



RICHMOND JETS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

C HOCKEY POLICIES FOR ATOM AND ABOVE DIVISIONS

A. GENERAL POLICIES

1. The Divisional Directors will establish and annually review guidelines for “C” League, based on PCAHA and BC Hockey regulations, and ensure they are communicated to all applicable team officials prior to the start of the season.
2. Selection of Coaches
 - a. The Coach Coordinator is authorized to establish and select a Coach Selection Committee for the purposes of interviewing and recommending candidates for coaches and assistant coaches to the Executive Board. This Committee shall have a maximum of six (6) Members and a minimum of three (3), including the Coach Coordinator, and be drawn from Members and the public.
 - b. “C” League coaches and assistant coaches must be approved by the Executive Board based on recommendations from the Coach Coordinator and the Coach Selection Committee. The Coach Selection Committee shall have all their selections for “C” League coaches ready for approval by the Executive Board as early in the season as possible.
 - c. All coaches must provide a RCMP criminal record check. If the record check comes back indicating that there “may or may not be a record”, the Coach Coordinator or Director, Risk Management will speak to the person concerned. If the person or his lawyer does not wish to disclose this information to the Coach Coordinator or Director, Risk Management, then RJMHA’s lawyer can communicate directly with the person’s lawyer. Failure to provide a RCMP criminal record check, or failure to communicate with the Coach Coordinator or Director, Risk Management in this regard will be grounds for refusing to approve, or removing the person as a coach.
3. Division Managers shall work with the Ice Allocator to produce a balancing game schedule for the “C” League teams within his or her Division.
4. The Registrar must notify the Division Manager and Team Manager immediately when a player quits or withdraws from the Association.
5. RJMHA will not pay or be responsible for any part of a team or Division banquet, wind- up party or events outside of practices and normal league and playoff games. Other team costs, such as pins, buttons, tournament costs, apparel, and the like will be the responsibility of the team.
6. The team will be responsible for the cleanliness of dressing rooms. Any damage must be reported immediately to the arena attendant. Dressing rooms must be left clean and in good order.
7. Any team requesting permission to use extra ice at minor hockey rates must apply through its coach or manager to the Ice Allocator.

B. INTRODUCTION TO HOCKEY

1. Each season, RJMHA may offer an Introduction to Hockey program, in accordance with PCAHA rules.
2. All players in above will be automatically placed in the Introduction to Hockey program, but will be assessed at the beginning of the season to determine if they would be better suited to be placed on a regular team. Players may be re-assigned to a regular team on or before January 10 of the current season.

C. REFEREES

1. Costs of referees and linesmen for "C" teams in balancing rounds, will be reimbursed by RJMHA.
2. Teams will be responsible for all referee and linesmen costs relating to exhibition, league and playoff games.
3. Referees and linesmen will be assigned by the Association from PeeWee "A" and below. Referees and linesmen for Bantam "C" and above will be assigned by PCAHA.

D. TRAVEL

1. "C" League teams wishing to travel to the U.S.A. to play must first obtain permission from their Division Manager and the Association President, a game number from the applicable PCAHA League Manager, and permission from BC Hockey. Notification to the President must be 14 days prior to the game date to allow time for the required BC Hockey permission.
2. Travel for exhibition and tournament games outside the team's normal schedule must be approved by 75% of the team's parent(s) and/or guardian(s). Votes will be by secret ballot.

E. PLAYOFFS

1. All playoffs will be in accordance with PCAHA regulations

F. TEAM SELECTION AND PLAY

1. Only Players who are registered for the current season with RJMHA may attend evaluations and be placed on teams.

2. Balancing:
 - a. PCAHA rules require that when RJMHA enters more than one "C" team in a Division, those teams must be of a competitive balance.
 - b. It is recognized that moving players between teams can be a traumatic experience; but that it may be necessary to avoid PCAHA suspending all teams in a Division.
 - c. RJMHA is committed to achieve equality and fair play between its "C" League teams. The strength of each team shall be reviewed by the third Monday of October each season and the necessary changes will be made to achieve a proper balance within each Division's teams.
 - d. Division Managers will monitor their teams to ensure that these objectives are being met. RJMHA reserves the right to move players between teams if necessary to ensure competitive balance. Players and parents must move between teams in order to facilitate competitive balance.
3. Teams must comply with Hockey Canada, BC Hockey and PCAHA rules governing minimum and maximum number of players in each game. A team that will have, for a particular game, 12 or fewer skaters or no goaltender available, that wishes to utilize an affiliate player from a lower Division, must comply with the following:
 - a. Advise the desired player's coach of the situation and request the player from the lower Division;
 - b. A team can only apply for permission to draw affiliate players to a maximum of 13 skaters and one goaltender in a particular game;
 - c. Upon receipt of consent, a team official must obtain permission from the applicable PCAHA League Manager to the use of the affiliate player.
 - d. A player from a lower Division must be identified on the game sheet as an affiliate player (AP) and may play up for the maximum number of games as set by PCAHA regulations.
4. Evaluation and Balancing Procedures
 - a. Atom – Juvenile players will only be evaluated during inter-squad games. Each player will be evaluated during at least during at least two inter-squad games.
 - b. Inter-squad teams will be prepared by the Division Manager in consultation with Head Coaches in an effort to ensure balanced teams.

- c. All divisions will use evaluation sheets that will consist of Jersey/Pinney number with a score out of 5, including half points, for each player.
- d. Players will be evaluated by Head Coaches and independent evaluators, if available. Assistant coaches shall run the bench during inter-squad games, with no coaching permitted.
- e. Evaluators will use the 5 point scoring system as follows:
 - i. A score of 5: One of the top players in that age group. Difference maker to the team; great all around player.
 - ii. A score of 4: Above Average Player. Good game sense and hockey knowledge. Solid game and team player who has a definite impact.
 - iii. A score of 3: Average player in the game. Good support player. Able to contribute to the game in all areas.
 - iv. A score of 2: Below average player. Still needs a lot of skill development and work on overall game play. Sometimes gets lost in the game and must improve skating.
 - v. A score of 1: Inexperienced player. Needs a lot of skill development and work on overall game play. Needs more experience playing the game. Also needs to improve skating.
- f. Division managers will poll players in PeeWee and above Divisions to determine their interest in playing Forward or Defence. The positions will be shared with Head Coaches.
- g. After evaluations are complete the evaluation scores for each player are averaged and presented with the past year rating and comments from coach, if available. .
- h. The Player scores are sent to the Head Coaches only, a few days before the draft meeting so they can be reviewed.
- i. Once the evaluation scores are agreed on, the following process applies for team formation:
 - i. Coaches are allowed three protected players: Their child, one Assistant Coach's child, and the Manager's child, which must be identified to the Division Manager prior to the Draft meeting. If that team does not have a Manager yet, a second Assistant Coach's child can be 'protected'.
 - ii. The draft begins with the team that has the fewest points total for their protected players, followed by the team with the next fewest points in sequence.

- iii. Points totals are added up at the end of every round. The team with lowest total after a round has been completed chooses first in the next round, followed by the team with the next fewest points in sequence.
- iv. The player pools available for the each draft round are composed of the players with the highest points totals. The number of players in the pool available for each draft round is equal to double the number of teams (i.e. if there are 5 teams, the pool of players in the first round is the top 10 players). Players not selected in a round carry forward to the next round.
- v. Coaches must select their protected players from the player pools when they are available.
- vi. Goalies are drafted after all of the skaters are selected. The team with the lowest point total from selected skaters drafts first, followed by the team with the next fewest points in sequence.
- j. The applicable Division Manager and coaches will make efforts to honour the requests of the players to address conflicts.
 - i. Player requests to address conflicts must be made to the applicable Director by email prior to the Draft Meeting.
 - ii. Where there is not agreement from all coaches impacted by efforts to honour player requests, the player assignment will be strictly by the draft order.
 - iii. Trades between teams can only be made for players of equitable strength (e.g. evaluation score 3.2 for 3.2). Where an equitable strength player is not available a player of a higher ranking may be traded for a lower ranking player .
 - iv. No trades will be allowed that will materially adversely alter the balance between the teams.

5. Balancing Games

- a. Once groups are formed, Inter- Division Balancing games should begin as soon as possible. Practice ice times will be used as games, to speed up Inter-Division Balancing. Each group should play each other twice, if possible.
- b. During the Inter-Division Balancing games, the Division Manager may request that Coaches switch benches. Coaches will ensure that players are playing in the usual positions, and coaching will be limited to encouraging the teams to put in a full effort.
- c. It is preferred that a sufficient number of games are held prior to any further balancing meetings to appropriately determine the level of imbalance (if any) between the RJMHA teams within any one division. This may include a few weeks of PCAHA Balancing games in

addition to the RJMHA Inter-Division balancing games. If needed, practice times can be used for balancing games. However, if there are any glaring discrepancies after the Inter-Division Balancing games, a trade meeting will be held at that time.

- d. If further balancing is determined to be required and, any player may be moved except for the three protected players (e.g. the coach's child, one Assistant Coach's child, and the Manager's child). For Coaches who start the season without a team manager already in place, once they have one, that player should be considered a 'Protected' player. If the Coach/Manager is a husband/wife team, they may pick one other 'Protected' player. (Suggest the other Assistant Manager's child). If two coaches want the same 'Protected' player, they must flip a coin.
- e. Prior to any balancing trades, the applicable Division Manager, will provide their comments regarding the extent of the imbalance between the teams. However, it will be up to the coaches and the applicable Division Manager to determine the appropriate trades.
- f. If the Coaches do not agree to the proposed trades, the <Director of Hockey Programming> will make the final decision. It will be the responsibility of the Division Manager to tell the player and their family
- g. Any player trades agreed to in order to achieve Balanced Teams , or subsequently determined by RJMHA, are final.
- h. PCAHA will request the RJMHA Balancing Reports and do a final review in the last week of October. Consequentially, Applicable Directors must make every effort to have their teams balanced by this time. RJMHA will attempt to ensure that teams are balanced and all player movements made by the third Monday in October. No rosters are finalized until PCAHA declares the teams balanced.
- j. Each finalized team should have a similar number of players to the other teams (e.g. all but one team has 13 skaters and one team has 14 skaters) . Player Movement requests outside of Balancing purposes for all Divisions will be handled by that Division Manager and made at their discretion.
- k. When a player is released from the rep program to C Division, the Rep Director, the Rep Coach, and the Coaches of that C Division will discuss that player's strengths and weaknesses to determine appropriate placement. This is a discussion/decision that can also be made by the applicable Division Manager and Board Ambassador.
- l. Game score will be only one of factors considered when determining if teams are balanced. Other factors may include shots on net, puck possession time and length of time spent in the offensive and defensive ends. Division managers will be responsible for ensuring that this information is recorded.