riddle – Garson  
Seconded/Del Weber – Sault Major**

“That the minutes of the 96<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Minor Meeting be approved as presented.”

**CARRIED**

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**2) PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS**

John Jamieson read the President’s Report which is in the Annual Meeting Package.

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**3) RECEIVING AND READING THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS**

Dick Farrow announced that there were 118 Representative Associations and 46 House league Associations present, for a total of 164.

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**4) READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence to be read.

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**5) REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**

All reports are in the Annual Meeting Package.

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### 6) READING OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Derek D'Angelo of KPMG presented the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements as outlined in the Annual Meeting Package.

Jacques Vincent – Rayside Balfour – Why have the Professional Fees increased to \$15,000?

Derek D'Angelo – I wish I could say that was all KPMG, but it's not. If there is a question I can't answer, I will get back to you on that post-meeting. The majority of that increase is due to the legal issues in 2014-2015. I know there were issues with that that crossed over into 2015. The issue started in 2013-2014 and a lot of the bills came through in 2015.

Jacques Vincent – Rayside Balfour – Why is it that much more for legal?

Derek D'Angelo – That's an operational question, so I'd ask somebody in management to answer that question.

Jason Marchand – Jacques, I'm not too sure exactly what it is, but I'll try to get an answer for you.

Albert Corradini – Sudbury – A few years back there was an increase in player fees. Where are we now in regard to this?

Derek D'Angelo – I'll give you what I can answer on that question. Several years ago the organization was running deficits, and then when the change occurred in the player fees it started running a surplus again. As we can see last year was an anomaly with the surplus, this year is starting to become more of what was five, six, seven years ago. I do not know what 2016 would look like, I think someone in management would have to answer what 2016 is being projected at because we haven't seen those numbers yet, but obviously without the change you wouldn't see the balance sheet looking healthy like it is.

Albert Corradini – Sudbury – What did the numbers look like in 2012-2013?

Derek D'Angelo – I'm not sure off the top of my head, just that the numbers weren't positive.

Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – Regarding the operational question about professional fees increased from \$12,000 to \$28,000, I have a hard time believing that that expense was authorized and nobody here can answer the question of what that was authorized for, so could we please get an answer on that? Thank you.

Jason Marchand – Again, as I mentioned, I will speak with Derek after my part of the presentation and we will provide an answer to you. I have an idea, but I just want to make sure. What I'm going to go through is kind of what Albert had asked about, so we are wrapping up our third season with the increase in the participant fee. Those of you who have been at our AGM the last couple years have seen the surplus decrease significantly. When we first went through the process there were a lot of unknowns as I'd mentioned before, so we basically ran status quo. Last season we did make some changes, we added to the Officiating program budget, specifically with respect to our supervision program, we hosted more grassroots festivals, and then we also automatically refund the Associations now for unused cards, where in the past you would have to



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make that request. Also, as we've changed our clinic process we've worked as best as we can to keep the cost down to a reasonable amount, where we currently have one of the lowest clinic costs in the province, if not the lowest. This year we were fortunate to receive a grant from the government of Ontario to assist with the delivery of the Hockey Canada Initiation Program. Because this initiative directly impacted the majority of the Associations, the Board did support an investment into this initiative of approximately \$15,000. Our Board also supported the idea of a travelling roadshow, where we met with roughly two-thirds of our Minor Hockey Associations, and we'll continue that next year.

Jason Marchand – As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, the NOHA had revenues of approximately 2.2 million dollars, and as I mentioned last year that includes our investments going in and out, so that number is high, but it includes roughly 700,000 dollars in transactions going in and out. As of March 31<sup>st</sup> we have expenditures of approximately two million. Since the report has been printed we have been receiving outstanding invoices and received monies from the HDGO for monies we receive every year that we hadn't received as of March 31<sup>st</sup>. However we don't expect any further significant funds coming in, just small invoices, and we still have two months left of running the NOHA before the year-end. By June 30<sup>th</sup>, our year-end, we do expect to remain in the positive; however, for the reason I mentioned earlier, we expect to be close to a break-even point. In your reports there's a financial report for Team NOHA, as well as the NOHA Assistance Fund. From the Team NOHA report, it shows revenues over expenses of approximately \$9,000, and the reason for that is, again, timing, we had our team take part in the OHL Cup which was mid-March and we're still paying expenses as of March 31<sup>st</sup>. Also, because of the structure of the OHL Cup, the possibility of playing into the weekend, we did have to collect using the best-case scenario, which we have since refunded, so in the end, the purpose of that program is to remain cost-neutral as best we can. And as well the Assistance Fund, we remain pending at this time, we do have \$16,000 but we're going through the process of getting approval to use that money. The last thing I want to touch on is the budget. As I mentioned we're getting closer to a break-even perspective. At this point we do forecast a surplus of approximately \$8,000, but again, that's based on what we're currently doing, and the Board is continuing to try to make things better and utilize funds that would benefit all Minor Hockey Associations like we did for the Initiation Program grant. And one thing we are obviously very reliant upon is the registration numbers; while many organizations across the country have seen a pretty significant decrease in numbers, we've dropped by nine participants' total, which is great, we're actually up players and down Team Staff and Officials. Hopefully those numbers will get better.

Robert Roy - Hearst Élans – We would like an answer about the lawyer fees.

Jason Marchand – Yes, and as I said I will speak with Derek and we will provide you with an answer.



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## 7) MOTIONS

### 1. -SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE

#### Pages 21-36 – NOHA By-laws

#### Presently Reads:

See pages 21-36 of the NOHA Constitution.

#### Change to Read:

See the enclosed submission.

#### Rationale:

At the 2015 NOHA Annual General Meeting, the NOHA Board of Directors asked for support from the membership to conduct a review of the NOHA Constitution so to comply with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, while also simplifying and creating a better understanding of the Constitution (letter enclosed).

Over the last 7 months, countless hours have been put in to conduct this revision. The proposed changes are just one step of what will be a process that we expect to take one or two additional seasons.

It is important to note that during this transition period, the current By-laws (pp 21-36), if they are not addressed in the proposed revisions, will remain in effect.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – This was spurred on my last year's Annual Meeting, where the Board was asked to do this review to bring us more in line with where we have to be in line with the Corporations Act. We've always been very fortunate in the NOHA, I've been here almost forty years and we've always had legal help in the NOHA that has come pro bono to us, and we really do appreciate that because lawyers are very expensive and we'd just as soon that money was spent on the game and on the ice, so the NOHA asked for and received the commitment from John D'Agostino from North Bay. John is here today to help us through this, he has a real flavor for hockey in the north. This is where they are at this point, it's not finished, there's more



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work to be done, but this is a starting point for us to get to where we need to be. It's a Constitutional change, it will need two-thirds approval of the floor.

### **Moved/Hugh Riddle – Garson Seconded/Del Weber – Sault Major**

Hugh Riddle – Garson – First off, I'd like to draw your attention to a typographical error on page 28 of 31. It's in section 34 of b, and it says "including the city of North Bay," that should be "including the NOHA territory" and not be restricted to just North Bay. We began this discussion at last year's AGM, and so the analogy that I'd like to use, this is a tree, and what the proposed amendment is looking at is the trunk and the branches of the tree. None of what we did has changed any of the intent in the constitution or the By-laws. There's a specific section in there that if there's oversight or an omission, because it's a multi-step process, there is a section that will bind this over until the whole work is complete. The intent was so that we could meet the current legislation of the Corporations Act, and try to be slightly ahead of the wave with regard to Not-for-Profit and our counsel informs us that the Not-for-Profit legislation is going to come sooner than later, perhaps as early as July of this year, and what that meant to the NOHA was we were able to grab things pro bono, and that once this legislation comes into effect, his ability to provide these services pro bono would be limited. We're asking for your support on this, and I would ask John D'Agostino to come up because he's a lawyer and he can explain in a little more detail the efforts that we went through.

John D'Agostino – Thank you very much. Hugh touched on the tree, which is a reference basically to Constitution Law 101. Essentially, when you have a By-law or a constitution or a fundamental document, you try not to have to change that regularly. It should be a very rare and slow process to change a fundamental document. When I was approached by the committee to look at the constitution the first thing I did was read what we have and I got a headache, I couldn't understand half of it, and it was very erratic in terms of its organization, I think everybody knows that, it's almost one hundred years old, and has lots of meanings and interpretations, just by default for being as old as it is. What I tried to do was to look at it in the big picture and to try not to change the spirit and intent of it, I tried to organize it in a manner that would flow a little easier, would make a little more sense, and be a little more transparent than what we had. Our committee had come up with a decision that it's best not to change the entire document in one shot, it's best to take it over two or three years or two or three runs. What we did is worked on By-law #1. The remaining parts of the constitution that currently exist, the regulations, has not been changed yet. That was done with specific intent, again, so that this organization and all of you have a touchstone to work from, your touchstone is what we did yesterday. If we changed everything, and all the rules, even if they were minor changes, it throws everybody off and it creates a lot of unnecessary anxiety and tension. So we decided just to tackle the "tree" component, the trunk, and in the next stage we would do procedural regulation





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changes, and then administrative changes, so three steps. I think you all received the information circular that Jason prepared, so when Jason and I sat down after drafting the constitution, we tried to summarize the major changes, and I'm happy to say that the major changes aren't really that major. They're just organized a bit differently. It's a three-step process, basically to comply with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act which is coming. The Corporations Act is currently the law that regulates the NOHA and other Not-for-Profits, and it's old and it's been completely overhauled, so the province has passed the new legislation, it's received royal assent, it's just not operating as the ultimate law at this moment. We expect that to happen in June or July. The document doesn't change the rights and remedies or the composition of the Board, it just clarifies and simplifies and, where required only, we made changes because of compliance issues. Again, the key component is section 7.5, in the event that there is a dispute, the old constitution still prevails. So it is a paramount document, and that's just so that everyone has a touchstone, what has been done in the past will continue to be done except for the changes approved today.

Section 1: Glossary. Updated to make it easier to understand. Section 2, we have a requirement to have a seal via the Corporations Act, so we put it in as required. The literal seal is the formal approval of orders approved by the company. Section 3, the mission of the NOHA basically came right out of the letters patent of the association when it was first created, and it tracks the language that we currently have. Section 4 in relation to affiliates, is basically section 3 of the current By-laws, and section 5.1, we just moved it to flow a little easier. Section 5 defines types of members, we haven't changed the types of members or their voting abilities, we just summarized it, thinned it out a bit, and made it appear in a chronological order that made sense. Section 6 meetings of the members, we continued to follow the requirements that are contained in the current By-law, as well as complying with the Ontario Corporations Act. One of the things that was missing was with respect to special meetings of the members, so we've put in wording to contemplate that, and also added wording required on how to conduct an AGM, even though it's been done properly, it wasn't written. The only significant change is in respect to the auditors, in addition to receiving the statements for the prior year, we have to approve the remuneration of the auditors for the ensuing year. Section 7 defines the eligibility of the members to be Board of Director members, and it tracks the Ontario Corporations Act currently. Items A-G are from the Corporations Act. Item H is carried forward from the By-laws, and note we haven't changed the composition, the number, or the term of the Board members. Section 7.7 is a slight change in that the term of the Board, in the event somebody resigns, is removed, or isn't capable of being a Board member...

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – I've got a question on point of order here in regard to the motion. My understanding of motions is that the mover and seconder comes forward and announces themselves, the mover and seconder have the opportunity to provide some rationale or comments on that, I think we've jumped ahead here by having a presentation on the lawyer's behalf, and no disrespect to the lawyer in terms of the work that's been done or the presentation,



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but the intent of any motion is to determine whether there's going to be a vote to the floor, and my concerns as an association is that, one, we don't have the opportunity as an association to have a pro bono lawyer to give us some advice on the document that's been presented, it's a rather lengthy document, there's a lot involved in the constitutional process and you stated a very important point earlier that changes to a constitution should be a slow, drawn-out process. I feel we're being rushed into approving the whole document as a whole today. My concern as an association is we haven't had time to go through this document comparing word for word to see what the changes are, one of the things I would have appreciated is changes in the document being highlighted in red in terms of what has been changed, I would've appreciated a summary statement from the lawyer that states some of what we're hearing today because I didn't have that opportunity to explain to my executive back home. So, given what's on the floor here today, as an association, we're not prepared to vote on the motion as it stands, I can say that we support the idea and intent of the motion that we need to advance slowly but not prepared to approve a full constitutional document at this point so my question to the floor is, is this something that the floor is entertaining at this point, are we willing to consider a vote on this right now and is it in order in terms of doing that, if we're going to entertain a vote, then I'm willing to listen to what the lawyer has to say in terms of the rationale and reasoning behind that.

John D'Agostino – I agree with what you're saying, and that's why Jason had prepared and distributed the information circular, so that document is the summary that you're looking at, and it specifies where the changes were made, and I think it was sent about a month ago.

Jason Marchand – April the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – I'm not denying that, just my question is to the chairman, whoever that is, as an association we haven't had time to review, we haven't had time to compare it, we're not prepared to vote on that today, and my question to the floor is, is the floor prepared to vote on this today and have they expressed their due diligence with their executives or associations and prepared to vote today, so my question is back to the floor, is that something we're willing to consider, and then if it is, I'm willing to hear out the lawyer presentation.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – The document was presented as a motion from the Board, it's been duly moved and seconded here, and we are going to vote on it. If you feel that you haven't had enough time, vote accordingly. We have to move forward with it, we have to make changes if that's what we need, and so we are going to move forward, Mr. D'Agostino is a voting member here, he volunteered to work with this committee, and he's only here to try to help us.

Andrew MacDonald – Nickel Centre – I'd like to put forth a motion to table this motion and the next motion that's going to be brought to the floor to next year's Annual Meeting so that we can further discuss with the membership. If we look at how Hockey Canada addressed their Not-for-Profit and instituting it, and they did it over a three-year period, and they included the branches across the country in participation, the OHF, during the time they've been working on their restructure within the Not-for-Profit Act, they've been working with the Member Partners, and I



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believe that the participation of this floor of those that have knowledge and background or have questions would like to have addressed as they go further. I don't believe we need to incorporate this immediately based on the Not-for-Profit Act that once it's enacted we have a three-year period to bring it in line and if Mr. D'Agostino has shared with us that it's probably going to be something like June or July, we will have three more Annual Meetings to incorporate the required status that we need to meet, so I'm moving that we table these two motions to our next Annual Meeting, and then put together a committee of interested parties across the NOHA to help work with the Board in putting together the guidelines we require.

Moderator – Thank you, Andrew. As Chair of the meeting, I'm going to tell you that in my opinion, we are going to go to a vote, and you can decide, because I do think that we have to make changes and that we have to get ourselves in line, and I know that we can wait until next year, but I don't want to see anybody get in trouble because we're not in line with the Not-For-Profit Act. That's my decision at this point and I'm going to invite Mr. D'Agostino to finish his address and then we'll continue.

Mike Landry – Soo Peewee – My respectful submission to this floor is it's my understanding that this motion is out of order, and there is a deadline to the NOHA to all its members to present the motion prior to the first of February. It is my understanding that this motion was made after such time. I would like to rule it out of order.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Thank you, from the information that I received it was received on time, and it is within order, and so again, my rule is that we are going to vote on it.

Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – I would like to second the motion by Andrew MacDonald to table the motion.

Rob Kirchner – Blind River – In reference to the eight-page document, I don't seem to have it.

Jason Marchand – The information circular was sent out via email April 6<sup>th</sup> with the rest of the AGM documents, and it is also in the package you received.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Having heard this discussion, I am going to rule that we are going to move ahead with this motion, and I'm going to ask Mr. D'Agostino to continue on with his report.

Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – I believe Andrew MacDonald made a motion to table this, and I would like to second that motion, so now can we move on to that motion and please discuss and vote on it please?

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Andrew, please return to the microphone so you can give your motion and it can be recorded.

**Moved/Andrew Macdonald – Nickel Centre**

**Seconded/Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee**

**“To table Motion 1 and Motion 2 to next year's Annual Meeting, and put together a working group with representation from various areas of the NOHA.”**





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Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – I'd like to second that motion, and I went through this process a couple years ago with the Sault Ste. Marie Real Estate Board, and what we did was we had a document with the full constitution, and all changes were highlighted, and I think something like that would be a lot easier for the membership.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – What the Board asked for last year, you're suggesting should be put to another committee this year to start over.

### **DEFEATED**

Dick Farrow – Moderator – We are going to move ahead now with Motion 1, and I'm going to ask Mr. D'Agostino to come back up.

John D'Agostino – I understand the concerns, I hope you can have some comfort with what I've said: we did not change the effect or impact of the existing constitution or regulations, we have basically simplified and reorganized it. Everywhere there is a change in that document that you have, it is written. The requirements that had to be changed were because they were not compliant with the current Corporations Act. Sometimes things were changed because the wrong person had the power or entity to make a decision. It's been clarified. Please keep that in the back of your minds, we're trying to reorganize it so over the next three or four years, we'll have everything done in a manner that is understandable, clear, and compliant. Moving back to the mauve document, Board Responsibilities, we've kept what was there in the past and expanded it a bit. In particular, conflict of interest and confidentiality has been updated, and Motion #2 has done this has well, so whoever drafted Motion #2 has covered this, the issue is our Board and the committee that I worked with didn't want to dive in to a pool that's unknown, what we did was took the constitutional component, Bylaw #1, and left everything else intact. It was too much, and the committee felt, let's just do it in baby steps. Section 8.11 there's a provision called indemnification of directors. Every member of the Board has possible liability for its actions and owes a duty of care to the NOHA and its members. It's requirement under the Corporations Act that there is a specific indemnification, and your insurers require it. We put it in because you probably want it so none of you are sued personally, and you probably need it in order that your insurance would be in place to cover you. Section 9: Responsibilities of the Directors. We've kept everything the same. Going through the process, we noted that there's no secretary or treasurer officially assigned. The Corporations Act requires a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer as a minimum. We've just added those in without creating new positions. We've designated the First Vice President and Second Vice President to assume those positions as required. Section 10: Committees. All we did was clarify the committee system that you have, the executive committees that is the Board of Directors, and standing and ad hoc committees have been kept intact. Section 11: Execution of Documents, apart from the basic and obvious scenario that we need to know who has the right to bind the NOHA, we also have a Corporations



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Act requirement and case law requirement to have people that can purportedly bind the corporation have to be identified, otherwise it's possible that any member could inadvertently bind if we don't specify. It's called the "Indoor Management" rule. Section 12: Financial Year, we didn't change the year end or any of the requirements with regard to the fiscal year end, all we did is wrote down when the year end is and how things move forward from year to year. Section 13: Financial Arrangements, empowers and authorizes the NOHA to borrow if they need to, open bank accounts with overdraft, have lines of credit, and also how to deal with surplus funds, which hasn't changed what's happened from a historical point of view, just explained the obvious. Section 14: Borrowing Powers, it's necessary in order to open a bank account, because if a bank extended monies to cover a cheque it's technically a debt, and in order to have that you have to have a resolution in place. It's in with the bank as well, but we put in this at the Board level as well. Section 15: Notice of Provisions, in order to do anything officially, members and Board have to be notified, dates and terms weren't changed, just included all together in one encompassing document. Section 16: Passing and Amending By-laws, didn't change spirit or intent, just clarified how they can be amended. Section 17: Repeal, all By-laws with the exception of Section 7 are no longer in effect. Section 7.5 says even though we have to repeal old By-laws, we can go back and rely on past terms and conditions in previous By-law as our touchstone. Section 18 employs Robert's Rules of Order for meetings such as this, and other types of meetings. Section 19 is the effective date all of this comes into effect. Those are the changes, they aren't really changes, more clarifications, setting up rules of engagement for the next changes. If this is approved, the intention is a committee would be struck again to deal with the next two steps which is to consolidate the Rules and Regulations that are contained within the book. The intention is not to come up with new rules, but to put in an organized and comprehensive form all the rules that exist. Step three would be to take all the current rules and change, amend, delete, or add if necessary. Not making drastic changes, methodical changes that help the organization.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Thank you, John. I know it's a touchy subject, I understand and I realize that, but we also have to be aware of the world out there today and protect the Board, protect you people from some of the crazy things that happen. Are there any questions or clarifications?

George Suszter – East Nipissing – I'm comparing this document, and you have some lines crossed out, I'm sure other people would like to have clarification? Some of the verbiage of the old constitution is missing on that, and I'm not sure, could you explain why?

John D'Agostino – A lot of the things that are struck out are Rules and Regulations or procedural issues that aren't part of the constitution. Keep in mind 7.5 preserves things the way they are today, but we've taken only those components that belong in By-law #1. It doesn't mean that they're gone, it means they're going to be relocated to Rules and Regulations and Procedures.

Pete Thibeault – Coniston – We're just looking at District number Two, and Coniston and Wahnipitae form an organization that isn't part of Nickel Centre Minor Hockey, what we're



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looking at is a friendly amendment to give Coniston autonomy as Capreol and Nickel Centre, Valley East, Rayside, and Nickel City which is also a part of District Two is not listed. I'm asking for a friendly amendment that would add those two Associations to this District that have been there for years.

John D'Agostino – If it's the will of the members, we can do that.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – What the current Constitution refers to is old municipal boundaries, not minor hockey boundaries.

Pete Thibeault – Coniston – I respect and understand that, but my fear is that we lose our Association or autonomy in the future.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – What's proposed is exactly what exists in the constitution.

Pete Thibeault – Coniston – All I'm asking for is a friendly amendment.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – And that's the wishes of the floor.

Albert Corradini – Sudbury – Last year at our AGM we discussed the constitution at length, and there was a pretty clear mandate given that the membership wanted change, and I took the time to read constitutional amendment #1 and #2. I was really concerned about #2 because it threw us into this dark pool of unknown, in my opinion. #1 as far as I can tell deals with the trunk, and from what I'm hearing from the floor, if everybody wants to step up and become part of an ad hoc committee, in the creation of documents two and three there could be a consult with the member associations to create something all can hang their hats on.

### **Friendly Amendment**

**“To include Coniston (Wahnipitae) and Nickel City in the list of District 2 Associations.”**

**CARRIED**

### **Motion including Friendly Amendment**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

Barry McCrory – Sudbury – Just for future reference, there were quite a few people who didn't receive this. I think this needs to come out sooner so everybody knows what's happening.

### **2. –SUBMITTED BY NICKEL CENTRE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**NEW – Pages 1-174**

### **Presently Reads:**

See the full NOHA Constitution.



# NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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## **Change to Read:**

See the enclosed submission.

## **Rationale:**

None provided.

## **WITHDRAWN**

### **3. –SUBMITTED BY WALDEN MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**Page 22/23 – By-Law 1.13**

## **Presently Reads:**

The DISTRICTS in the NOHA are defined as follows:

DISTRICT NUMBER ONE – PORCUPINE: Whitney, South Porcupine, Schumacher, Timmins, Foleyet, Chapleau, Ramore, Holtyre, Matheson, Porcupine, Val Gagne.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWO – SUDBURY REGION: Capreol, Nickel Centre, (Garson, Falconbridge, Coniston, Skead, Wahnapiatae), Valley East, (Hanmer, Val Caron, Blezzard Valley, Val Therese), Rayside-Balfour, (Chelmsford, Azilda), Onaping Falls, (Levack, Onaping, Dowling), Walden, (Lively, Naughton, Whitefish), Espanola, (Nairn Centre, McKerrow, Webbwood, Birch Island).

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE – SAULT STE MARIE: Sault Ste Marie, Bruce Mines, Wawa, Desbarats, Dubreuilville, Echo Bay, St. Joseph's Island, Thessalon.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR – TEMISKAMING: Englehart, Earleton, Cobalt, New Liskeard, Haileybury, Latchford, Temagami, Swastika, Kearns, Kirkland Lake, Larder Lake, Virginiatown, Matachewan, Charlton, Chamberlain, Dack, Elk Lake, Dymond, Hillard, Brethour, Thornloe.

DISTRICT NUMBER FIVE – NORTH BAY: North Bay, Bonfield, Mattawa, Callander, Corbeil, Astorville, Sturgeon Falls, Verner, Warren, Markstay, St. Charles, Noelville, Powassan.

DISTRICT NUMBER SIX – ABITIBI: Moosonee, Moose Factory, Cochrane, Iroquois Falls, Monteith, Porquis.

DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN – BLIND RIVER: Blind River, Spanish, Elliot Lake, Manitoulin Island, Massey, Serpent River, Spragge, Algoma Mills.

DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT – SUDBURY CITY: City of Sudbury, Copper Cliff.

DISTRICT NUMBER NINE – KAPUSKASING: Kapuskasing, Hornepayne, Hearst, Mattice, Smooth Rock Falls.

## **Change to Read:**



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DISTRICT NUMBER TWO – SUDBURY REGION: Capreol, Nickel Centre, (Garson, Falconbridge, Coniston, Skead, Wahnapiatae), Valley East, (Hanmer, Val Caron, Blezzard Valley, Val Therese), Rayside-Balfour, (Chelmsford, Azilda), Onaping Falls, (Levack, Onaping, Dowling), Espanola, (Nairn Centre, McKerrow, Webbwood, Birch Island).

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE – SAULT STE MARIE: Sault Ste Marie, Bruce Mines, Wawa, Desbarats, Dubreuilville, Echo Bay, St. Joseph's Island, Thessalon.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR – TEMISKAMING: Englehart, Earlton, Cobalt, New Liskeard, Haileybury, Latchford, Temagami, Swastika, Kearns, Kirkland Lake, Larder Lake, Virginiatown, Matachewan, Charlton, Chamberlain, Dack, Elk Lake, Dymond, Hillard, Brethour, Thornloe.

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DISTRICT NUMBER SIX – ABITIBI: Moosonee, Moose Factory, Cochrane, Iroquois Falls, Monteith, Porquis.

DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN – BLIND RIVER: Blind River, Spanish, Elliot Lake, Manitoulin Island, Massey, Serpent River, Spragge, Algoma Mills.

DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT – SUDBURY CITY: City of Sudbury, Copper Cliff, **Walden, (Lively, Naughton, Whitefish)**

DISTRICT NUMBER NINE – KAPUSKASING: Kapuskasing, Hornepayne, Hearst, Mattice, Smooth Rock Falls.

## **Rationale:**

Walden Minor Hockey Association is working on a co-operative house league program with Copper Cliff Minor Hockey Association. Walden is closer geographically to District 8 than the associations in District 2. Walden is also the same municipal ward as Copper Cliff. This move will also help even out the number of players competing in each District.

## **WITHDRAWN**

### **4. -SUBMITTED BY MANITOULIN PANTHERS**

**Page 22/23 – By-Law 1.13**

## **Presently Reads:**

The DISTRICTS in the NOHA are defined as follows:

DISTRICT NUMBER ONE – PORCUPINE: Whitney, South Porcupine, Schumacher, Timmins, Foleyet, Chapleau, Ramore, Holtyre, Matheson, Porcupine, Val Gagne.





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DISTRICT NUMBER TWO – SUDBURY REGION: Capreol, Nickel Centre, (Garson, Falconbridge, Coniston, Skead, Wahnapiatae), Valley East, (Hanmer, Val Caron, Blezzard Valley, Val Therese), Rayside-Balfour, (Chelmsford, Azilda), Onaping Falls, (Levack, Onaping, Dowling), Walden, (Lively, Naughton, Whitefish), Espanola, (Nairn Centre, McKerrow, Webbwood, Birch Island).

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE – SAULT STE MARIE: Sault Ste Marie, Bruce Mines, Wawa, Desbarats, Dubreuilville, Echo Bay, St. Joseph's Island, Thessalon.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR – TEMISKAMING: Englehart, Earleton, Cobalt, New Liskeard, Haileybury, Latchford, Temagami, Swastika, Kearns, Kirkland Lake, Larder Lake, Virginiatown, Matachewan, Charlton, Chamberlain, Dack, Elk Lake, Dymond, Hillard, Brethour, Thornloe.

DISTRICT NUMBER FIVE – NORTH BAY: North Bay, Bonfield, Mattawa, Callander, Corbeil, Astorville, Sturgeon Falls, Verner, Warren, Markstay, St. Charles, Noelville, Powassan.

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DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN – BLIND RIVER: Blind River, Spanish, Elliot Lake, Manitoulin Island, Massey, Serpent River, Spragge, Algoma Mills.

DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT – SUDBURY CITY: City of Sudbury, Copper Cliff.

DISTRICT NUMBER NINE – KAPUSKASING: Kapuskasing, Hornepayne, Hearst, Mattice, Smooth Rock Falls.

### **Change to Read:**

The DISTRICTS in the NOHA are defined as follows:

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DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR – TEMISKAMING: Englehart, Earleton, Cobalt, New Liskeard, Haileybury, Latchford, Temagami, Swastika, Kearns, Kirkland Lake, Larder Lake, Virginiatown, Matachewan, Charlton, Chamberlain, Dack, Elk Lake, Dymond, Hillard, Brethour, Thornloe.

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DISTRICT NUMBER SIX – ABITIBI: Moosonee, Moose Factory, Cochrane, Iroquois Falls, Monteith, Porquis.

DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN – BLIND RIVER: Blind River, Spanish, Elliot Lake, Manitoulin Island, Massey, Serpent River, Spragge, Algoma Mills, **Espanola, (Nairn Centre, McKerrow, Webbwood, Birch Island).**

DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT – SUDBURY CITY: City of Sudbury, Copper Cliff.



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DISTRICT NUMBER NINE – KAPUSKASING: Kapuskasing, Hornepayne, Hearst, Mattice, Smooth Rock Falls.

## **Rationale:**

Looking geographically, Espanola is clearly an external community, separate from the Nickel District area. Espanola has long been a community caught between Manitoulin and the Nickel District, with players going in both directions. Being an external community, which is more similar to those in District 7, and a community caught between two Rep centres, Espanola and its player members should be given the autonomy to determine for themselves where they chose to play, free of requiring permission from an external body.

## **WITHDRAWN**

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – Resolution #4 has also been withdrawn. Espanola and Manitoulin have had discussions, and would like to withdraw.

## **5. –SUBMITTED BY MANITOULIN PANTHERS**

### **Page 25/26 – By-Law 2.1**

#### **Presently Reads:**

The Officers and Council Directors will form the Board of Directors of the NOHA.

The Officers shall be Immediate Past President, President, First Vice-President, Second Vice President, Third Vice-President, and Executive Director. All with the exception of Past Presidents and Executive Director to be elected every three years.

The President may hold 1 elected term. (3 years).

All elected officers forming the Board of Directors and named Council Directors shall be nominated by a team, club or NOHA Board of Director in good standing in the NOHA. The Directors shall be nominated to represent the District they are resident in. Should only one nomination be received for a District, that Director shall be deemed to be acclaimed. Should no nominations for a District be received, the Board may, at its discretion, appoint a Director in consultation with the teams and clubs in the District. The appointed nominee does not have to reside in the District they represent.

If necessary, a Director may be appointed to that area by the Executive in consultation with the Associations, Teams and Clubs in the District.



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Only members from the District shall be entitled to vote for the Director that will represent the District. Sitting members of the NOHA Board of Directors, NOHA Past Presidents, NOHA Life Members and the NOHA Director of Officials shall be entitled to vote for the Director in the District where they reside only. In case of a tie vote, the scrutineers will advise the NOHA President who will cast the deciding vote. In Districts that are represented by a Vice-President, there will also be a Council Director elected. If necessary, a Director may be appointed to that area by the Executive in consultation with the teams and clubs in the District. Council Directors to be elected bi-annually by ballot.

In the event that a Vice-President resigns or leaves the NOHA Board through the course of their term (3 year term), the Executive of the NOHA has the right to appoint someone to fill this position from present Board Members. Criteria will be based on interest and experience on the Board. A vacancy in the position of Council Director will require nominations from Teams/Associations in that District. If the Vice-President resigns in the first or second year of their term, the position is filled by appointment until the next AGM. At that AGM, the remainder (1 or 2 years) of the term must be filled by a person who has been elected by the membership.

In the event that a Council Director resigns or leaves the NOHA Board through the course of their term (2 year term), a Council Director will be appointed to that District by the NOHA Executive in consultation with the Associations, teams and clubs in the District. If the Council Director resigns in the first year of their term, the position is filled by appointment until the next AGM. At that AGM, the final year of the term must be filled by a person who has been elected by the membership of the District.

The nominations must be in the hands of the Executive Director by March 15th prior to each Annual Meeting.

### **Change to Read:**

The Officers and Council Directors will form the Board of Directors of the NOHA.

**The Board of Directors' official duties are to uphold and enforce the articles of the NOHA. The Board of Directors will play a supportive role to its member associations, respect the individual autonomy of member associations and not interfere with internal association business, unless there is a direct violation of NOHA Articles (Constitution/Regulations/ByLaws).**

The Officers shall be Immediate Past President, President, First Vice-President, Second Vice President, Third Vice-President, and Executive Director. All with the exception of Past Presidents and Executive Director to be elected every three years.



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The President may hold 1 elected term. (3 years).

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If necessary, a Director may be appointed to that area by the Executive in consultation with the Associations, Teams and Clubs in the District.

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The nominations must be in the hands of the Executive Director by March 15th prior to each Annual Meeting.

### **Rationale:**



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While the primary role of the NOHA Board of Directors is understood, the primary role of the Board of Directors is not clearly stated. It is imperative for capacity building of its member associations that the NOHA maintain a role of non-interference of member association business, while respecting the individual autonomy and capacity of member associations to address their issues responsibly.

### **Moved/Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers Seconded/Andrew MacDonald – Nickle Centre**

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – The purpose of the motion is just to provide some clarity in terms of what the relationship is between the NOHA and its member associations. We as an Association over the last year have had a number of situations happen within our Association where members of our Association bypassed or went directly to the NOHA and the corresponding actions were that the NOHA got involved directly instead of sending those members back to our Association. One example of that is we had a player parent member who was looking for a release and instead of coming to the Association, went directly to the NOHA, the release was provided promptly without any verification from the NOHA. We had a secondary issue last year with our AGM where an NOHA director was directly involved and influencing the outcome of our AGM process duly and inappropriately. The outcome of that was a lot of drawn out drama within our Association that lasted quite a number of years and carried on into the hockey year. The purpose of the motion is just to try to clarify what that relationship is between the NOHA and member Associations and to clarify a more positive working relationship where we work together and those lines are clearly defined. In addressing these issues previously, the response has been a lot of gray area and it wasn't clear what those roles were and it caused a lot of drama for our Association.

Jamie Roach – Timmins Minor Hockey – Just a point of clarification, does this, in effect remove our members' right to pursue remedy with the NOHA if we have broken our own constitution, or we made a decision that one of our members disputes, do they have the right to go to the NOHA?

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – No, my understanding is that would be allowed to be carried out through an appeal process, so that's not what this is referring to.

Oscar Clouthier – Sudbury – We passed Motion #1, which are our By-laws. I guess the information I'm seeking is if the motions that are now being presented, do they change the By-laws that we just passed? Or are the motions out of order?

John D'Agostino – It's a good question. The reality is they're probably out of order, but I think what we should do is take each of the motions that are approved by this room and undertake to include those into Step Two which is the rules and regulations and procedures. We can include wording that meets the general intent of the motions into the next phase of the document. We can't amend exactly the old By-laws unless the wording is the same. It would really be easier if everyone agreed we would do this as part of Step Two in the overhaul, but that's the will of the floor.

Oscar Clouthier – Sudbury – But would you not run into the same problem? When you're amending the Constitution, to change this article, which is Motion #1, we would have had to





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amend it prior to voting on it, and that's what I'm saying. We probably should have done that. Now we can't implement By-laws into the Rules and Regulations.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Thank you, Oscar, and I understand what you're saying, and I appreciate that. I guess the easiest thing would be to rule them out of order, but I think what we want to do is to try to get the flavor of what this entire group wants so that we can move forward with this, and that committee can work with the input they get here to produce the document that we all want, and that's going to protect us.

Robert Roy – Hearst Élans – I understand, but we should go to the next motions, and if changes are to be made, they will be done there.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Manitoulin Panthers, would you be willing to delay this until next year to be dealt with in the second and third parts of this?

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – I think there could be a friendly recommendation to the floor here that as long as the floor is in agreement with the error in the order of the agenda by adopting the constitution as the first motion, I think the floor is generally in agreement with what our lawyer is talking about, we can agree to move forward with the understanding of the intent of these motions as long as it's not reflecting major changes in the original document from Motion #1. The rule is likely going to correspond with writing in the document. I think the floor is in agreement that we can proceed with the motions. My recommendation is that we move ahead as the bulk of us came here for these motions and don't want to waste a meeting.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – To the mover and seconder of this and next motions, I would ask for some discretion as to how we move these in, so if they are approved, that you allow us some discretion over the course of the next year to work these in to the appropriate place. We'll capture the flavor. As we said with #1, it was not our intention to change any of the intent, so what I would ask if the motion succeeds, if you would give us an opportunity to put it in the correct place.

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – I still think it's a question to the other motions following this, you're going to have the same discussion. A question to the lawyer about Robert's Rules of Order, can we not make an adjustment to the agenda today, and record the vote from the original motion as something that comes back from the following motions?

John D'Agostino – I don't think we could go back retrospectively, but the concern I have is catching your intention. If this meeting determines that we're to capture what you're looking for, and I don't know if we have to have a vote on that, then this motion and subsequent motions would have to be voted on. They are constitutional, and they would require two-thirds vote. The wording you've put in, apart from the autonomy provisions, are already enshrined in law in the Corporations Act in terms of the duties that a Board has to its members. If it's decided that you want to put this to a vote, it would be with a specific view of altering the previous document, the old constitution, but also, if you were open to that, it's like a straw vote, but the ad hoc community for constitutional amendments would build it into the subsequent changes to give you what you're looking for through the back door. If you want a formal process, then you need to call the question, have a vote, it will pass or fail and in reality have zero impact on the new By-law #1. It is an administrative issue.



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Dick Farrow – Moderator – The danger that I see is that the floor may be generally with you on this, if we go to a constitutional vote and you lose this, then that is a message that we don't want that in, though it may not be what the floor wants as opposed to working it in where it's supposed to be in the constitution.

George Suszter – East Nipissing – I kind of feel like we've been “missiled” when we voted on Motion #1. A lot of us traveled from far away, and there's a bunch of motions on these other sheets, and I think it's fair that we have an amendment to our agenda to move back what we voted on Motion #1, because likely the other motions should have been voted on first. We should've been informed that Motion #1 would have made the rest of this stuff moot. Your results might have been different. I feel kind of upset that I drove three and a half hours and this is what I'm finding, and under Robert's Rules I'm sure there's a way to change this.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – I don't know of the method to do it, the NOHA as long as I've been involved have taken the resolutions as they have come in, and that's the order they appeared in the agenda. That's been the practice for as long as I've been here, so it's certainly not something that was orchestrated by the Office or the Board, that's the way it was brought in.

Mike Landry – Soo Peewee – My respectful submission to the chair is that was the exact intent of Andrew MacDonald's motion that this wouldn't happen today. I think Mr. MacDonald's proposal was to have a committee to go over the motions. We're going to hear a bunch of motions that may affect the new constitution we just approved.

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – I don't see any answers coming, I'm just sitting here frustrated also with this. Respectfully, a lot of us come here to show our support by voting on motions, and if the answer is what I'm hearing is that everything following this is going in this direction, then we're at a point where we might as well just go home, we've wasted our time. I think we need to find a way to move forward on this, and I'm not hearing solutions. I get we have a lawyer that I'm hoping will find a way to move around this, I don't know if it's a friendly amendment to each motion that precedes this, that states that this motion will now make changes to Motion #1. I'm hoping for suggestions from the lawyer. The last part is the questions keep coming back to me, I'm only one motion, and there are other motions to be considered.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – With respect to the last two speakers, it was not the intent to “torpedo” anything. Again, with the floor's indulgence, anything that changes the constitution requires a two-thirds majority, and all we're asking for is the ability to fit it in where it needs to go. If we grasp the intent, we'll fit it in. We're not saying no, we'll just proceed, and anything that changes the constitution is two-thirds, and we'll fit it in.

Jason Marchand – To echo what Hugh was saying, Section 8 of the new By-law does address the duties of the Board of Directors, so if the appetite is to pass this, we could fit it in there.

John D'Agostino – If you call the motion, and you want to move forward on the basis that it receives two-thirds majority, I think it's doable in the circumstances. It's a constitutional change either way. If it's the will of the floor, then we'll make it happen. Your intent will be identical, though it might be slightly different wording, but we will have you pre-approve it.

George Suszter – East Nipissing – I'd like to put a motion on the floor that we amend the agenda to include that any item after Motion #1 is inserted into the constitution as amended.



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**Moved/George Suszter – East Nipissing  
Seconded/Desmond O'Connor – Cochrane**

**“That we amend the agenda to include that any item after Motion #1 is inserted into the constitution as amended.”**

**CARRIED**

**Motion #5**

**CARRIED**

### **6. –SUBMITTED BY POWASSAN MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**Page 29 By-Law 2.10 (N)**

#### **Presently Reads:**

Members of the Board of Directors shall neither be eligible to be on-ice Officials at games involving NOHA teams nor hold office as a signed card holder of any NOHA team and shall not be an elected or appointed Board Member of any Association, team, club or league within the NOHA.

#### **Change to Read:**

Members of the Board of Directors shall neither be eligible to be on-ice Officials at games involving NOHA teams and shall not be an elected Board Member of any Association, team, club or league within the NOHA.

#### **Rationale:**

Having a signed card holder as a board member does not create a conflict, as issues are dealt with at an Association level. Any NOHA decisions to be made at a team level, that affects the member's team, would be made with the member excluded from the decision. Open member positions would be easier to fill with a larger candidate pool.

**Moved/Shawn Essery - Powassan  
Seconded/Diane Langdon – Coniston**

Shawn Essery – Powassan – My rationale behind the amendment is to create a larger pool of candidates. We have three positions not nominated. If we use people from behind the bench, we may be able to fill the position and get the representative the District needs.



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Hugh Riddle – Garson – I wish to speak in favour of the motion for the points raised. There are vacant positions, and what was passed in By-law #1 has conflict of interest guidelines that would cover that, and have any Council Director with a conflict of interest needing to declare that. There are a lot of good hockey people that get excluded, and we would certainly benefit from their expertise.

**CARRIED**

### **7. –SUBMITTED BY HORNEPAYNE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**Page 31 – By-Law 4.4**

**Presently Reads:**

The location of the Annual Meeting shall be determined each year by the Board of Directors.

**Change to Read:**

Each year the location of the Annual Meeting **shall be Timmins, Ontario.**

**Rationale:**

Timmins, Ontario is geocentric to the NOHA's region. A central location will encourage a better cross section of the NOHA membership to attend the meeting which is more representative of the NOHA as a whole. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to adjust the direction of the NOHA according to the will of the people who make up its membership and this change will serve that purpose.

**WITHDRAWN**

### **8. –SUBMITTED BY HORNEPAYNE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**Page 36 – By-Law 4.26**

**Presently Reads:**

The NOHA Annual General Meeting shall be rotated annually, unless application to host is received by another centre and the applying centre is not in the same district as the previous years host centre, as follows: Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, North Bay and Timmins. Once rotation is complete it shall recommence at the start of the cycle.



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## **Change to Read:**

The NOHA Annual General Meeting shall be hosted in Timmins, Ontario annually.

## **Rationale:**

Timmins, Ontario is geocentric to the NOHA's region. A central location will encourage a better cross section of the NOHA membership to attend the meeting which is more representative of the NOHA as a whole. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to adjust the direction of the NOHA according to the will of the people who make up its membership and this change will serve that purpose.

**WITHDRAWN**

## **9. -SUBMITTED BY HEARST ELANS**

### **Page 41 – Regulation 1.2**

#### **Presently Reads:**

The NOHA, through its Board of Directors, reserves to itself the right of placing teams in whatever series (divisions, sub-divisions, and categories) and groups or leagues it may deem best for the interest of the NOHA.

Teams wishing to enter a division, sub-division, or category which leads to a National Championship must (if one exists) receive approval from both the League and the NOHA before being accepted into their requested division, sub-division or category.

A team entered into a specific category within a division or sub-division, may request to change its category prior to December 1st, of the current season. Teams may not challenge up to the "AAA" level.

NOTE: Please see NOHA Policies – Criteria for Change of Category for NOHA Tournament of Champions (page 168)

#### **Change to Read:**

The NOHA, through its Board of Directors, reserves to itself the right of placing teams in whatever series (divisions, sub-divisions, and categories) and groups or leagues it may deem best for the interest of the NOHA.





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A team entered into a specific category within a division or sub-division, may request to change its category prior to December 1st, of the current season. Teams may not challenge up to the “AAA” level.

NOTE: Please see NOHA Policies – Criteria for Change of Category for NOHA Tournament of Champions (page 168)

### **Rationale:**

Delete the second paragraph as it takes all authority from the NOHA with respect to the placement of teams in a league which leads to a National Championship. The NOHA should have the authority to place any team in any division, sub-division or category under its authority as it sees fit with due consultation, not permission from any league administration. Membership numbers with the NOHA are shrinking and the NOHA will require more flexibility going forward.

### **WITHDRAWN**

### **10. –SUBMITTED BY MANITOULIN PANTHERS**

#### **Page 41/42 – Regulation 1.4**

#### **Presently Reads:**

Minor Hockey teams in each age division will be classified into “AAA”, “AA”, “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, categories by the Northern Ontario Hockey Association Board of Directors. After considering all factors, teams are classified as to calibre with other conditions involved including ice conditions, minor hockey organizations and population. Population figures for each series used as thumb rule only, are approximately as follows:

“AAA” – open; “AA” – over 35,000; “A” – 10,000-35,000; “B” – 5,000-10,000; “C” – 3,000-5,000; “D” – under 3,000

The NOHA Board of Directors will revisit the populations for all Associations every five years starting in 2012.

NOTE: The NOHA will only accept entries into the AAA category beginning at the Major Atom Division.

#### **Change to Read:**



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Minor Hockey teams in each age division will be classified into “AAA”, “AA”, “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, categories by the Northern Ontario Hockey Association Board of Directors. After considering all factors, teams are classified as to calibre with other conditions involved including; **TOC records of performance, tournament records against larger centres**, ice conditions, minor hockey organizations and population. Population figures for each series used as thumb rule only, **and will take into account retirement living stats**, are approximately as follows:

“AAA” – open; “AA” – over 35,000; “A” – 10,000-35,000; “B” – 5,000-10,000; “C” – 3,000-5,000; “D” – under 3,000

The NOHA Board of Directors will revisit the populations for all Associations every five years starting in 2012.

NOTE: The NOHA will only accept entries into the AAA category beginning at the Major Atom Division.

### **Rationale:**

NOHA representative teams have a known history of struggling with similar calibre teams from larger centres. We need to ensure that we are cautious to ensure NOHA teams are given proper calibre ratings, according to statistically relevant hockey information, with caution not to overrate geographically challenged centres.

### **Moved/Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers Seconded/Andrew MacDonald – Nickel Centre**

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – I would like to make a friendly amendment to add to this that prior to any changes, there will be due notice provided to the Association beforehand.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Can you give exact wording?

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – Can I come to the floor with it afterward?

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Okay, do you want us to move on and come back when you have the wording?

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – In speaking with Claudette there’s a section that starts with note, Where change of classification is being considered, due notice will be provided to the member association and consultation prior to any decision being made by the NOHA Board of Directors.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Any further discussion on that?

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – The concern with this is, as an Association we went through the process of having our classification changed this year, one of the reasons was the population, so I made two friendly changes here, one that tournament records be taken into consideration. We as an Association rarely, if ever win the B TOCs as a B centre, and we didn’t



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see the rationale in moving forward if we didn't do well at the B level. The other part in terms of population numbers, one of the big things that need to be considered for small communities in the north is some of our communities are retirement living communities, so Manitoulin is a retirement centre, our schools have low numbers and higher numbers of elderly, Elliot Lake is the same, so populations numbers aren't a just factor in terms of what the number of kids are coming to try-outs.

### **Friendly Amendment**

**“NOTE: Where change of Classification is being considered, due notice will be provided to the member association and consultation prior to any decision being made by the NOHA Board of Directors.”**

**CARRIED**

### **Motion including Friendly Amendment**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

### **11. –SUBMITTED BY HEARST ELANS**

**Page 41/42 – Regulation 1.4**

### **Presently Reads:**

Minor Hockey teams in each age division will be classified into “AAA”, “AA”, “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, categories by the Northern Ontario Hockey Association Board of Directors. After considering all factors, teams are classified as to calibre with other conditions involved including ice conditions, minor hockey organizations and population. Population figures for each series used as thumb rule only, are approximately as follows:

“AAA” – open; “AA” – over 35,000; “A” – 10,000-35,000; “B” – 5,000-10,000; “C” – 3,000-5,000; “D” – under 3,000

The NOHA Board of Directors will revisit the populations for all Associations every five years starting in 2012.

NOTE: The NOHA will only accept entries into the AAA category beginning at the Major Atom Division.

### **Change to Read:**



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Minor Hockey teams in each age division will be classified into “AAA”, “AA”, “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, categories by the Northern Ontario Hockey Association Board of Directors. After considering all factors, teams are classified as to calibre with other conditions involved including **skill or interest**, ice conditions, minor hockey organizations and population.

NOTE: The NOHA will only accept entries into the AAA category beginning at the Major Atom Division.

## **Rationale:**

Add the words skill or interest and remove reference to the quinquennial review of population and categorization of communities. This change better reflects the position of the OHF Constitution which reads in Part 1 of its constitution; 4.2 To provide opportunities for all players to play the sport at levels appropriate to their degree of skill or interest; and 4.10 To promote and encourage the formation of amateur hockey teams and leagues, thereby to ensure the sport is and remains accessible to all who wish to participate according to the level and extent of their interest and still. The OHF consistently references ‘skill’ and ‘interest’ as a means of placing players and teams in an appropriate level of competition, and the NOHA should follow suit. Reference to population rule of thumb are only confusing the issue and require unnecessary actions on behalf of the NOHA and Associations in terms of reassigning teams and appeals of such reassignment. Category reassignment should only be made in the event of an appeal by a team to the NOHA or in the event of a complaint to the NOHA by another team in such category.

**WITHDRAWN**

## **12. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 46 – Regulation 1.33**

### **Presently Reads:**

All players in AAA must complete a designated off-ice skill testing program three (3) times per season. The testing is to be completed by September, December and February of each season. All testing results will be tracked on each player’s profile on the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR).

### **Change to Read:**

All players in AAA must complete a designated off-ice skill testing program **two (2)** times per season. The testing is to be completed by September and **January** of each season.

### **Rationale:**



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It was difficult for teams to find time to conduct the testing three times per season. While the testing and data is beneficial to the teams, by reducing the number of times to test, it will alleviate some of the concerns brought forward about time and costs. This change has been supported by the Elite Hockey Committee.

The tracking on the player's HCR has been removed as there currently is not a feature to allow us to do this effectively. The information is being tracked by the NOHA Office and by the testing company and shared accordingly.

**Moved/Oscar Cloutier – Sudbury**  
**Seconded/Claudette Myre – Azilda**

Oscar Clouthier – Sudbury – I'm speaking in favour of the motion, we tested three times last year, and subsequently we had a meeting with the AAA group and it was decided because of cost, we would cut back from three to two, and see where we're going. It is a trial. Would also like to note a friendly amendment: it should read Bantam and Midget, not all AAA.

### **Friendly Amendment**

**“All players in Bantam and Midget AAA must complete a designated off-ice skill testing program (2) times per season. The testing is to be completed by September and January of each season.**

**CARRIED**

### **Motion including Friendly Amendment**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

### **13. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 47 – Regulation 1.34**

### **Presently Reads:**

All players in AAA must complete a designated on-ice skill testing program three (3) times per season. The testing is to be completed by September, December and February of each season. All testing results will be tracked on each player's profile on the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR).

### **Change to Read:**

All players in AAA must complete a designated on-ice skill testing program two (2) times per season. The testing is to be completed by September and January of each season.





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### **Rationale:**

It was difficult for teams to find time to conduct the testing three times per season. While the testing and data is beneficial to the teams, by reducing the number of times to test, it will alleviate some of the concerns brought forward about time and costs. This change has been supported by the Elite Hockey Committee. The tracking on the player's HCR has been removed as there currently is not a feature to allow us to do this effectively. The information is being tracked by the NOHA Office and by the testing company and shared accordingly.

**Moved/Oscar Cloutier - Sudbury**  
**Seconded/Fred Burrows – Englehart**

### **Friendly Amendment**

**“All players in Bantam and Midget AAA must complete a designated on-ice skill testing program (2) times per season. The testing is to be completed by September and January of each season.**

**CARRIED**

### **Motion including Friendly Amendment**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

### **14. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 47 – Regulation 1.35**

### **Presently Reads:**

All players in AAA will be required to complete a concussion testing module (baseline testing).

### **Change to Read:**

Delete.

### **Rationale:**

While we see the need of baseline testing for players, many associations and teams have set up their own testing while others were reliant.

**Moved/Oscar Cloutier – Sudbury**



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### **Seconded/Ted Zajac – South Porcupine**

Oscar Clouthier – I speak in favour of deleting this motion. I don't speak in favour of not having concussions tests, but what happened was not many Associations were following what we put in last year, and a lot of Associations have their own programs they use. We ask that we talk amongst Associations and help each other out in terms of what is being done.

James Paterson – Temiskaming Shores – My concern is the optics in an entire Association shying away from concussion testing when it's at the height of awareness in sports. I think the wording might best be adjusted to be mandatory that all AAA teams conduct testing. I can see the headlines that NOHA stops testing for concussions.

Dave Shaw – Timmins – I would also speak against. One of our responsibilities is the safety of our players. We know hockey is a little behind on concussion awareness, and we work hard to protect our players and create a safe environment. It's flexible that Associations can have their own methods they can do it that way, but if not, NOHA can help others get to baseline.

### **DEFEATED**

### **15. -SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

#### **Page 50/51 – Regulation 4.1**

#### **Presently Reads:**

Beginning with the 2010-2011 season all real time electronic submissions to the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) must include:

- Last Name
- First Name
- Date of Birth
- Street Address
- P.O. Box (if applicable)
- City/Town
- Postal Code
- Name of Team or Club
- Team Division (e.g. Initiation, Novice, Atom, Pee wee, Bantam, Midget, Junior, Juvenile, Senior and Adult Recreational)
- Team Category (e.g. House League, A, AA, AAA, etc.)
- Role on team/Association (e.g. Player, Goaltender, Coach, Manager, Trainer, or Official)
- On-ice Official (and certification, season of qualification and criminal record check)
- Coach (level of coach certification, season of qualification and criminal record check)
- Trainer Personnel (level, expiry date and criminal record check)



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- Registration date
- Name of Hockey Association and/or Club name
- Active Season (e.g. 2010/11)
- Release status
- Release date (if applicable)
- Affiliate Status (if applicable)
- Import Status (if applicable)
- Tryout Status (if applicable)

The Northern Ontario Hockey Association assures our Membership that any and all registration data gathered by the Northern Ontario Hockey Association for the purpose of the HCR will be kept in a protected and secure manner. The NOHA Members shall at all times retain ownership and control of any and all of its data in the HCR. The NOHA Members assures its Membership that any and all registration data gathered by the NOHA Member for the purpose of the HCR will be kept in a protected and secure manner.

There will be no commercial use of the data by the Northern Ontario Hockey Association, Ontario Hockey Federation or Hockey Canada in any way, shape, or form, unless expressly agreed to in writing by the respective NOHA Members.

To clarify, no data in the HCR will be used directly or indirectly to market and/or contact those registered within the HCR without the express written permission of the NOHA Members for each use.

### **Change to Read:**

All real time electronic submissions to the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) must include:

- Last Name
- First Name
- Date of Birth
- Street Address
- P.O. Box (if applicable)
- City/Town
- Postal Code
- **Phone Number**
- **E-Mail Address**
- Name of Team or Club
- Team Division (e.g. Initiation, Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam, Midget, Junior, Juvenile, Senior and Adult Recreational)
- Team Category (e.g. House League, A, AA, AAA, etc.)
- Role on team/Association (e.g. Player, Goaltender, Coach, Manager, Trainer, or Official)



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- On-ice Official (and certification, season of qualification and criminal record check)
- Coach (level of coach certification, season of qualification and criminal record check)
- Trainer Personnel (level, expiry date and criminal record check)
- Registration date
- Name of Hockey Association and/or Club name
- Active Season (e.g. 2010/11)
- Release status
- Release date (if applicable)
- Affiliate Status (if applicable)
- Import Status (if applicable)
- Tryout Status (if applicable)

The Northern Ontario Hockey Association assures our Membership that any and all registration data gathered by the Northern Ontario Hockey Association for the purpose of the HCR will be kept in a protected and secure manner. The NOHA Members shall at all times retain ownership and control of any and all of its data in the HCR. The NOHA Members assures its Membership that any and all registration data gathered by the NOHA Member for the purpose of the HCR will be kept in a protected and secure manner.

There will be no commercial use of the data by the Northern Ontario Hockey Association, Ontario Hockey Federation or Hockey Canada in any way, shape, or form, unless expressly agreed to in writing by the respective NOHA Members.

To clarify, no data in the HCR will be used directly or indirectly to market and/or contact those registered within the HCR without the express written permission of the NOHA Members for each use.

### **Rationale:**

The HCR requires that a phone number be entered when creating a new profile. We have included the requirement for an e-mail address not only to assist the associations with communication during that season and future seasons, but also to assist with the NOHA's ability to communicate directly with parents, coaches and other team staff.

All communication is to be done in compliance with the NOHA privacy policy and in compliance with the last two paragraphs of the above regulation.

**Moved/Claudette Myre – Azilda**  
**Seconded/Fred Burrows – Englehart**

Diane Langdon, Coniston Minor Hockey: I have a question about the administrative burden this might cause. Will we need to provide supporting documentation to add this in?



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Kiersten Maitland – Based on the OHF rules, we only require supporting documentation to change an address, and only if they're moving from one Association to another, they just have to fill out the Residential Move form, so adding phone numbers or email addresses is something they can do without supporting documentation. At this time, the Office only can change information on profiles, I will contact the HCR to see if they can allow Associations to change phone numbers and emails.

James Paterson – Temiskaming Shores – With the inclusion of the email address will we be in compliance with the Privacy Act?

Dick Farrow – Moderator – It would not go ahead if it is in violation.

Jacques Vincent – Rayside Balfour – Some parents are reluctant to give their email addresses. If they don't, are we still going to be able to register them? What if they don't have an email?

Jason Marchand – In the end, the purpose of this motion is to make communication easier for Associations. We now have things like the Respect-in-Sport Parent Program, where there is communication that needs to go out. If someone doesn't have an email address it is fine, in the HCR it's not a required field, but in the end it's a good idea to have the contact information so we have a way to reach them.

**CARRIED**

### **16. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

#### **NEW – Regulation 7.16**

##### **Presently Reads:**

None.

##### **Change to Read:**

Minor-aged players registered on teams with both minor/major players be allowed to affiliate with minor rep teams in their age category, i.e. a minor peewee player on a major peewee team can affiliate with minor peewee team in higher category in their association.

##### **Rationale:**

Minor rep teams currently must go down an age category to affiliate. Many of these players are not ready to move up an age category. Minor rep teams should be able to use minor players from mixed teams. This will help both the team and player, who will experience playing up with is





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own age category. ie: A Minor Bantam AA team need an affiliate player or goaltender but because Bantam HL players are 13 and 14 years old and carded as major players, the Minor Bantam M team cannot affiliate with them. By changing this regulation, it would allow minor bantam aged (13 year olds) only on a lower category team to affiliate with a minor bantam rep team. This allows opportunity for affiliation at the minor age groups, which helps develop players.

### **Moved/Craig Maki – Sudbury Seconded/Barry McCrory – Sudbury**

Craig Maki – Sudbury – The rationale for this proposal is directly related to some incidents we had this year relative to players having the opportunity to play up. In our AA and A programs we had some injuries and we couldn't call up Minor-aged House League players because they are carded as a major card. A friendly amendment to this is that it does not include AAA.

Bryce Kulik – South Porcupine – Should this motion be ruled Out of Order as it's in violation of Hockey Canada Affiliation rule which is word-for-word in the NOHA constitution. The regulation would need to be rewritten. This would violate Hockey Canada's rule.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – We are very fortunate today to have Hockey Canada's Vice President, Ed Pupich. He will let us know whether the inclusion of this will be in violation of the Hockey Canada rules.

Ed Pupich – Hockey Canada – I am not sure.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – If it is approved, and it is in violation of Hockey Canada rules, then it will not be included.

Jason Marchand – When this motion was submitted we contacted the OHF, and what we were told is that internal to the NOHA we can adjust the Affiliation rule. The reason for the amendment is the AAA leagues have a Regional and/or National Championship, so we do have to comply with Hockey Canada rules.

### **Friendly Amendment**

**“Minor-aged players registered on teams with both minor/major players be allowed to affiliate with minor per teams in their age category, i.e. a minor peewee player on a major peewee team can affiliate with a minor peewee team in a higher category in their association. This would not apply to AAA team.”**

**CARRIED**

### **Motion including Friendly Amendment**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

### **17. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**



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## Page 71 – Regulation 8.8

### Presently Reads:

Any player penalized for physical abuse of an official in addition to the suspension issued will be required to appear before the NOHA Board of Directors.

### Change to Read:

Any player penalized for physical abuse of an official in addition to the suspension issued will be required to appear before a disciplinary committee appointed by the NOHA President.

### Rationale:

Depending on when this infraction takes place, a player may sit upwards of 6 weeks before meeting with the NOHA Board of Directors. The change is not to take away from the severity of the infraction but will allow the issue to be addressed in a timelier manner.

### **Moved/Ted Zajac – South Porcupine Seconded/Claudette Myre – Azilda**

Ted Zajac – South Porcupine – The penalty won't be lessened any, but what it means is that a child won't have to wait six weeks to come before the Board depending on when the infraction occurs. The President will set up a committee for this to expedite the process.

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – A Friendly Amendment, the wording says the committee be set up by the President, but add that it be approved by the Board of Directors.

James Patterson – Temiskaming Shores – I realize the constitution was written in 1919, but given our advancements, wouldn't it be easier to conduct over telephone or teleconference?

Ted Zajac – South Porcupine – In regard to the second part, it's a good point and would save money, however anyone who has sat on a Board knows it's always easier if you are in the same room. You get more information when you can look across from them. I agree with the cost, however we have nine Districts and will ensure the panel is from that area to relieve some of the costs. I would rather be looking across from a person and discuss face to face than over the phone when it can come to a large suspension. On the first part about the Friendly Amendment, we put that there just for speed to get it done as soon as possible.

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – The suggestion I put forward is not that we take away, just that the Board of Directors be advised of who those people are and final approval on that.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – To that point, each Council Director at the start of the hockey season submits three names, and that's what we create the panel from. At the first meeting of the NOHA Board, that panel is approved, so there can be 27 people the President can draw from that have been approved as a panel. That's a process that's in place now.



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Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – Knowing that now, then just a Friendly Amendment to say “from the approved list that’s been put forward by the Board of Directors.”

### Friendly Amendment

**“Any player penalized for physical abuse of an official in addition to the suspension issued will be required to appear before a disciplinary committee appointed by the NOHA President. This committee must be approved by the NOHA Board of Directors.**

**CARRIED**

### Motion including Friendly Amendment

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

### 18. –SUBMITTED BY MANITOULIN PANTHERS

#### **Page 76 – Regulation 9.6**

#### **Presently Reads:**

The Tournament of Champions in all categories will be held in the month of March. The schedule will be Novice and Pee wee on the first weekend, Atom and Bantam on the second weekend, and Midget on the third weekend. The Minor Midget AA & A Tournament of Champions will be held on the first weekend of March.

Requests to host will be received by the Executive Director until June 15th. The total number of entries eligible to attend will be confirmed by December 31st of the current season.

NOTE: Clubs/Associations that have not participated in the previous season’s play-offs may not be eligible to apply to host unless no other requests are received. Associations may apply for a higher category to which they are registered if they participated in that category the previous two seasons.

#### **Change to Read:**

The Tournament of Champions in all categories will be held the **last weekend of February and the first two weekends of March. The schedule will be Novice and Pee wee the last full weekend of February, Atom and Bantam on the first weekend of March and Midget on the second weekend of March.** The Minor Midget AA & A Tournament of Champions will be held on the first weekend of March.



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Requests to host will be received by the Executive Director until June 15th. The total number of entries eligible to attend will be confirmed by December 31st of the current season.

NOTE: Clubs/Associations that have not participated in the previous season's play-offs may not be eligible to apply to host unless no other requests are received. Associations may apply for a higher category to which they are registered if they participated in that category the previous two seasons.

### **Rationale:**

The March Break is an important time of year for scheduling family trips, vacations and family events, and with the current scheduling, it has a significant impact on planning family vacations with tournaments at the beginning of the March Break or after. The TOC's have no particular reason for being scheduled in March and the month of February is a down time for any scheduled tournaments. In addition, with other league playoff tournaments, the month of March becomes heavily loaded with tournaments. This move spreads out the demands on families a little more evenly for the season.

### **Moved/Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers Seconded/Andrew MacDonald – Nickel Centre**

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – Our concern as an Association is just around the first and last weekend of March Break. We've had a number of families come forward in our Association that they are planning March vacations, and when TOCs are scheduled there, we're losing parents who aren't attending. It's a reality check on our part that hockey isn't everything, and we need balanced schedules. This is about the Rep TOCs. There are no tournaments in February, so this makes sense. Open to suggestions about those dates, but primary concern is to get away from March break.

Claudette Myre – I have to speak against this motion, because currently the second and third weekend of March are on either side of the March break, so the change still wouldn't have the intended effect. The other problem is there are other Associations that aren't finished their league play, which would force them to finish their season earlier.

Chantal Chabot – Mattice Minor Hockey – I have to speak against also because rep kids are committed as a family to hockey, while in House League we have our tournament the first of March, and that would kill our tournament.

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – To Claudette's comments, in regard to the TOC in relation to league play, it's my understanding it's not tied to league play, it's a separate tournament and not reflective of admission to the TOCs.



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Jamie Roach – Timmins – I also speak against this motion. We host TOCs of different categories every year, moving the TOCs might stop us from hosting in the future because we wouldn't be able to get ice.

## **DEFEATED**

### **19. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

#### **Page 81 – Regulation 10.8**

#### **Presently Reads:**

The maximum fees for officials under the one referee and two linesmen system for each game including overtime, shall be:

2015-2016 Category	Regular		Playoff	
	Referee	Linesmen	Referee	Linesmen
Major Midget AAA	\$51.00	\$34.00	\$61.00	\$39.00
Bantam AAA	\$40.00	\$26.00	\$45.00	\$28.00
Pewee AAA	\$35.00	\$23.00	\$40.00	\$25.00

#### **Change to Read:**

Category	Regular		Playoff	
	Referee	Linesmen	Referee	Linesmen
Major Midget AAA	\$60.00	\$45.00	\$70.00	\$50.00
Bantam AAA	\$47.00	\$32.00	\$52.00	\$34.00
Pewee AAA	\$41.00	\$26.00	\$46.00	\$28.00

#### **Rationale:**

The proposed rates reflect an increase in the AAA game fees, and are based on a review of game lengths across the various leagues of the NOHA. The proposed rates are in line with the other OHF Member Partners. The AAA Leagues are in acceptance of the above recommendation.

#### **Moved/Ted Zajac – South Porcupine Seconded/Dan Raycroft – Sault Ste. Marie**

Ted Zajac – South Porcupine – The next three will be dealing with Officiating and rate increases across the board. The proposed rates are in line with other Member Partners, the AAA leagues





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are in acceptance of the recommendations. If these pass, there will not be another increase until 2018-19.

James Patterson – Temiskaming Shores – Just a point of clarification, are those of us carded Officials obligated to declare conflict of interest?

Dick Farrow – Moderator – No.

Jacques Vincent – Rayside Balfour – \$4 per Official seems a little high. We did some math, and this would increase team fees by \$100-150. This is a lot in one year, we should do \$1-2 at this time and then look to the future.

Glen Campbell – North Bay – The reason we went to this amount is there hasn't been an increase in four years, and these rates will be for the next three years, so this increase is over a seven-year period. We can guarantee your budgets will be the same for the next three years, we should have done this a few years ago.

George Suzster – East Nipissing – I'd like to speak against. I thank all the refs for all the great work they do. We did the math, our referee costs for one of our tournaments were over \$5000 for one weekend, and over \$500 for travel, and it's getting to the point where East Nipissing Minor Hockey can't even host a game, our costs are over \$200 per game.

Ted Zajac – South Porcupine – Are you talking about the first motion that relates to AAA?

George Suszter – East Nipissing – Yes. I think right now we're in an economic slump, we're trying to keep hockey affordable, and if we're giving raises to referees, we should be doing it in annual increments instead of waiting four years.

Matt Davie – Sudbury – Let's make it very simple: we haven't had a raise in four years. Are we in an economic slump? Yes, but refereeing is a job for some people who give back to hockey. Now they're trying to find jobs that pay better. We're losing referees constantly because they know they can get paid better working at Tim Hortons and restaurants. Young kids are quitting refereeing because of that, so if we don't pay them, we're not going to have them, and if we don't have Officials, we don't have hockey games, and thirty practices a year isn't going to cut it for our kids, they need to be playing. So it's time we give them a raise, a sensible raise of \$4 over seven years, very reasonable right now. And with AAA hockey they're paying them more because they've lengthened the time of the games, no arguments from the teams, no arguments from the leagues. If we want to keep Officials and we want to keep them refereeing, we have to pay them, and that's just the way it is.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Thank you, and you will see in the rationale that the AAA leagues are in acceptance of this recommendation. They have approved this. This motion deals only with AAA.

**CARRIED**

### **20. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 81 – Regulation 10.8**

**Presently Reads:**



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2015-2016	Regular		Playoff	
Category	Referee	Linesmen	Referee	Linesmen
Juvenile	\$45.00	\$30.00	\$55.00	\$35.00
Midget	\$35.00	\$25.00	\$37.00	\$27.00
Bantam	\$30.00	\$22.00	\$32.00	\$24.00
Peewee	\$25.00	\$19.00	\$27.00	\$21.00
Atom	\$20.00	\$16.00	\$22.00	\$17.00
Novice	\$20.00	\$16.00	\$22.00	\$17.00

## **Change to Read:**

2016-2017	Regular		Playoff	
Category	Referee	Linesmen	Referee	Linesmen
Juvenile	\$49.00	\$33.00	\$59.00	\$38.00
Midget	\$39.00	\$28.00	\$41.00	\$30.00
Bantam	\$34.00	\$25.00	\$36.00	\$27.00
Peewee	\$29.00	\$22.00	\$31.00	\$24.00
Atom	\$24.00	\$19.00	\$26.00	\$20.00
Novice	\$24.00	\$19.00	\$26.00	\$20.00

## **Rationale:**

The proposed rates are based on a review of game lengths across the various leagues of the NOHA. The proposed rates are in line with the other OHF Member Partners and are comparable to the House League and AAA rates with respect to the time commitment required from the Officials.

**Moved/Ted Zajac – South Porcupine**  
**Seconded/Dan Raycroft – Sault Ste. Marie**

Glen Campbell – North Bay – I would just like to point out that these rates do not include House League, only rates above House League are in this motion.

**CARRIED**

**21. -SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 81 – Regulation 10.8**

**Presently Reads:**



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The maximum fees for officials under the one referee and two linesmen system for each game including overtime, shall be:

### **Change to Read:**

The fees for officials for each game including overtime, shall be:

(Rate spreadsheet)

The above rates will be in effect until the conclusion of the 2018/2019 hockey season, after which a review of the officials' fees will be completed by the NOHA Board of Directors.

### **Rationale:**

The word "maximum" has been removed to ensure consistency in officiating rates across Northern Ontario and to eliminate the need to negotiate fees.

The proposed change also includes a timeline for any additional fee reviews to be conducted of the Officials' rates.

### **Moved/Ted Zajac – South Porcupine Seconded/Dan Raycroft – Sault Ste. Marie**

Glen Campbell – North Bay – This motion will show it will be a three-year period, and also to remove the word "maximum" to make sure everybody is consistent in the NOHA and there are no negotiations between Associations and Officials.

**CARRIED**

### **22. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**NEW – Regulation 10.20**

### **Presently Reads:**

None.

### **Change to Read:**

Any game length increases made by teams, leagues or associations must be approved by the NOHA Board of Directors.



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### **Rationale:**

Recently, some leagues have increased their game lengths which has resulted in a negotiation of fees for Officials. We are asking that any further increases to game lengths be approved by the NOHA Board of Directors so that they can be reviewed and a determination be made as to whether there is a need to adjust the rates.

### **Moved/Ted Zajac – South Porcupine Seconded/Fred Burrows – Englehart**

Glen Campbell – North Bay – What we're trying to prevent is Leagues negotiating with Officials when game times are changed. All we want to do is have the NOHA decide if there needs to be an increase and avoid any friction with Leagues and Officials.

Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – I'm wondering if this motion conflicts with the earlier passed motion regarding the duties of the Board of Directors.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Can you explain where you see the conflict?

Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – This would say that the League would have to get approval from the Board of Directors to change the length of their games, and according to the earlier motion, the NOHA is mandated to let the Associations perform their own duties, and I think this conflicts with that.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – We come back to trying to do what's right, because the last thing we want is for referees walking out and games not having Officials. It's not in the best interest.

What this is saying, if you change what's in the book without telling anyone, then you suffer the consequences of Officials not completing the full game, and I don't think anyone wants that. We should resolve the issue with the Officials before we get to the arena.

Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – I'm not in disagreement with you, but I see this as a conflict with the earlier motion.

Diane Langdon – Coniston – Respectfully, the motion was for Associations to not be interfered with, not Leagues.

Ted Zajac – South Porcupine – Just as a clarification it does say Leagues. The issue stems from Leagues lengthening their games and Officials negotiating pay. This strictly deals with the Leagues.

**CARRIED**

### **23. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 135 – Regulation 16.12**

### **Presently Reads:**



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- 1) An NOHA Championship Trophy will be presented annually to the NOHA Champions in specific series.
- 2) In each series, the club winning the final play-downs shall hold the cup and the championship of the NOHA.
- 3) The signing officers of any club or association winning one of the trophies shall be deemed responsible for its care and return to the NOHA.
- 4) The Executive Director of the NOHA shall be, to all intents and purposes, the legal holder of the cups in trust for the NOHA.
- 5) The trophies shall be returned or forwarded to the Council Director for the District for transportation to NOHA Office by December 1st. of every year. If a team fails to enter the next season by the final entry date for its division, the trophy won is to revert immediately to the NOHA.
- 6) The following will be awarded annually to the NOHA Champions:

ALL CATEGORIES 25 MEDALLIONS GOLD AND 25 MEDALLIONS SILVER

Note 1: All NOHA Championship teams may have the privilege of purchasing additional awards, applicable to the appropriate series, from the Executive Director.

### **Change to Read:**

- 1) An NOHA Championship Trophy will be presented annually to the NOHA Champions in specific series.
- 2) In each series, the club winning the final play-downs shall hold the cup and the championship of the NOHA.
- 3) Following the celebration of winning the championship, the trophy will be returned to the Council Director (or appointed designate), who will return the trophy to the NOHA Office.**
- 4) The Executive Director of the NOHA shall be, to all intents and purposes, the legal holder of the cups in trust for the NOHA.
- 5) The following will be awarded annually to the NOHA Champions:

ALL CATEGORIES 25 MEDALLIONS GOLD AND 25 MEDALLIONS SILVER

**One (1) plaque to recognize the Championship, which is theirs to keep. It will be the team's responsibility to have the plaque engraved.**

Note 1: All NOHA Championship teams may have the privilege of purchasing additional awards, applicable to the appropriate series, from the Executive Director..

### **Rationale:**





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To outline the current process with our Tournament of Champions trophies.

**Moved/Claudette Myre – Azilda**  
**Seconded/Oscar Clouthier – Sudbury**

**CARRIED**

## **24. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 61/62 – Regulation 5.**

### **Presently Reads:**

R.5.1. In all divisions and categories above Minor hockey, the Residence Rule shall be open. However, players must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of the NOHA.

R.5.2. AAA Major and Minor Juvenile, Midget, Bantam, and Pee wee in the NOHA adopt the Zone concept. Zone divisions will be the districts as outlined in the NOHA By-law B.1.13. A player from within the Zone may request a NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form from the Signing Officers of the Association or Single Entry team holding his/her playing rights to tryout for the AAA Club within the Zone. This NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form carries an automatic release for the player upon being signed by the AAA club. This same provision will apply for a player wanting to tryout for a AAA club outside his/her zone. For example if a player registers with a Minor Bantam AAA team then they must return to their Home community after their Minor Bantam year. If the player registers with a Major Bantam team as a Minor Bantam player then they stay for the 2 years unless they obtain their release to return to their Home Association.

R.5.3. No Minor player shall be registered as a member of, or compete for, a team in any NOHA match who has not been a bona fide resident of the city, town, municipality, police village, rural area or zone within each of these areas as established by the branch to which his/her team belongs since November 1st in any playing season.

The OHF Residential Move Form must be attached to the player's record in the HCR for approval. At the request of the President of the NOHA, the signing officers of an Association, Club or Single Team Entry, shall submit to the office of Executive Director of the NOHA, verifiable proof, in writing, of the residency of any player registered in the current season. In the case of disputed residency the ruling of the President shall be final. Any player moving residency within their own Association may submit a completed Residential Move form only. No additional documentation is required (i.e. driver's license, bill etc.).



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R.5.4. A player must compete with the club nearest to his/her place of residence having a team entered in a series for which he/she is qualified to play – Junior, Juvenile, Midget, Bantam, Peewee, Atom and Novice. Players may, at their discretion, play for the club nearest to their place of residence having a team entered in the series for which they are, by age, qualified to play in.

R.5.5. Where a team has been registering players from a neighbouring municipality and the acceptance of a new entry from a third municipality prevents such players from qualifying by residence, the Board of Directors shall be empowered to declare which players qualify under the residence rule (minor hockey only).

R.5.6. A player resident in a community which is not represented by a club having a team entered in a division in which he/she is eligible to play, may, if there is more than one team or more than one community with teams for which he/she is eligible, near his/her residence, choose which team he/she wishes to join. However, this choice is only available if the difference in distance between his/her residence, over a well maintained road/highway to the two or more communities does not exceed eight (8) kilometres and is only applicable to cities, towns, municipalities, police village that are not listed in Bylaw 1.13. Such players shall continue to belong to the club chosen until properly released.

R.5.7. Regulation Removed May, 2012.

R.5.8. Regulation Removed May, 2012.

R.5.9. Regulation Removed May, 2005.

R.5.10.

a) A player wishing to register to play for a team in another community that is fully registered may do so with a release from his or her home association, club or team.

b) A player wishing to play in a higher age division outside of their Home Association/team, once being released to play at a higher age division and upon reaching the required age, the player must return to his home Association/team for that hockey season. He may request a release from his resident Association/team at that time.

### **Change to Read:**

R.5.1. In all divisions and categories **including** Minor hockey, the Residence Rule shall be open. However, players must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of the NOHA.

R.5.2. **Delete**

R.5.3. No Minor player shall be registered as a member of, or compete for, a team in any NOHA match who has not been a bona fide resident of the city, town, municipality, police



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village, rural area or zone within each of these areas as established by the branch to which his/her team belongs since November 1st in any playing season.

The OHF Residential Move Form must be attached to the player's record in the HCR for approval. At the request of the President of the NOHA, the signing officers of an Association, Club or Single Team Entry, shall submit to the office of Executive Director of the NOHA, verifiable proof, in writing, of the residency of any player registered in the current season. In the case of disputed residency the ruling of the President shall be final. Any player moving residency within their own Association may submit a completed Residential Move form only. No additional documentation is required (i.e. driver's license, bill etc.).

R.5.4. **Delete**

R.5.5. **Delete**

R.5.6. **Delete**

R.5.7. Regulation Removed May, 2012.

R.5.8. Regulation Removed May, 2012.

R.5.9. Regulation Removed May, 2005.

R.5.10. **Delete**

### **Rationale:**

From discussions with associations and participants there is an increasing desire to allow for participants to choose what program they wish to participate in. These changes would allow players at the Rep and House League levels to participate in any minor hockey association within the NOHA without the need for a release.

### **Moved/Hugh Riddle – Garson Seconded/Claudette Myre – Azilda**

Hugh Riddle – Garson – There are a number of motions that succeed this one, and essentially what we're trying to do is capture the flavor of the floor with regard to residency rules. If the first one falls, then the next one introduces some additional restrictions, and so on, until we're satisfied with what we have. We've been listening over a number of years and capturing input from a number of Associations and appeals situations with regard to residency. We are also members of the OHF, and the current residency rules of the NOHA are the most restrictive of any OHF Member Partner. There has been discussion on this at most meetings. The motions



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have been crafted in succession, and we are looking for your input. If these motions are adopted, they would be in place for the 2017-2018 hockey season.

Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – I'd like to hear more about the rationale.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – It has to do with capturing your view, and what's presented to the NOHA through the appeals process. Anybody who really wishes to circumvent a residency rule will find a way to do so. We're not speaking one way or the other, it hasn't been discussed in a few years, so we felt it was time to review. From the Hockey Canada perspective, the last three meetings I've attended it's been front and foremost in discussions.

Paul Aquino – Englehart – I need to speak against this. I have a small Association, teams with nine kids on it. If one of those kids decides to go in open borders, I have eight kids that don't play hockey. I have to vote for my kids to play.

Derek Charron – Onaping Falls – We're a small Association in House League, so we have to let them play, so we have good players and not so good players but they have to play, so if they want to go play for another Association, who will want to coach the kids who are less fortunate? There will be big power house teams.

Brian Peters – Temiskaming Shores – I'd just like to follow up from Paul's comment. We're a small but slightly larger Association down the road from Englehart. We don't want to see player's choice be taken away.

Matt Cavaliere – Sault Major – From my perspective over the last five or six years, the number of kids that wanted to play elsewhere got their way, the only thing we managed to do was add another couple hundred dollars for the appeal for the parents. Ultimately those players went to play where they wanted to play. I'm in favor of this because I don't want to cause them anymore cost. Realistically you can't stop them from going to play where they want to play.

Jeremy Seguin – Verner – We are also a very small organization, but within our area we've already had an open policy with our other organizations. What I've noticed is a lot of people saying they're afraid of their own Associations losing players, nobody here has mentioned the word "parents" or "players." Our Association did a Doodle Poll with our parents, and it was overwhelming that they wanted to have open borders. The various reasons went from family, like near grandparents. There are a lot of reasons why parents and children would want this, and it can create alterations in the ways teams will be formed, and it will be more difficult for Associations to plan further ahead, but in reality what's our goal as volunteers? It's definitely to have the players and to have the parents being happy playing where they are. At what point is this the issue? I know there's another organization that's right beside ours who aren't here presently, but they've been battling legal challenges for over two years because of this. This definitely dips into their funds, dips into their volunteers' times, and is something we don't need to do. As a President of an Association, I don't want to take days off from work to go to court, to do legal matters, and I think by opening this up to everybody, we're going to be avoiding those types of headaches in the future.

Lorrie O'Connor – Cochrane – My Association is completely opposed to this. We've already seen that even our House League teams are diminishing, so if our kids go elsewhere, now we're going to be enforcing that our House League kids may have to travel to play House League. House League is based in your community so people who are less fortunate can play in their own



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centre and not have to travel. If we allow this, small associations such as ourselves will become null and void, and you're only going to have districts like North Bay and the Sault who are going to have a voice and have teams, because everyone else is going to be defeated.

Rob Kirchner – Blind River – I don't know if this is right or wrong for everyone, but I know for our Association we offer House League hockey at \$200 a player, rep hockey at \$300 a player. We have a population of 3500, and we pull from maybe 600 outside our community, surrounded by a community of about 13,000 who also get the addition of 6500 kids to choose from and those kids are forced to play at an elevated cost and have no choice. I don't think it's right to tell a family that they don't have the choice to play where they want to play. I don't know if it's right or wrong, but who are we to decide where a family wants to play. I'm totally for it and I think our organization would benefit from it.

Dave Shaw – Timmins – It took courage to put these motions on here, so thank you for doing that. I will be voting against this motion. Removing certain constraints could be beneficial, though I'm not sure what would be the best approach. There is an increasing desire for participants to choose the programs they participate in, I suggest there is a small and loud group being a pain in the ass and making it an issue for Associations to have to deal with. Who are we here for? This isn't about placating a couple parents, it's about having our players playing at the right level of hockey so they enjoy it and develop properly. Some other examples we can learn from are the OMHA A/AA Passport, which is having kids play at the caliber they should be and not be held back for whatever reason.

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – I represent the Rep teams in Manitoulin. We have teams competing in House League. The issues we deal with on Manitoulin Island, we have communities that are ten minutes apart, but they have hockey teams, and the issues we face as an Association on Manitoulin Island include travel costs at rep, so rep-level players play at House League level. My concern with opening up is that we would create competitive systems at House League, and my understanding is that's not what House League is about. House League is supposed to be about Fair and Equal Play. We have struggles holding our kids in geographical areas because they want to play with their friends.

Craig Maki – Sudbury – From our Board's perspective, we're fractured in regard to this, we haven't come up with a 100% answer if we support it. The concerns that I have is that some parent groups might end up holding Associations hostage by banding together and saying how they want the program run. The other issue is "the sky is falling" approach bothers me. I would rather have a presentation so we can be educated on this and have the information to make decisions.

Robert Roy – Hearst Élans – What concerns me is there are some teams that have a lot of money, and they will promise the kids, and be able to "buy" them, then some kids won't play.

Mike Landry – Soo Peewee – We have different problems in Soo Peewee. The problem with us is that our rink is not subsidized. We own the rink. The cost of hydro and everything else is going up, and we're losing players to a non-sanctioned league. We've lost our AA cards, other teams are being approved other places, so if you're not happy with the coach, ice times, your kid's in House League instead of A, they can just go somewhere else and create their own teams. We're in a deficit again because of the stated facts, and this is not good for hockey, it's not good





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for us, we're struggling. The price of hockey in our Association is going up, and when it goes up we lose more kids. A lot of people are laid off, and we're worried to lose players to another Association because someone isn't happy, and also because they can't afford to play. This should not be approved, and if we're going to entertain free movement of players, there has to be an intensive study to see the effects.

Dan Ross – Valley East – I want to support my colleague from Manitoulin and Sudbury, I concur completely, I also want to caution moving forward based on something that works in Southern Ontario. What is done in Southern Ontario doesn't always work in the North.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – We've had a lengthy discussion, and I think that's what the Board wanted to hear. It is a very controversial subject, has been for years, and there are some very good arguments on both sides. We are an active part of the OHF, and they do listen to us and our concerns. There's been great discussion, so let's vote.

### **DEFEATED**

#### **25. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

##### **Page 61/62 – Regulation 5.**

##### **Presently Reads:**

R.5.1. In all divisions and categories above Minor hockey, the Residence Rule shall be open. However, players must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of the NOHA.

R.5.2. AAA Major and Minor Juvenile, Midget, Bantam, and Pee wee in the NOHA adopt the Zone concept. Zone divisions will be the districts as outlined in the NOHA By-law B.1.13. A player from within the Zone may request a NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form from the Signing Officers of the Association or Single Entry team holding his/her playing rights to tryout for the AAA Club within the Zone. This NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form carries an automatic release for the player upon being signed by the AAA club. This same provision will apply for a player wanting to tryout for a AAA club outside his/her zone. For example if a player registers with a Minor Bantam AAA team then they must return to their Home community after their Minor Bantam year. If the player registers with a Major Bantam team as a Minor Bantam player then they stay for the 2 years unless they obtain their release to return to their Home Association.

R.5.3. No Minor player shall be registered as a member of, or compete for, a team in any NOHA match who has not been a bona fide resident of the city, town, municipality, police village, rural area or zone within each of these areas as established by the branch to which his/her team belongs since November 1st in any playing season.



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The OHF Residential Move Form must be attached to the player's record in the HCR for approval. At the request of the President of the NOHA, the signing officers of an Association, Club or Single Team Entry, shall submit to the office of Executive Director of the NOHA, verifiable proof, in writing, of the residency of any player registered in the current season. In the case of disputed residency the ruling of the President shall be final. Any player moving residency within their own Association may submit a completed Residential Move form only. No additional documentation is required (i.e. driver's license, bill etc.).

R.5.4. A player must compete with the club nearest to his/her place of residence having a team entered in a series for which he/she is qualified to play – Junior, Juvenile, Midget, Bantam, Peewee, Atom and Novice. Players may, at their discretion, play for the club nearest to their place of residence having a team entered in the series for which they are, by age, qualified to play in.

R.5.5. Where a team has been registering players from a neighbouring municipality and the acceptance of a new entry from a third municipality prevents such players from qualifying by residence, the Board of Directors shall be empowered to declare which players qualify under the residence rule (minor hockey only).

R.5.6. A player resident in a community which is not represented by a club having a team entered in a division in which he/she is eligible to play, may, if there is more than one team or more than one community with teams for which he/she is eligible, near his/her residence, choose which team he/she wishes to join. However, this choice is only available if the difference in distance between his/her residence, over a well maintained road/highway to the two or more communities does not exceed eight (8) kilometres and is only applicable to cities, towns, municipalities, police village that are not listed in Bylaw 1.13. Such players shall continue to belong to the club chosen until properly released.

R.5.7. Regulation Removed May, 2012.

R.5.8. Regulation Removed May, 2012.

R.5.9. Regulation Removed May, 2005.

R.5.10.

a) A player wishing to register to play for a team in another community that is fully registered may do so with a release from his or her home association, club or team.

b) A player wishing to play in a higher age division outside of their Home Association/team, once being released to play at a higher age division and upon reaching the required age, the player must return to his home Association/team for that hockey season. He may request a release from his resident Association/team at that time.

**Change to Read:**



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R.5.1. In all divisions and categories above Minor hockey, **and all levels of rep minor hockey**, the Residence Rule shall be open. However, players must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of the NOHA.

R.5.2. **Delete**

R.5.3. No Minor player shall be registered as a member of, or compete for, a team in any NOHA match who has not been a bona fide resident of the city, town, municipality, police village, rural area or zone within each of these areas as established by the branch to which his/her team belongs since November 1st in any playing season.

The OHF Residential Move Form must be attached to the player's record in the HCR for approval. At the request of the President of the NOHA, the signing officers of an Association, Club or Single Team Entry, shall submit to the office of Executive Director of the NOHA, verifiable proof, in writing, of the residency of any player registered in the current season. In the case of disputed residency the ruling of the President shall be final. Any player moving residency within their own Association may submit a completed Residential Move form only. No additional documentation is required (i.e. driver's license, bill etc.).

R.5.4. **Delete**

R.5.5. **Delete**

R.5.6. A player resident in a community which is not represented by a club having a team entered in a division in which he/she is eligible to play, may, if there is more than one team or more than one community with teams for which he/she is eligible, near his/her residence, choose which team he/she wishes to join. However, this choice is only available if the difference in distance between his/her residence, over a well maintained road/highway to the two or more communities does not exceed eight (8) kilometres and is only applicable to cities, towns, municipalities, police village that are not listed in Bylaw 1.13. Such players shall continue to belong to the club chosen until properly released.

R.5.7. Regulation Removed May, 2012.

R.5.8. Regulation Removed May, 2012.

R.5.9. Regulation Removed May, 2005.

R.5.10. **Delete**

**Rationale:**



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From discussions with associations and participants there is an increasing desire to allow for participants to choose what program they wish to participate in. These changes would allow players at the Rep level to participate in any minor hockey association within the NOHA without the need for a release.

If the above is accepted, Regulations 6.7. and 7.15 will need to be deleted.

**Moved/Hugh Riddle – Garson**  
**Seconded/Claudette Myre – Azilda**

Dave Shaw – Timmins – Just to be on the record, as I mentioned I think there is some Freedom of Movement flexibility could be helpful, though this isn't one of them. I support this at Rep, but not at House League.

**DEFEATED**

### **26. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

#### **Page 61 – Regulation 5.2**

#### **Presently Reads:**

AAA Major and Minor Juvenile, Midget, Bantam, and Pee wee in the NOHA adopt the Zone concept. Zone divisions will be the districts as outlined in the NOHA By-law B.1.13. A player from within the Zone may request a NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form from the Signing Officers of the Association or Single Entry team holding his/her playing rights to tryout for the AAA Club within the Zone. This NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form carries an automatic release for the player upon being signed by the AAA club. This same provision will apply for a player wanting to tryout for a AAA club outside his/her zone. For example if a player registers with a Minor Bantam AAA team then they must return to their Home community after their Minor Bantam year. If the player registers with a Major Bantam team as a Minor Bantam player then they stay for the 2 years unless they obtain their release to return to their Home Association.

#### **Change to Read:**

In all levels of minor hockey the NOHA shall adopt a zone concept. Zone divisions will be districts outline in the NOHA By-laws describing the Districts. There shall be freedom of movement for players within each zone.

#### **Rationale:**



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From discussions with associations and participants there is an increasing desire to allow for participants to choose what program they wish to participate in. These changes would allow players to move freely within their respective districts without the need for a release.

### **Moved/Hugh Riddle – Garson Seconded/Claudette Myre – Azilda**

Dave Shaw – Timmins – I propose a Friendly Amendment to this, changing it to read “that all levels of Rep hockey the NOHA shall adopt a Zone concept, divisions will be Districts outlined in the By-law. Freedom of Movement within each Zone upwards in category.” So that means there would be automatic releases the same as AAA, so stronger players would be able to play up if their calibre permitted.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – So you’re proposing this to all levels of Rep hockey, not Minor?

Dave Shaw – Timmins – Just Rep. Not House League. “Freedom of Movement in each Zone upwards in category.”

Seconded by Del Weber, Sault Major Hockey Association.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – I think you are one motion ahead of yourselves.

Dave Shaw – Timmins – I am not withdrawing it. It has been moved and seconded, and should be voted on.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – We’re voting on Motion #26 as amended.

Andrew MacDonald – Nickel Centre – Point of Clarification, does this amendment change the intent of the motion? It’s now including based on classification, and we use population, not ability, and it’s been worded based on ability.

Moderator: I don’t think it’s changed the intent. We’ll vote on the amendment, then vote on the motion.

### **Friendly Amendment**

**“In all levels of minor hockey the NOHA shall adopt a zone concept. Zone divisions will be districts outline in the NOHA By-laws describing the Districts. There shall be freedom of movement for players within each zone upwards in category”**

**DEFEATED**

### **Motion #26**

**DEFEATED**

### **27. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 61 – Regulation 5.2**

**Presently Read:**





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AAA Major and Minor Juvenile, Midget, Bantam, and Pee wee in the NOHA adopt the Zone concept. Zone divisions will be the districts as outlined in the NOHA By-law B.1.13.

A player from within the Zone may request a NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form from the Signing Officers of the Association or Single Entry team holding his/her playing rights to tryout for the AAA Club within the Zone. This NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form carries an automatic release for the player upon being signed by the AAA club. This same provision will apply for a player wanting to tryout for a AAA club outside his/her zone. For example if a player registers with a Minor Bantam AAA team then they must return to their Home community after their Minor Bantam year. If the player registers with a Major Bantam team as a Minor Bantam player then they stay for the 2 years unless they obtain their release to return to their Home Association.

### **Change to Read:**

In all levels of rep hockey the NOHA shall adopt a zone concept. Zone divisions will be the districts outlined in the NOHA By-laws describing the districts. There shall be freedom of movement within each zone.

### **Rationale:**

From discussions with associations and participants there is an increasing desire to allow for participants to choose what program they wish to participate in. These changes would allow players at the rep level to move freely within their respective districts without the need for a release.

### **Moved/Hugh Riddle – Garson Seconded/Claudette Myre – Azilda**

Dave Shaw – Timmins – I’m proposing a Friendly Amendment so it would change to read: “In all Rep hockey the NOHA shall adopt a Zone concept, zone divisions will be Districts as outlined by the NOHA By-laws described, there shall be Freedom of Movement within each Zone upwards in category.” The rationale is this would enable players to play at calibre of their skill level.

Seconded by Del Weber, Sault Major Hockey Association.

George Suszter – East Nipissing – I was wondering if you’d be willing to make a Friendly Amendment to that, except for the higher levels plays your lower level team. So an example would be a AA team playing an A team.

Jennifer West – Englehart – I just have a question, what does it do to your teams that are designated D, C, or B centres when you change the population you’re drawing from?

Hugh Riddle – Garson – Population is only one consideration, as discussed earlier, there are a number of factors to be considered when designating a team.



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Oscar Clouthier – Sudbury – Point of Order, is that not the same motion we voted down? Where are we going with this?

Dick Farrow – Moderator – This is two amendments. Let's deal with the amendments, then the motion, though I get the sense the floor has given us their feeling on these, so I think we can let this go through and keep everybody happy. We're going to vote on the amendment to the amendment, then the amendment, then the motion.

Derek Crowell – Soo Peewee – I think we've got a flavor for what's going on on the floor, and I'm wondering if perhaps the movers would consider withdrawing these motions.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – As Hugh said, he feels the floor has given their opinion, and they were prepared to withdraw this motion.

**WITHDRAWN**

## **28. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

### **Page 61 – Regulation 5.1**

#### **Presently Read:**

In all divisions and categories above Minor hockey, the Residence Rules shall be open. However, players must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of the NOHA.

#### **Change to Read:**

In all divisions and categories above Minor hockey, the Residence Rules shall be open. However, players must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of the NOHA.

**Residency rules shall not apply for the purposes of house league hockey.**

#### **Rationale:**

From discussions with associations and participants there is an increasing desire to allow for participants to choose what program they wish to participate in. These changes would allow house league players to move freely within their respective districts without the need for a release.

**WITHDRAWN**

## **29. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

### **Page 64 – Regulation 6.7**



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### **Presently Reads:**

A player resident in a community represented by an Association and/or Club with a team entered in a series for which the player is eligible to play, must register with that club except where such player receives a signed NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form. In which case the player may play for the Team as named on the NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form. The NOHA Permission to Skate/Release form must be attached in the Hockey Canada Registry to the player's record. A player who is released, is only released to that team so named on the form. If the team is a Minor aged team and the player is of Minor age then the player returns to his Association after the season is completed. If the team is a Major aged team and the player is of Minor age then the player returns to her Association after she has completed her Major season. To return to his habitual residence after his minor year a player requires a release from the current team. It must not be construed as having altered the original residence of the player and it shall be filed with the Executive Director of the NOHA.

### **Change to Read:**

Delete

### **Rationale:**

From discussions with associations and participants there is an increasing desire to allow for participants to choose what program they wish to participate in.

If motions #24 or 25 are accepted, the above regulation is no longer required.

**WITHDRAWN**

### **30. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

**Page 69 – Regulation 7.15**

### **Presently Reads:**

If a player is released by his/her residence association (AA or below) and there is a AAA team in their District which they are eligible to play for and then registers with another association (AA or below) in another District, he/she is not eligible to affiliate with the AAA team in that District or any other District without written approval from their Home District AAA team.

### **Change to Read:**

Delete



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### **Rationale:**

From discussions with associations and participants there is an increasing desire to allow for participants to choose what program they wish to participate in.

If motions #24 or 25 are accepted, the above regulation is no longer required.

**WITHDRAWN**

### **31. –SUBMITTED BY NOHA EXECUTIVE**

#### **Page 84 – Regulation 11.7**

### **Presently Reads:**

If a player leaves his/her residence association and registers with another association, he/she cannot be affiliated with the new association's "rep" team until he/she gets the proper releases as per the NOHA Constitution. See Regulation Number Six.

### **Change to Read:**

Delete

### **Rationale:**

From discussions with associations and participants there is an increasing desire to allow for participants to choose what program they wish to participate in.

If motions #24 or 25 are accepted, the above regulation is no longer required.

**WITHDRAWN**

### **9) ANNUAL MEETING**

The 2017 Annual Meeting will be held in North Bay.

### **10) GENERAL BUISNESS**

Ronald Roy – Hearst Élans – We would still like an answer about the budget.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – That is forthcoming.



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John Jamieson – Lively – In answer to your question, \$3000 of that money went to the Assistance Fund for set-up, and \$12,600 was for a lawyer for an injunction we had in Sault Ste. Marie.

Hugh Riddle – Garson – If you look in the documents, there is a report on Recruitment and Retention. It's a high priority item, if we don't continue to bring in new participants, then Midget and Junior programs will die. Over the course of last winter we worked on a couple initiatives. Jason has spoken to many Associations to garner information on what you may be doing in regard to recruitment, and will continue doing so. In the packages you received there is information on The First Shift program. This is a great opportunity to get new players in at a subsidized cost, so I encourage you to take advantage of these programs. We also got a grant for the Initiation Program. We're asking you support and use these programs with the idea of introducing new and non-traditional families to the game. These are all excellent opportunities. When you look at our registration numbers, you'll see we've remained slightly status quo, but we're losing volunteer coaches, so we're looking at initiatives to assist and make it easier for volunteers. I attended a meeting last night and the focus was around communication. We can only send information to our contacts, so it's important that this gets out to the right people, so we're going to work at putting some guidance around that. Communication is very important, and anything you can do to enhance this will be a great help to our recruitment and retention. Your input is greatly appreciated.

Ronald Roy – Hearst Éléans – What was the injunction for?

John Jamieson – Lively – The injunction was for an ongoing issue we were having with Sault Ste. Marie at the time. We had to get a lawyer. The expenses were approved by the NOHA Finance Committee and Board in August, 2015.

Craig Abotossoway – Manitoulin Panthers – Just some general comments. Suggestions as we move forward, I've sat on a number of executive Boards and gone through a lot of audits. Would suggest full disclosure for large spending in audits. In regard to dollars, as a member Association, to spend that kind of money without informing our membership would be frowned upon. Our number one goal moving forward should be hockey development. In my mind using money to fight among each other is not a good use. Let's find ways to work together to support hockey and develop kids.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Before we move forward I would like a motion to destroy the ballots.

**Moved/Barry McCrory – Sudbury**

**Seconded/Claudette Myre - Azilda**

**“To destroy the ballots of the District Three election.”**

**CARRIED**





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Mike Landry – Soo Peewee – Regarding the legal cost to the NOHA. I think it's very important for the Soo Peewee Hockey League. We have a substantial legal cost over the removal of AA costs and release policy. We have so much damage. In 2012 we were given AA cards, the President was Mr. MacDonald, and he told us "you're in breach of the regulations, you need to take the cards." So we did. Last year our cards were taken away. The reason is that Ken Belanger of KBX said he was going to have a non-sanctioned program. We requested a meeting with Sault Major and the President of the NOHA. We had that meeting. There was agreements after that that didn't work out. Now we have problems because of the non-sanctioned league. We've lost nine teams. During that time we've asked for clarification regarding the release policy. There was no such clear interpretation. I believe Hockey Canada provides resources and we called Glen McCurdie. We had to go to the OHF, and they ruled the release policy of Hockey Canada cannot be any less restrictive by the NOHA or OHF. We have lost our AA cards, we've been in legal battle. It's not good for hockey or for the Peewee. The damage could have been avoided, and I can assure you no one wants to spend any more money on lawyers.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Is this the issue currently on appeal to Hockey Canada?

Mike Landry – Soo Peewee – Yes, and we'll keep filing appeals, and the NOHA is going to spend more money, and so are we, we're just asking the NOHA, Hockey Canada, and the OHF to follow the rules, it's their rules we're following.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – I understand what you're saying, but I've been informed by the Board that with the appeal that is at Hockey Canada, that they've been instructed to follow the rules of Hockey Canada that state that this is not to be discussed at this time.

Tony Avati – Sault Major – I think what Mr. Landry has brought forward isn't something anyone needs to be involved with here. I think the NOHA did right. The issue was with the AA cards that they had. We had a disagreement with the Peewee over AA cards, and I think the NOHA was within their rights to rule the way they did. I think they followed proper procedures, and that was clarified by the OHF who ruled we did nothing improper. I think Soo Peewee's choice to spend dollars on this is their choice. I think at this point it's almost a moot issue. It's time to move forward. I think their continued fight and continued expense is their choice alone.

Unfortunately the NOHA and Sault Major has to be party to this, and now you people, so I apologize for this and what's going on. We were given ample time to work with the Peewee to come up with an agreement. We couldn't, and still can't. We are always open to discuss resolutions with the Peewee, and hopefully we can come up with something to stop spending dollars and start spending where we should.

Rob Kirchner – Blind River – To the Board, we had an issue at the beginning of the year pertaining releases along the corridor to Massey. My question is, and John I know you gave me the answer of "we've always done it this way," but your guidelines to me were that you used to city limit signs. That is a "moveable object" and I fear that if the North Shore amalgamates things may change and the sign would be closer. My question is how can you use a "moveable



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object” to state the guidelines of the eight kilometre difference? Why not use the arena as a guideline? If you go to Elliot Lake, their community sign is followed by another sign. I can put my sign wherever I want. I’ve read this book front and back, it says nowhere in here how you determine the distance. I don’t think using a “moveable object” is rational. I want to know how you feel about that and what rationale you have using a “moveable object” as that guideline?

John Jamieson – Lively – As you know, we spent quite a bit of time on that, there’s no real answer I can give you other than we have used Elliot Lake in the past as being closer.

Rob Kirchner – Blind River – John, what do you use in a city situation where it’s intramural as a guideline for where these kids have to go? I think it’s an easy question that it’s not signs and we should revisit this.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – That’s fair, and it’s a challenge for the Board, and Jason has it noted they will discuss this and get back to you on that.

Craig Maki – Sudbury – Maybe a break from all the acrimony, I just want to, on behalf of Sudbury Minor, thank Dan Raycroft for over twenty years of service to the NOHA. I want to commend you for that and thank you for everything you have done for hockey.

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Thank you, and I want to thank you Dan as well, you’ve been a great friend to hockey. Before we finish, we need a motion to accept the treasurer’s report.

**Moved/Claudette Myre – Azilda**  
**Seconded/Hugh Riddle – Garson**

**“To accept the Treasurers Report.”**

**CARRIED**

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Thank you very much for attending. There will be a new Board meeting at 8:00 tomorrow morning. A big thank you to Timmins Minor Hockey for hosting this year.

### **11) ELECTIONS**

Dick Farrow – Moderator – Nominations for District Three are Dan Raycroft and Derek Crowell. Only District Three can vote for this Council Director. We will let both of you come up to speak.

Derek Crowell – Sault Ste. Marie – My name is Derek Crowell, I’m running for District Three.

The reason I’m doing so is I believe if you feel strongly about something you need to get involved. I’ve done this in all aspects of my life, been involved in other boards and associations, volunteered, coached, grew up playing minor hockey and was an Official. I just think it’s an important time right now with what’s going on to have proper representation. I think there has to be respect both given at the NOHA and Association levels. I look forward to meeting with all the



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Associations in the District if I'm elected, and trying to work through the challenges and achieve the goals of all our hockey Associations. I believe in it and think I can do a good job.

Dan Raycroft – Sault Ste. Marie – All I would like to say is I certainly would appreciate your support to be re-elected as Council Director for District Three, and hopefully if I get back in again, we can sit down, be open and candid and get some of the city's problems out of the way.

Mike Landry – Soo Peewee – How many voters are there?

Dick Farrow – Moderator – 25

Derek Crowell will be the District Three Council Director

Past President – Vacant

President – John Jamieson

First Vice President – Claudette Myre

Second Vice President – Fred Burrows

Third Vice President – Hugh Riddle

District 1 – Ted Zajac

District 2 – Vacant

District 3 – Derek Crowell

District 4 – Sue Shepherdson

District 5 – Shawn Essery

District 6 – Vacant

District 7 – Vacant

District 8 – Oscar Clouthier

District 9 – Lisa Stewart

### 12) ADJOURNMENT

**Moved/Claudette Myre – Azilda**

**Seconded/Hugh Riddle – Garson**

**“To adjourn the Meeting.”**

**CARRIED**