

CANADIAN BALL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



2009

REGULATIONS

(Revised and Updated September 2008)

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1. INTERPRETATIONS

- 1.1 In these Regulations, and in all other regulations of the CBHA hereafter passed, unless the context otherwise requires, words imparting the singular number or the masculine gender shall include the plural number or the feminine gender, and vice versa, and references to people shall include firms and corporations.
- 1.2 In these and all other Regulations, CBHA shall refer to the Canadian Ball Hockey Association.
- 1.3 In these regulations, Association shall refer to any Full or Associate Provincial or Territorial member under direct supervision of the CBHA.
- 1.4 In these Regulations, League shall refer to any member League under direct supervision of an Association.
- 1.5 In the CBHA, Amateur shall refer to any player who meets the CBHA membership requirements, and who is not a professional ball hockey player.
- 1.6 In these Regulations, Nationals shall refer to the CBHA National Championships and Regionals shall refer to CBHA Eastern and/or Western Canada Regional 'B' and/or 'C' Championships, or Youth Regionals.
- 1.7 These Regulations shall be used as a minimum guideline by all Associations and/or leagues under the supervision of the CBHA.
- 1.8 In any competition operated by an Association or league, changes may be made in the foregoing Regulations in any respect which may be adopted by the Association or League Executive Committee, providing such changes are more restrictive than the foregoing Regulations.
- 1.9 In these Regulations, Bylaws shall refer to the CBHA, Association and/or League bylaws, as applicable.
- 1.10 In these Regulations, CBHA rules shall refer to the current CBHA Official Ball Hockey Rule Book.
- 1.11 In these Regulations, Case Book shall refer to the current CBHA Official Case Book.
- 1.12 In these Regulations, Regulations shall refer to the CBHA, Association and/or League Regulations, as applicable.
- 1.13 Any Player, Team Official, Referee or (League, Association or CBHA) Executive member who makes a false representation, in any regards to the CBHA, its' Associations and/or leagues shall be liable to a suspension of a minimum of one (1) year.
- 1.14 These Regulations shall be used exclusively at any tournament hosted by the CBHA.

2. MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Full and Associate Members of the CBHA must meet the following standards of the CBHA:
 - (a) registration with the Provincial or Territorial Government agency responsible for Amateur sport; as well as registration with a chartered financial institution;
 - (b) have in force a complete set of Bylaws and Regulations as outlined herein;
 - (c) agree to abide by the CBHA Bylaws, Rules and Regulations;
 - (d) agree to submit all dues levies, and registration forms (including National & Regional Championship participation forms) to the CBHA by the required dates.
 - (e) have liability insurance purchased through the CBHA.
 - (f) shall not be registered to play in another province in a year unless they have received an official release from their originating province.

- 2.2. Players competing in CBHA, Association and/or League play shall meet the following standards:
- (a) a senior player must be eighteen (18) years of age in the year in which he/she is registering;
 - (b) a player must be a citizen or a resident with legally recognized status of Canada by July 15 in the year in which he/she is registering within his/her province;
 - (c) agree to abide by all CBHA, Association and/or League Bylaws, Rules and Regulations;
 - (d) agree to submit all dues and levies to the CBHA, its Associations and/or Leagues as required;
 - (e) underage players are allowed to participate at the National Championships providing that the provincial association to which an underage player is registered has in place a legal waiver form and liability insurance policy. The definition of underage is an individual under the age of 18 when the player will participate in the National Championships.
 - (f) the maximum junior age of players participating at the National Junior Championship is set at 19 in the year of participation, determined as the player not being older than 18 at 0:00 hour on January 1st each year.
 - (g) the minimum age of players participating at the National Masters Championship is set at 35 in the year of participation, and such player may not participate in the Men's A Nationals in the same year.
 - (h) shall not be registered to play in another province in a year unless they have received an official release from their originating province.
- 2.3. Team registering with an Association and/or its League(s) must meet the following standards of the CBHA:
- (a) all teams must have both a Coach and a Manager, who are responsible for their team's conduct, discipline and financial obligations;
 - (b) all teams must register a minimum of twelve (12) players, including one (1) goaltender;
 - (c) agree to abide by all CBHA, Association and/or League Bylaws, Rules and Regulations;
 - (d) agree to submit all dues and levies to the CBHA, its Associations and/or its Leagues as required.
- 2.4. A League may become a member of an Association by submitting an application to the Membership Committee of the Association. The Association membership Committee may, at its discretion accept or refuse such application.
- 2.5. A team may become a member of a League and/or Association by submitting an application to the Membership Committee of the League and/or Association. The Membership Committee(s) may, at their discretion, accept or refuse such application.
- 2.6. An individual may become a member of a League and/or an Association by submitting an application to the Membership Committee of the League and/or Association. The Membership Committee(s) may, at their discretion, accept or refuse such application.

3. **REGISTRATION**

Registration within an Association must be administered by the Association's Executive through the registrar. The following are the minimum requirements for a registration program:

- 3.1. Individual
- (a) approved for membership by their League and the Association;
 - (b) meet all CBHA, Association and League standards;
 - (c) not under suspension by an League or Association;

- (d) provide the following information as required:
 - * surname and given names
 - * address, including apartment number and postal code
 - * telephone number and email address
 - * date of birth
 - * signature
 - * any changes to this information

(e) complete a waiver if required.

3.2. Teams

- (a) have both a Coach and a Manager;
- (b) meet all League and/or Association deadlines;
- (c) meet all CBHA, Association and/or League standards;
- (d) provide the following information:
 - * team name
 - * team officials data as per 3.1.(d) above
 - * any changes to the team.

3.3. Leagues

- (a) meet all Association deadlines;
- (b) meet all CBHA or Association Standards;
- (c) provide an up-to-date Executive list to the Association and/or CBHA as required.

3.4. Associations

- (a) meet all CBHA deadlines;
 - (b) meet all CBHA standards;
 - (c) provide an up-to-date Executive list and player registration forms to the CBHA as required.
- NOTE: Failure to submit the registration form by July 15th could affect a team's eligibility at the Nationals.

If an Association does not have an identification card procedure in place, it is required that the Association use their provincial drivers license for identification.

The following shall constitute registration violations and shall result in the guilty party(s) being automatically suspended from participating in Ball Hockey within the jurisdiction of the CBHA, for a minimum of one (1) year:

- * any individual guilty of falsifying a CBHA, Provincial, and/or League registration document;
- * any individual having had knowledge that the above had been falsified and knowing, willfully concealed this knowledge from the CBHA, Association and/or League Executive(s);
- * any individual competing under an assumed name;
- * any Team Official or Executive member proven guilty of having been party to, or having knowledge of and having willfully concealed such registration violations, shall be liable to a minimum suspension of three (3) years in any capacity within the CBHA, its Associations and/or Leagues. This penalty shall be final, and there shall be no appeal entertained.

The CBHA team registration form shall be filled in by all teams. This form shall be used by the CBHA to confirm eligibility at CBHA National Championships, to provide statistical data and compile a mailing list.

The CBHA team registration form must be submitted to the CBHA Vice-President by July 1st in the current year. The names that appear on the registration form shall be considered to the team's final roster, unless specific amendments are allowed by an Association's registration procedures.

4. **CBHA RULE BOOK**

4.1. Playing Rules

All playing rules and penalties contained in Section Six(6) of the CBHA Rule Book shall apply in all CBHA, Association and/or League games (exhibition, regular season, playoff or tournament) unless specifically amended herein.

4.2. Changes

In any competition operated by an Association or League, changes may be made to the CBHA Rule Book in any respect which may be adopted by the Association or League Executive Committee, providing such changes are more restrictive than the foregoing CBHA Rule Book. These changes must be filed with the CBHA Technical Director. Failure to register these changes may result in a suspension of up to one (1) year.

5. **OFFICIATING**

The CBHA is committed to establishing and maintaining the highest standard of officiating possible. To this end the CBHA Technical Director will initiate and update, in consultation with the Association Technical Directors, a comprehensive schedule of examinations and establish a criteria system for Referees. For selection of their representative(s) to the CBHA National Championships, the Association(s) should try to adhere to the following criteria:

Experience

- * minimum of five (5) years in officiating ball hockey;
- * minimum of three (3) years in officiating provincial or territory playoffs;
- * rate within the top five (5) officials by the Referees, Executive, Players and Coaches.

Physical Attributes

- * maintain a physical condition which is above average for that age group;
- * possess the physical skills and capabilities to do the work.

Mental Attributes

- * a strong knowledge of the rules and their application;
- * has an attitude and deportment both on and off the ice that indicates courtesy, fairness and respect for the players and the rules;
- * has developed a consistency in applying the rules and rule interpretations as set out by the governing body(s).

Referees shall be paid \$30/game (with no per diem) at Men's/Women's National & Western Regional Championships, \$25/game at Junior Nationals and Eastern Regionals, and \$20/game at Youth Regionals.

Referees shall contribute \$10 per year by way of fee to the CBHA as a travel fund for officials to attend National and Regional championships.

6. **ARENAS**

All arenas and/or Rinks in use by the CBHA, its Associations and/or Leagues shall conform as closely as possible to the standards as set out in Section One (1) of the CBHA rules. Jurisdiction over the said arenas and rinks shall rest with the CBHA, its Association and/or its Leagues, as required.

7. **EQUIPMENT**

All equipment in use by a CBHA, Association and/or League team and/or its players shall conform exactly to the standards as set out in Section Three (3) of the CBHA Rule Book, unless specifically amended herein.

8. **UNIFORMS**

- 8.1. Each team shall declare its official team uniform colour(s), Home and Visitor, on the CBHA, Association and/or League Registration Form(s) and these colours shall be the only colours allowed on such team's uniforms at any CBHA, Association or League game.
- 8.2. All players on a team must wear exactly the same uniform as follows:
- (a) each player, including the goaltender must wear exactly the same jersey and pants in terms of colour, cresting and striping;
 - (b) players, with the exception of the goaltender, may at their leagues discretion, wear exactly the same shorts, in terms of colour, cresting and striping. However, the entire team must wear either short or long pants, and not a combination of both;
 - (c) slight differences in the colour of a uniform, due to manufacturing or cleaning problems, shall be allowed at the discretion of the CBHA, its Associations and/or Leagues;
 - (d) any player not wearing an identical uniform shall be prohibited from competing in any game by the Referee(s);
 - (e) all jerseys must be of the long sleeved, ice hockey variety except in those cases specified by the CBHA Rule Book;
 - (f) all jerseys must be numbered 00 to 99, using ten (10) inch numbers;
 - (g) each team captain and alternate captain must be identified by the letter "C" or "A" respectively, in four (4) inch letters, on the top left corner of the jersey.
- 8.3. In the event that the two (2) competing team's jerseys cannot be distinguished from each other:
- (a) the home team shall change their jerseys, or;
 - (b) the home team shall wear cover-ups or pinnies, or;
 - (c) if the home team cannot comply with 8.3.(a) or 8.3.(b), the visiting team shall change their jerseys, or;
 - (d) the game shall be declared a default and awarded to the visiting team.
- 8.4. It shall be solely the decision of the Referee(s) whether the two (2) competing teams in a game can be distinguished and whether a uniform contravenes the identical uniform rule(s). The two (2) competing teams shall not be party to the Referee(s) decision.

9. **PROTESTS**

- 9.1. In any matter affecting the outcome of a game, only the team may protest, and the intent to protest must be announced to the referee during the game or immediately after the game to be noted on the back of the CBHA white copy of the game sheet.
- 9.2. In the case of matter affecting the outcome of a game, the procedure for registering a protest shall be as follows:
- (a) the protest and all evidence in support thereof shall be signed by the coach, manager or association executive member who will deliver a copy to the CBHA officer in charge of the tournament, together with a two hundred fifty dollar (\$250) security deposit within forty-five (45) minutes of the conclusion of the game protested, and a duplicate copy there to the team protested;
 - (b) the team protested shall, within forty-five (45) minutes of the notification receipt of the protest, file a defense and evidence in support to the CBHA officer in charge of the tournament and a duplicate copy thereof to the team protesting;

- (c) if Coach or Manager is absent from the local in which the protested game was played, then the protest or defense may be signed by the most senior official of the team present at the locale;
- (d) if the CBHA officer in charge of the tournament is absent from the locale in which the protested game was played, then such protest and defense shall be delivered to the person appointed to represent the CBHA Office.
- 9.3. The CBHA Officer in charge of the tournament shall, immediately upon receipt of a protest, inform the CBHA Executive Committee of the nature of the protest and arrange for a private room within the locale at which a meeting can be held, to determine the validity of the protest. No protest shall be accepted if it is considered invalid as per any item listed in paragraph 9.8 below. After satisfying itself of the protest's validity, the CBHA Executive Committee shall, immediately convene a meeting at which the statements of the protests and defense shall be heard.
- 9.4. Each team involved in the protest shall be allowed to have two (2) delegates attend the protest meeting, and each delegate shall have the right to speak on the protest only once.
- 9.5. The CBHA Executive Committee shall have the right to call witnesses to the protest and use the information obtained in making their decision.
- 9.6. Upon hearing the protest and defense, the CBHA Executive Committee shall make a decision, which decision may include one (1) or more of the following:
- (a) allowing the protest;
 - (b) disallowing the protest;
 - (c) forfeiting or returning of security deposits or any parts thereof;
 - (d) mandatory re-arrangement of points in a game or series;
 - (e) mandatory replaying of a game or series, or any part thereof (see paragraph 9.9 for details);
 - (f) suspension of a team and/or a player;
 - (g) imposition of fines;
 - (h) mandatory imposition of such further and other remedy(s) and/or penalty(s) as the nature of the protest demands.
- 9.7. All parties to the protest and affected persons shall be sent notice of such decision by the CBHA Executive Committee.
- 9.8. A protest shall be declared invalid and not proceed beyond steps of paragraph 9.2(a) for any of the following reasons:
- (a) The protest challenges a referee's call that is an interpretation of a rule, and not a game procedural error;
 - (b) The protest fails to meet all of the requirements of paragraphs 9.1 and 9.2;
 - (c) The protest is deemed insignificant to the final outcome of a game, and that such protest has been filed solely for the purpose of disrupting the opposing team and/or the tournament as a whole.
- The CBHA retains the right to withhold the security deposit in its entirety or any part thereof for costs or inconveniences incurred by the CBHA in dealing with the protest.
- 9.9. In a case where the CBHA elects to replay a game or a portion of it, the guidelines for such implementation shall be as follows:
- (a) Where the exact time of the protested incident can be determined, the game shall re-start at that point in time with all conditions returned to a similar state i.e. score, penalties, and lineup, with no substitutions

or additions permitted. If a player listed on the game sheet cannot attend, there will be no substitution permitted;

- (b) If the game is tied, and the incident occurs within the first 10 minutes of the game, then the entire game shall be replayed, with only the players listed on the original game's game sheet eligible to participate.

10. **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

10.1. Guidelines

The CBHA Disciplinary Committee shall consist of the CBHA Executive, the CBHA Technical Director and the CBHA Tournament Director. The CBHA President shall act as Committee Chairman.

10.2. Duties

The CBHA Disciplinary Committee shall review all disciplinary cases or incidents incurred by players or persons involved in the function of playing of a game at the Nationals. The Association request(s) must be accompanied by a written history of the person's past and present conduct. The Committee shall use as guidelines the CBHA Rule Book, and the CBHA, Association and/or League Bylaws and Regulations, as applicable. The Committee shall interpret these laws and enforce ruling against any person who violates such laws. The Committee shall vote and make final decisions on all disciplinary cases brought before them. Said Committee shall only function with a minimum of sixty percent (60 %) of its members being informed for all decisions handed down.

10.3. Procedures

All disciplinary cases shall be recorded and kept on record so as to be available to all Committee members. All members of an Association shall have the right to represent their version on any disciplinary action taken against them. Such interpretation shall be in writing and presented to the Committee Chairman. The said written version shall be reviewed by the Committee Members and acted upon as in two (2) above, with the Committee's decision being communicated to the person(s) being disciplined or reprimanded.

10.4. Voting and Action

The Disciplinary Committee Chairman shall present all suspensions and fines to the Committee Members to vote on. All suspensions and times shall be interpreted according to the guidelines of the CBHA, Association and/or League bylaws, Regulations and CBHA Rule Book, as applicable. Additional suspensions and fines shall be based on the severity of penalties incurred, past and present.

Any Committee Member involved in the accused persons' infraction as a referee or player shall carry no vote on the final decision. However, said member shall have the right to interpret his/her version of the infraction.

The final decision made by vote by the Committee Members shall be recorded by the Chairman and shall be turned over to the Association President and CBHA Secretary to be put on record. Suspensions and/or fines shall become effective immediately. All suspension of five (5) or more games shall be reviewed by the Association of CBHA Executive at its next meeting.

10.5. Appeals

(a) Any player who feels aggrieved with regard to his/her status with a team may appeal his/her situation to: one (1) the League Executive, two (2) the Association Executive, and three (3) the CBHA Executive, in this order.

(b) Any player, official or team who may feel aggrieved by the Association or CBHA, Disciplinary Committee or Executive may appeal to the CBHA President.

(c) All appeals to the CBHA President must be submitted in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of the outcome of a hearing. The appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of fifty (\$50), which may be forfeited

to the CBHA if the appeal is disallowed. The appeal will be dealt with by the CBHA President, in consultation with the CBHA Executive, and his/her decision shall be final. The CBHA President may refuse an appeal if he/she feels that its grounds are not valid.

(d) Suspensions of two (2) games or less cannot be appealed to the CBHA President. All suspensions must be honoured regardless of pending appeals, example, a player must serve that portion (or all) of a suspension if the appeal is not prior to his/her next scheduled game.

11. SUSPENSIONS

- 11.1. All suspensions as listed in the CBHA Rule Book shall apply in all CBHA, Association and/or League play.
- 11.2. Any violation of the Bylaws or Regulations of the CBHA, its Associations and/or its Leagues, or a decision by the CBHA, Association and/or League Disciplinary Committee or Executive shall render an individual liable to suspension, as applicable.
- 11.3. All suspensions must commence being served in a team's next scheduled game, regardless of any pending appeal and shall extend over consecutive games.
- 11.4. It is the responsibility of the team Officials to ensure that a player who incurs a suspension is not allowed to compete for the duration of this suspension. Failure to comply with this regulation shall result in the suspension of the team, and/or its officials and forfeiture of game(s).
- 11.5. A team official who is under suspension shall not be permitted to direct this team for the duration of his/her suspension. Similarly, such official must not be in the vicinity of his/her team's dressing room, before, during or after any game, nor be in a position in the arena to direct his/her team. The penalty for violation of this Regulation shall be the assessment of a Gross Misconduct for each game in which such an infraction occurs. A playing Coach or Manager suspended for any action, shall lose his/her rights as a player/coach or player/manager.
- 11.6. A suspended player must not be permitted to participate in his/her team's pre-game warm-ups nor to stand on his/her team's bench during games. Violations of this Regulation shall be dealt with as in (5) above.
- 11.7. The names of suspended players must be printed in full, where indicated on the Game Report, and the point in time and duration of their suspensions included.

Example: John Smith (1st of 5).
- 11.8. Any suspension incurred by a player or team official before tournament or exhibition games shall disqualify such player or team official from participant in his/her team's tournament or exhibition games. However, tournament or exhibition games shall not count in the duration of a suspension.
- 11.9. Any suspensions incurred in tournament or exhibition games must be served in League or Association play.
- 11.10. Suspended players may not be released from a team's roster.
- 11.11. Suspensions that do not expire prior to a team's elimination from further play during a season, shall be carried forward to the next season.
- 11.12. A suspended player or team official, from a disbanded team, shall remain under suspension until such time as reinstated as a free agent by the League or Association Executive.
- 11.13. This point in time shall be determined:
 - (a) within a season, in accordance with the disbanded team's original schedule;
 - (b) from the start of a season in the case of an aforementioned carry-over, by the League or Association Executive.

- 11.14. The name(s) of any individual(s) under suspension by an Association or League shall be available through the Association or League office(s). It is the Association's responsibility to ensure that no suspended individual, registered with the said Association, shall take part in the CBHA Nationals or Regionals.
- 11.15. Any team, team official and/or Association Executive member who allows an individual, who is suspended and/or not registered with the Association, to take part in any game, shall be reported to the CBHA President and may be suspended for a minimum of one (1) year.
- 11.16. Any team, team official or player found guilty of allowing false information to appear on a registration form or who knowingly makes a false representation to the CBHA, its Associations and/or its Leagues may be suspended for a period determined by the CBHA, Association and/or League Executive Committee(s).
- 11.17. Repealed.
- 11.18. Suspended players must serve their suspensions in their entirety prior to participating in the Nationals.
- 11.19. Any A level player found participating in a B level tournament, or any B level player found participating in a C level tournament, shall receive a one (1) year suspension.

12. **DEFAULTS**

- 12.1. A default shall include any one or more of the following:
- (a) all defaults provided for in the CBHA Rule Book;
 - (b) failure to present a team of at least twelve (12) eligible players at the time and place appointed to play in any CBHA sanctioned championship game, and/or to start and play in any CBHA sanctioned championship game, and/or to start and play such a game within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled game time, unless such failure is caused by an unavoidable accident or unforeseen contingency.
 - (c) failure of the home team to wear cover-ups in the event that the two (2) competing teams in a game cannot be distinguished as a result of jersey colour clashes. See Regulation Eight(8), Section Three(3);
 - (d) any action on the part of a team deemed a default in opinion of the CBHA Executive;
 - (e) failure on the part of a winning team to advance into groups or intergroup playdowns.
- 12.2. In the event that a team defaults a game, the penalty incurred shall be as follows:
- (a) the game and/or series shall be awarded to the non-offending team. The winning team will be given the maximum plus 7 (+7) goal differential;
 - (b) a fine may be levied by the CBHA Executive against the offending team;
 - (c) defaults in CBHA play may result in a team being banned from competing in games provided by the CBHA for one (1) year.
- 12.3. In the event that a team defaults a second CBHA sanctioned game, in the same season, in addition to the penalties listed above, the offending team shall be removed from further competition and all players registered to that team shall be declared free agents.
- 12.4. Over and above the aforementioned penalties, every default shall carry such further penalty as may be imposed by the CBHA Executive, and which may include monetary payment, forfeiture of bond and suspension from further competition in the CBHA, of any one or more of the officers of the offending team or any person apparently acting in that capacity at the time of default.
- 12.5. Defaulted games shall not count in the duration of a suspension.

13. **FINES**

- 13.1. A team shall be invoiced in duplicate, in person, to the Manager or to the coach of such teams, for fines assessed by the CBHA Executive. Details of the fine, that is, date of game, player and infraction, shall be included with the invoice.
- 13.2. A team shall have three (3) hours prior to the team's next game in which to pay the CBHA, by cash or cheque, payable to the CBHA in person at a mutually agreed location, submitting the white copy of the invoice with payment.
- 13.3. If payment is not received prior to the team's next game, the team officials shall be invited to a CBHA Executive Committee meeting to explain the reason for non-payment. Teams are forewarned that:
- (a) failure to receive an invoice shall not constitute a license to forego payment;
 - (b) teams must come prepared to remit payment at the CBHA Executive Committee Meeting.

14. **EXHIBITION GAMES / TOURNAMENTS**

- 14.1. Exhibition games or Tournaments within the jurisdiction of an Association and/or its Leagues shall be administered by the Association and sanctioned by the CBHA.
- 14.2. Attendance at exhibition games or tournaments outside the jurisdiction of an Association by an Association's registered players or teams must be arranged by or with the approval of the CBHA. Failure to comply with this Regulation will result in the suspension of the said player(s) or team(s) or team official(s) and/or Association Executive for a period to be decided by the CBHA Executive.
- 14.3. Arrangements for touring American teams or teams outside Canada must be made by the CBHA and the CBHA only shall designate the rink(s) and team(s) to provide the best opposition and revenue.
- 14.4. The CBHA Executive Committee shall decide whether to uphold the fine, based on the team's explanation.
- 14.5. If the CBHA Executive Committee decides to uphold the fine and the team still refuses to make payment, such team shall have seven (7) days after the meeting listed in Sub-Section Three (3) above to pay the fine.
- 14.6. If the team is still in default at that point in time, in accordance with the CBHA Regulation Two (2), Sub-Section Three(3), Paragraph (d), whereby the CBHA Executive shall have the right to terminate membership, if the team is in default in the payment of any dues or levies due the CBHA, membership in the CBHA will be so terminated immediately and all players declared free agents.
- 14.7. When in disagreement with the CBHA Executive regarding fines due, teams are urged to make payment and deal with the matter via the appeal process.
- 14.8. The following fines are minimums to be levied by the CBHA, and will apply in all CBHA sanctioned games:
- (a) Minor Penalties - no fine
 - (b) Major Penalties - no fine
 - (c) Misconduct Penalties - no fine
 - (d) Game Misconduct - Twenty-five dollars (\$25)- 1 game suspension
 - (e) Gross Misconduct - Fifty dollars (\$50)- 2 game suspension
 - (f) Match Penalty - Seventy-five dollars (\$75)- 5 game suspension
 - (g) Fighting- Seventy-five dollars (\$75)- 3 game suspension
 - (h) Fighting Instigator- Seventy-five dollars (\$75)- 5 game suspension
 - (i) Misconduct in the last 10 minutes of a game - Twenty-five dollars (\$25)- no suspension

15. **NATIONAL & REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

15.1. General

(a) The CBHA shall conduct annually an inter-association competition in Men's, Women's, and Youth ball hockey for the Championship of Canada. Such competition shall be under the direct control and direction of the Board of Directors of the CBHA.

(b) No team which has not participated in League Competition during the current season and is regularly qualified through League and/or Association Playoffs, shall compete in the Nationals.

(c) An Association must declare its intention to compete in the National or Regional Championship(s) by submitting a list of qualifying teams by September 15th of the year prior to the event, as well as a pre-tournament roster form for each team attending, to the CBHA on or before May 1 in the current year.

(d) It is the CBHA's responsibility to verify the eligibility of all individuals and teams entering the National Championships.

(e) The CBHA will appoint and/or sanction all Game Officials and Referees through the CBHA Technical Director.

(f) The CBHA will supply all scoresheets and game reports.

(g) Team Entry Fees for all events shall be determined by the membership at the AGM. All team entry fees (payable to CBHA) must be paid on or before January 15th of the same year. Furthermore, a performance bond of \$1,000 will be charged to adult teams competing at National Championships, and \$500 for Regional Championships, and is due by March 1st of the same year.

(h) The CBHA Tournament Director in consultation with the Host Committee shall draw up the Tournament schedule. Every consideration shall be given to the host and/or provincial team(s) in regards to scheduling for best audience.

(i) The host centre will provide liability insurance for the National Championships through the CBHA.

(j) The winning teams and players (excluding pickups) from Eastern/Western B tournaments shall compete at the National A level in future years and winning teams and players (excluding pickups) from Eastern/Western C tournaments shall compete at the National B level in future years. The champions of Eastern/Western C tournaments will be given an automatic invitation to the following year's B tournament, provided that they register to play in a member league in that following season.

(k) The seeding criteria of National and Regionals Championship divisions are as follows:

1. based on rank from year's results, Division A: 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, and Division B: 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11;
if more than two divisions, the seeding shall follow a similar pattern
2. teams from the same province should be placed in separate divisions:
3. the host team shall be seeded last, unless in conflict with criteria (ii) above.

15.2. Hosting Rights And Responsibilities

(a) An Association may be granted the rights to host the Canadian Ball Hockey Association National Championships if the following criteria are met:

- (i) The Association and League have been a member of the CBHA in good standing; and
- (ii) The Association must submit a written proposal to the CBHA Association Executive.

(b) The CBHA will entertain proposals for hosting rights two (2) years prior to the next National or Regionals Championships. The proposal(s) must be submitted in person at the CBHA Annual General

Meeting by the Host Committee.

(c) The Host Committee must be prepared to complete the Tournament Memorandum of Agreement upon their being granted the hosting rights.

(d) The Host Committee may lose its right to host the National or Regionals Championships if it does not abide by the Tournament Memorandum of Agreement and/or CBHA Regulations.

(e) At the conclusion of the National and Regionals Championships, all game sheets, and a list of suspension, complaints and awards must be forwarded to the CBHA Tournament Director.

(f) The Host committee shall provide written reports to the membership at the General Meeting commencing one year prior to their National Championship. Failure to do so may result in the moving of the event to a new location.

(g) Province hosting a National may have teams competing in the event only if a team from their province attended the Nationals in the year prior, subject to extenuating circumstances as determined by the CBHA. The host province may be subject to a future attendance bond for their provincial women's team (\$2,500 for new/small province, \$5,000 other) to receive exemption from this regulation.

(h) Provinces must attend two consecutive Eastern/Western Regionals before being eligible to host a Regional Championship, unless approved by the CBHA.

(i) Host provinces of Nationals (Junior or Senior) must provide a video of the gold medal game at their own expense.

15.3. Regulations

(a) Players competing in Nationals or Regionals must be registered with their Association's sanctioned team, or be one of the pick-up players allowed by the CBHA, registered by July 15th, and no out-of-Province players are allowed without express permission.

(i) Men's Nationals: Provinces classified as 'A' level (QC, ON, AB, BC) shall not be permitted to use any players not registered to play in their provincial association. All other provinces may use a maximum of 5 players from out-of-province, who have received permission, provided that they have a minimum of 15 players attending from their province.

(ii) Men's Regionals: Teams from provinces of QC and ON are required to use a minimum of 50% of the roster with which they qualified in the previous year, and are furthermore restricted to add players only from their league and division.

(iii) Players participating in Youth events must meet age division's requirement based on their age as of 0:00 hour of January 1st of the year of the competition.

(b) Players under suspensions must serve their suspension in their entirety prior to participating in the Nationals.

(c) Team Rosters shall not exceed twenty-five (25) players at the Nationals or Regionals. All players and team officials must be registered and approved by the Association Registrar.

(i) For Nationals, teams must attend with a minimum roster of fifteen (15) players. Failure to do so shall result in a \$500 fine, plus a one year disqualification from attending Nationals for the club and club's entire roster, however, the team shall be permitted to complete its participation in the National where the transgression occurred.

(ii) Teams at Nationals must have a coach on the bench, dressed in proper attire. T-shirts are not permitted unless it is a team t-shirt.

(d) Teams must be prepared, through their coach or manager to produce an identification card for all individuals registered with their team at the Nationals or Regionals.

(e) The CBHA will have the power to impose and enforce any disciplinary action, as per the CBHA Regulations, against an individual, League and/or Association as required.

(f) The National and Regional Championship for Ball Hockey shall be played in the NON-CONTACT and NON-TOUCH FLOORING FORMAT.

(g) The following are the official tie breaking rules to be used at the National Championship(s):

There are no overtime games played, except for quarter-final, semi-final and final playoff games. In the regular round-robin games, ties count as one (1) point, wins count as two (2) points and a loss counts as zero (0) points in the standings. Group or division winners are decided by the highest number of aggregate points for the round-robin games.

If two (2) or more teams are tied within a group or division, then the tie is broken in the following order:

- (i) the team with most wins in round-robin schedule;
- (ii) record between teams in round-robin schedule;
- (iii) greatest positive goal difference between goals scored minus goals allowed, from all round-robin games involving only the tied teams;
- (iv) greatest positive goal difference between goals scored minus goals allowed, from all round-robin games;
- (v) highest total of goals scored in games involving only the tied teams;
- (vi) highest total of goals scored in all round-round games;
- (vii) if a tie still exists then the teams will play a shoot-out.

NOTE 1: If a tie exists between two (2) teams who have not played each other in the round-robin portion of the tournament, they shall play a deciding game.

NOTE 2: For the purpose of the plus/minus ratios, a team cannot achieve more than plus seven (7) in any one (1) game.

(h) A team must have a dressed alternate goaltender on the bench and they may not play this alternate goaltender as a runner in the Nationals or Regionals.

(i) All games must commence within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled time. See Regulation Twelve (12) - Defaults.

- (i) a referee may not start a game prior to the scheduled time, unless both competing teams agree;
- (ii) all games shall be timed as two twenty-minute (20) stop-time periods for both men and women Nationals; Junior Nationals and Men's Regionals shall be timed as two eighteen-minute (18) stop-time periods;
- (iii) no game shall begin until the coach or manager of each team has furnished the referee, on the scoresheet, with a list of registered players eligible to take part in such game;
- (iv) a game postponed for any reason shall be rescheduled by the CBHA at the earliest possible time prior to the end of the round-robin;
- (v) time outs shall be taken as per the CBHA Rule Book.

(j) The official CBHA ball will be D-Gel #350 for men's and women's summer season play. Provinces may elect to use a softer ball (D-Gel #360) for minor or winter programs provided that the ball has the CBHA logo on it.

(k) Smoking and consumption of alcohol is not permitted on or in the area of the player's or penalty benches, the time and scorekeepers bench or the goal judge boxes.

(l) Teams must enter the Nationals with a minimum of fifteen (15) eligible and able bodied players including two fully equipped goaltenders and twelve (12) for Regionals. (see 15.3c for penalties)

(m) When possible, a minimum of 5 preliminary round-robin games shall be played at the National Championships for both men and women; and a minimum of 4 preliminary round-robin games shall be played at the Junior National and men's Regional Championships. These numbers may change based on the number of teams eligible to compete at the event. A bronze medal game shall not be played at Men's Regionals, instead semi-final losers shall each receive a bronze medal.

(n) Teams must reserve their accommodations in advance at the host hotel by the date stipulated by the CBHA. Failure to do so shall be subject to a \$1,500 penalty for Nationals and \$350 for Regionals, payable to the host.

(o) Adult teams participating at Nationals must submit a \$1,000 bond (\$500 for Regionals) to the CBHA by March 1st, if the teams has not yet been determined, the provincial association shall provide such bond.

(p) Provinces designated as 'B' level (NS, PEI, NB, MB, & SK as of 2003) are not required to send a Men's team to 'A' Nationals, but may do so if they so choose and meet the application deadlines. Such provinces may band together to form all star teams for their region (ex. Atlantic or Prairie) to compete at 'A' Nationals.

(q) Provinces designated as 'B' level may be re-classified as 'A' should one of their teams win a Eastern/Western 'B' Regional Championship. Provinces may only be re-classified from 'A' to 'B' by written application to the CBHA and approval by at the AGM by the general membership.

(r) Any player who has played at 'A' Nationals and was register to an 'A' level team in that same year, is not eligible to play at a 'B' or 'C' Regional the following year. In order to be eligible to play at a lower level Regional, the player must be signed to a lower level team for a period of one full calendar year, thereby missing one year of Regionals, however, such player may be used as a pickup at 'A' Nationals.

(s) The use of shin guards shall be mandatory at all CBHA & ISBHF events for adults and youth.

(t) All players competing at Junior Nationals must wear full facial protection regardless of age.

(u) For all Nationals & Regionals, it is mandatory that each participating team provide a representative to attend the Coaches/Captains meeting. A fine of \$250 shall be levied for failure to attend.

16. PLAYOFFS (LEAGUE AND ASSOCIATION)

16.1. All League and Association playoff series should be a best of two (2) of three (3) games minimum or a round-robin format.

16.2. If League or Association playoff games are tied at the end of regulation time, there shall be played a minimum of two (2) ten (10) minute stop or non-stop time (League or Association discretion) sudden victory periods.

16.3. If a League or Association playoff game is tied at the end of the two (2) overtime periods, a League or Association may continue to play overtime periods of ten (10) minutes, or may go to a shoot-out format.

16.4. There shall be no shoot-out in the third game of a series or in any game of a final series. Rather, the team shall continue to play ten (10) minutes stop or non-stop time victory periods until the tie is broken.

16.5. All Associations must file their playoff tie breaking rules with the CBHA prior to the commencement of the regular season schedule.

- 16.6. All League must submit their regular tie breaking rules to their Association Executive for approval prior to the commencement of the regular season schedule.
- 16.7. Where used as a means to decide a position in the standings, the goal average of team is determined by dividing the goals for and against into the goals for, for all League game, the team having the higher percentage winning the position. There will be no overtime in regularly schedule league games. However, at a league meeting prior to the opening of the season, application may be made to the Association Executive for permission to play one (1) overtime period in regular scheduled league games and such overtime should be a ten (10) minute stop time or non-stop time sudden victory period. Teams will not be permitted to leave the surface after regulation time.
17. **SCORESHEETS AND GAME REPORTS**
- 17.1. The visiting team shall be listed second on all scoresheets.
- 17.2. The visiting team shall pick up the official scoresheets from the area attendant prior to the game and duly complete it. After completion, the scoresheet shall be delivered to the home team. However, at its discretion, the home team may pick up and complete the scoresheet first.
- 17.3. The scoresheet shall be complete as follows:
- (a) it is not necessary to list the starting lineup;
 - (b) no more than twenty-two (22) eligible players, twenty (20) runners and two (2) goaltenders may be listed on the scoresheet;
 - (c) players' names, jersey numbers and identification numbers must be printed in full (both given name and surname - no abbreviations), and be listed in numerical order, with the exception of the starting lineup and alternate goaltenders who must be listed first and last, respectively, in the lineup;
 - (d) teams just designate a "Captain" on the scoresheet by use of the letter "C". The designation of not more than two "Alternate Captains" shall be left to the discretion of the respective teams. If an Alternate Captain(s) is designated, he/she shall be identified on the scoresheet by use of the letter "A".
 - (e) the names of all suspended players must be printed in full where indicated on the scoresheet and the point in time and duration of their suspensions included; (Example: John Smith (1st of 4));
 - (f) the scoresheet must be signed in full where indicated by the authorized manager or coach of each team. It is understood by this signature that the team official so signing shall be deemed to have responsibility for any representations on the scoresheet and for the team during the time it is in and around the arena for the purpose of playing ball hockey.
- 17.4. No change or addition to the list of players on the scoresheet shall be permitted after the commencement of the game except under the following conditions;
- (a) where a player is late for a game and his/her name has been included on the scoresheet prior to the game, he/she shall be permitted to participate;
 - (b) when a player has been inadvertently omitted from the scoresheet, the referee shall permit his/her name to be added to the scoresheet provided the player was on the floor or on his/her players' bench in uniform at the start of the game.
- 17.5. Appearance of a players' name on the scoresheet shall not constitute participation in the game.
- 17.6. Each team must pick up a copy of the scoresheet from the timekeeper at the end of each game. By referring to the CBHA Rule Book and Regulations, each team shall then be responsible for determining fines and suspensions in subsequent games earned as a result of any penalty shown on the scoresheet. Any doubt regarding any penalty indicated should be clarified with the timekeeper, not the referee(s). The referee(s) are not informed about the fines and suspensions.
- 17.7. The referee(s) for each game must fill out a CBHA Game Report if any of the following penalties are

enforced:

- (a) Ten (10) Minute Misconduct
- (b) Game Misconduct
- (c) Gross Misconduct
- (d) Match Penalty

A referee should also submit a Game Report for any incident involving a minor official and/or a spectator.

18. **TROPHIES**

- 18.1. Replica keeper trophies shall be awarded at the National Championships. All original trophies are the property of the CBHA, and shall remain in the possession of the CBHA other than when displayed and presented at the National Championship, after which it shall be immediately returned to the CBHA. Failure to return trophies shall result in a five hundred dollar (\$500) fine being levied against the offending team(s), plus the cost of replacement if the trophy is lost.
- 18.2. Damage to the CBHA National Trophies is the responsibility of the teams and/or Associations in possession of these trophies, and all costs incurred by the CBHA to repair these items will be charged back to the team and/or Associations.

19. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 19.1. Blood Policy - If a player suffers a bloody wound, their participation should be immediately interrupted until the bleeding is stopped and the wound is properly covered with medically acceptable dressing. All abrasions and skin lesions must be properly covered with a medically acceptable dressing prior to any player participating in a CBHA sanctioned game.
- 19.2. Jewelry Policy - All participants prior to a CBHA game must remove all jewelry, with the exception of Medic-Alert Identification. On floor officials should adhere to the same policy. In instances where it may be impossible to remove an item, covering the piece of jewelry with tape is required.
- 19.3. Illegal Equipment - Often officials will be faced with making decisions that will be viewed as unfavourable by some players. However, their responsibility first and foremost is the safety of all participants. All players wishing to participate must conform to all CSA equipment standards. Players identified as not conforming to these standards shall not be permitted to participate until the piece of equipment identified as illegal is removed or replaced in accordance to standards.

20. **AWARDS PROGRAM**

- 20.1. All events (Nationals & Regionals):
 - gold, silver, and bronze medals
 - Top Scorer (from round-robin play)
 - Most Valuable Goalie
 - Most Valuable Defenceman
 - Most Valuable Forward
 - Tournament Most Valuable Player
 - championship hats (sponsored)
 - Player of the Game awards (sponsored)
- 20.2. Nationals:
 - 6 player All Star team (award & wearable)
 - Keeper cup for champions
 - Fair Play cup for least penalized team
- 20.3. Annual Banquet:
 - Hall of Fame inductee (commencing 2003)
 - Provincial President of the Year
 - Volunteer of the Year (from host province of Nationals)

Technical Director Recognition Award (from host province for services during Nationals)
Executive Award (recognition of past contributions by volunteers of the CBHA Board of Directors, usually from host site if possible to ensure attendance)
Sarah Butterworth Memorial (recognition of female athlete exemplifying the true meaning of “team spirit”)

21.0 POLICIES

21.1 Coaching

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) is committed to the continued improvement of the technical skills of its coaches through education, and certification. Furthermore, the CBHA expects its coaches to respect the Coach’s Code of Conduct.

21.2 Doping in Sport

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) is committed to drug-free, ethical, and fair play in sport, and prohibits the use of Banned Substances and Practices. The CBHA delegates authority and responsibility for carrying out Doping Control Procedures in Canada, for any players participating in the Team Canada program, to the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES). Furthermore, the CBHA will abide by the penalties prescribed by Sport Canada as a minimum standard.

21.3 Official Languages

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) is committed to the provision of all materials and communications in both official languages of Canada.

21.4 Women in Sport

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) has been a leader in support of women in sport, and is committed to continue to improve equity and access for women as athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and leaders in our sport.

21.5 Disabled in Sport

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) is committed to the principle of equity and access for the disabled as athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and leaders in our sport. Furthermore, the CBHA shall endeavour to align itself with organizations for the disabled in order to increase awareness of the opportunities for the disabled in our sport.

21.6 Aboriginals & Visible Minorities in Sport

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) has been a leader in support of Aboriginals and Visible Minorities in sport, and is committed to continue to improve equity and access for all peoples as athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and leaders in our sport.

21.7 Athlete Centeredness

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) is committed to the development of our sport for the betterment of its participating athletes. A continued effort shall exist to determine the needs of its athletes, from its most basic recreational levels, to those at the highest performance levels. Furthermore, the CBHA shall provide opportunities for high performance athletes to express their opinions, provide guidance, and input into the decision making process of our sport.

21.8 Harassment & Abuse in Sport

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) shall not tolerate abuse and neglect, whether physical, emotional or sexual of any participant in any of its programs. The CBHA expects every parent, volunteer and staff member to take all reasonable steps to safeguard the welfare of its participants and protect them from any form of maltreatment.

Furthermore, harassment in all its forms will not be tolerated during the course of any CBHA activity or program. Accordingly, all CBHA personnel (staff, volunteers, team or officials) and partners (parents, guardians) are responsible for making every reasonable effort to uphold this commitment. Specifically, this includes refraining from harassing behaviour, responding promptly and informally to minor incidents of harassment and following local or national policy guidelines for reporting or responding to more serious complaints of harassment. Players and other participants are expected to refrain from harassing behaviour and are encouraged to report incidents of harassment.

CANADIAN BALL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

ABUSE POLICY

(as adapted from the policies of the Canadian Hockey Association)

This policy sets out the principles and practices of the Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) with regard to abusive behaviour towards participants.

A. Relationship to Harassment Policy

Some behaviours which are defined as abuse when directed towards a child or youth may constitute harassment when directed towards a peer or when perpetrated between adults. The Canadian Ball Hockey Association's Harassment Policy covers such behaviours. Together, the two policies address the entire spectrum of abusive and harassing behaviours.

B. Canadian Ball Hockey Association's Mission

The mission of the CBHA is to ensure its participants are provided meaningful opportunities and enjoyable experiences in a safe, sportsmanlike environment. This includes, among other things, a shared responsibility with parents to nurture the physical and emotional well-being of all participants. The CBHA's primary interest is the well being of its participants.

C. Statement of Purpose

The CBHA is part of the sporting community in our country that is committed to seeking better ways to keep our youth safe. Protecting participants from all forms of abuse and neglect, whether emotional, physical or sexual, is an important element of safety. The CBHA considers any form of abuse or neglect to be unacceptable and will do all it can to prevent this intolerable social problem. To this end, the CBHA will promote awareness of all forms of abuse and neglect.

D. Policy

It is the policy of the CBHA that there shall be no abuse and neglect, whether physical, emotional or sexual of any participant in any of its programs. The CBHA expects every parent, volunteer and staff member to take all reasonable steps to safeguard the welfare of its participants and protect them from any form of maltreatment.

1. Definitions of Abuse

Child abuse is any form of physical, emotional and/or sexual mistreatment or lack of care which causes physical injury or emotional damage to a child. A common characteristic of all forms of abuse against children and youth is an abuse of power or authority and/or breach of trust.

2. Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is a chronic attack on a child's self-esteem; it is psychologically destructive behaviour by a person in a position of power, authority or trust. It can take the form of name-calling, threatening, ridiculing, berating, intimidating, isolating, hazing or ignoring the child's needs.

3. Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is when a person in a position of power or trust purposefully injures or threatens to injure a child or youth. This may take the form of slapping, hitting, shaking, kicking, pulling hair or ears, throwing, shoving, grabbing, hazing or excessive exercise as a form of punishment.

4. Neglect

Neglect is chronic inattention to the basic necessities of life such as clothing, shelter, nutritious diets, education, good hygiene, supervision, medical and dental care, adequate rest, safe environment, moral guidance and discipline, exercise and fresh air. This may occur in sport when injuries are not adequately treated or players are made to play with injuries, equipment is inadequate or unsafe, no-one intervenes when team members are persistently harassing another player, or road trips are not properly supervised.

5. Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse is when a young person is used by an older child, adolescent or adult for his or her own sexual stimulation or gratification. There are two categories:

Contact

- touched or fondled in sexual areas
- forced to touch another person's sexual areas
- kissed or held in a sexual manner
- forced to perform oral sex
- vaginal or anal intercourse
- vaginal or anal penetration with an object or finger
- sexually oriented hazing

Non-Contact

- obscene remarks on phone/computer or in notes
- voyeurism
- shown pornography
- forced to watch sexual acts
- sexually intrusive questions and comments
- forced to pose for sexual photographs or videos
- forced to self-masturbate or forced to watch others masturbate

6. Harassment and Abuse - Differences and Similarities

	Abuse	Harassment
Types	Emotional, physical, sexual, lack of care	Emotional, physical, sexual; may be motivated by racial or other forms of prejudice
Victim	Any person under age of majority as determined by Provincial and Territorial Child Protection Acts; may be male or female	Person of any age; may be male or female
Offender	Any person who has power or authority over victim and/or breaches trust; may be male or female	May be peer or person with power or authority over adult victim; may be male or female
Investigation	External to organization; referred to child welfare or police	Most often internal unless referred to police in cases of suspected physical or sexual assault or criminal harassment (stalking)
Follow-up actions	Determined by Provincial and Territorial Child Protection Acts and Criminal Code; civil suits may also occur	Determined by organization's harassment policies, Criminal Code, labour tribunals, civil action and/or Provincial Human Rights Tribunals; may be used concurrently or alone
Philosophy	The victim is not to blame; offenders are responsible for their behaviour	The victim is not to blame; offenders are responsible for their behaviour

7. Duty to Report

Abuse and neglect are community problems requiring urgent attention. The CBHA is committed to help reduce and prevent the abuse and neglect of participants. The CBHA realizes that persons working closely with children and youth have a special awareness of abusive situations. Therefore these people have a particular reporting responsibility to ensure the safety of Canada's young, by knowing their provincial protection acts and following through as required.

Every province and territory in Canada, except the Yukon, has mandatory reporting laws regarding the abuse and neglect of children and youth; the Yukon requests that concerns be reported. Consequently, it is the policy of the Canadian Ball Hockey Association that any CBHA personnel (part-time and full-time staff, volunteer, participant, team official, on ice official) or CBHA partner (parent, guardian) who, has reasonable grounds to suspect that a participant is or may be suffering or may have suffered from emotional, physical abuse and neglect and/or sexual abuse shall immediately report the suspicion and the information on which it is based to the local child protection agency and/or the local police detachment.

Those involved with the CBHA in providing ball hockey opportunities for participants understand and agree that abuse or neglect, as defined above, may be the subject of a criminal investigation and/or disciplinary procedures. Failure to report an offence and thereby, failure to provide safety for participants may render the adult who keeps silent legally liable for conviction under the provincial child protection acts.

HARASSMENT POLICY

(as adapted from the policies of the Canadian Hockey Association)

This Policy sets out the principles and practices of the Canadian Ball Hockey Association regarding harassment.

A. Relationship to Recognition and Prevention of Abuse Policy

Some behaviours which might be described as harassment when directed towards an adult, may constitute abuse when directed towards a child or youth by any person with power or authority over the person harassed. The Canadian Ball Hockey Association's Recognition and Prevention of Abuse Policy covers such behaviours. Together, the two policies address the entire spectrum of abusive and harassing behaviours.

B. Statement of Purpose

The Canadian Ball Hockey Association is committed to providing a sport and work environment which promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices. Harassment is a form of discrimination which is prohibited by human rights legislation in Canada. The CBHA supports the right of all its members, whether athletes, volunteers or employees, to participate in all CBHA activities free from any form of harassment. Further, the CBHA emphasizes the importance of eliminating harassment in ball hockey as a key element in ensuring the safety of young participants. A sports environment which actively discourages harassment and builds relationships based on trust and mutual respect, is an environment which discourages the abuse of children and youth, and encourages the overall development of the individual.

In order to further these aims, the CBHA will make every reasonable effort to promote awareness of the problem of harassment among all its members, and to respond swiftly and effectively to complaints or disclosures of harassment.

C. Policy

It is the policy of the Canadian Ball Hockey Association that harassment in all its forms will not be tolerated during the course of any CBHA activity or program. Accordingly, all CBHA personnel (staff, volunteers, team or on-ice officials) and partners (parents, guardians) are responsible for making every reasonable effort to uphold this commitment. Specifically, this includes refraining from harassing behaviour, responding promptly and informally to minor incidents of harassment and following local or national policy guidelines for reporting or responding to more serious complaints of harassment. Players and other participants are expected to refrain from harassing behaviour and are encouraged to report incidents of harassment.

1. Definition of Harassment

Harassment is defined as conduct, gestures or comments which are insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to an individual or group of individuals, and which create a hostile or intimidating environment for work or sports activities, or which negatively affect performance or work conditions. Any of the different forms of harassment may be based on the grounds prohibited in human rights legislation, such as race, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation and religion. Harassment may occur between peers (eg: player to player of the same age group, parent to official, coach to coach) or between someone in a position of power or authority and an adult in a subordinate position (eg: coach to player, sports administrator to employee).

The following is a non-exhaustive list of examples of harassment:

1. unwelcome jokes, innuendo or teasing about a person's body, looks, race, sexual orientation etc.
2. condescending, patronizing, threatening or punishing actions which undermine self-esteem
3. practical jokes which cause awkwardness or embarrassment, or may endanger a person's safety
4. any form of hazing
5. unwanted or unnecessary physical contact including touching, patting, pinching

6. unwanted conduct, comments, gestures or invitations of a sexual nature which are likely to cause offence or humiliation, or which might on reasonable grounds be perceived as placing a condition of a sexual nature on employment or on any opportunity for training or advancement
7. sexual assault or physical assault

It is important to note that the behaviours described in items 5 to 7, when directed towards a child or youth, constitute abuse under child protection legislation. This may also be true of other behaviours, for example, certain hazing practices. In such cases, the duty to report provisions of the Recognition and Prevention of Abuse Policy come into effect.

2. Response and Remedies

It is the position of the Canadian Ball Hockey Association that harassment can not be tolerated. Harassment is unacceptable and harmful. The CBHA recognizes the serious negative impact of all types of harassment on personal dignity, individual and group development and performance, enjoyment of the game and in some cases, personal safety.

At the same time, the CBHA recognizes that not all incidents of harassment are equally serious in their consequences. Harassment covers a wide spectrum of behaviours, and the response to harassment must be equally broad in range, appropriate to the behaviour in question and capable of providing a constructive remedy. There must be no summary justice or hasty punishment. The process of investigation and settlement of any complaint of harassment must be fair to all parties, allowing adequate opportunity for the presentation of a defence to the charges.

Minor incidents of harassment (eg: inappropriate jokes) should be corrected promptly and informally, taking a constructive approach and with the aim of bringing about a change in negative attitudes and behaviour.

More serious incidents (eg: a course of repeated taunting, any form of sexual or physical assault) should be dealt with according to the relevant national policy guidelines. Complaints should be handled in a timely, sensitive, responsible and confidential manner. There should be no tolerance of reprisals taken against any party to a complaint. The names of parties and the circumstances of the complaint should be kept confidential except where disclosure is necessary for the purposes of investigation or taking disciplinary measures.

Anyone making a complaint which is found to be clearly unfounded, false, malicious or frivolous will be subject to discipline.

Procedures for the handling of complaints brought against national employees or volunteers of the Canadian Ball Hockey Association are detailed in the document entitled "CBHA Harassment Complaint Procedures."

CANADIAN BALL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION HARASSMENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

(as adapted from the policies of the Canadian Hockey Association)

Note: For convenience, this policy uses the term “Complainant” to refer to the person who experiences harassment, even though not all persons who experience harassment will make a formal complaint. The term “Respondent” refers to the person against whom a complaint is made.

APPLICATION

1. This policy applies to all Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) directors, officers, employees, volunteers and members. It applies to harassment that may occur during the course of all CBHA business, activities and events.

MINOR INSTANCES OF HARASSMENT

2. This policy does not prevent an appropriate person having authority from taking immediate, informal, corrective disciplinary action in response to behaviour that, in their view, constitutes a minor incident of harassment.

REPORTING HARASSMENT

3. A person who experiences harassment is encouraged to make it known to the harasser that the behaviour is unwelcome, offensive and contrary to the policies of CBHA.

4. If confronting the harasser is not possible, or if after confronting the harasser the harassment continues, the Complainant should request a meeting with an Official of the CBHA. For the purposes of this policy, an Official shall mean any Board member of the CBHA or its affiliated provincial associations.

5. Once contacted by a Complainant the role of the Official is to serve in a neutral, unbiased capacity in receiving the complaint and assisting in its informal resolution. If the Official considers that he or she is unable to act in this capacity, the Complainant will be referred to another suitable CBHA Official.

6. Where a person believes that a director, officer, employee, volunteer or member of CBHA has experienced or is experiencing harassment and reports this belief to an Official, the Official will meet with the person said to have experienced harassment and proceed in accordance with these procedures.

7. Where an Official believes there is sufficient evidence to warrant laying a formal complaint but the Complainant does not wish to do so, the Official may lay a formal complaint and proceed in accordance with these procedures.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

8. There are three possible outcomes to a meeting of Complainant and Official:

- a) *It may be determined that the conduct does not constitute harassment as defined in this policy*, in which case the matter will be closed;
- b) *The Complainant may decide to pursue an informal resolution of the complaint*, in which case a mediator as agreed to by both the complainant and the respondent will assist the two parties to negotiate or mediate an acceptable resolution of the complaint; or
- c) *The Complainant may decide to lay a formal written complaint*, in which case the Official will receive the written complaint and will advise the President of the CBHA, or designate, who will appoint an independent individual to conduct an investigation of the complaint.

9. The Investigator will carry out the investigation in a timely manner and at the conclusion of the investigation will submit a written report to the President, or designate, which will include a recommendation that:

- a) No further action be taken because the complaint is unfounded or the conduct cannot be reasonably be said to fall within the CBHA's definition of harassment; or
- b) The complaint has merit and should proceed to a hearing.

10. Within 10 business days of receiving the written report of the Investigator that recommends that there be a hearing the President, or designate, will appoint three individuals to serve as a Panel.
11. At the discretion of the President, or designate, the investigation may be waived and a Panel appointed within 10 business days of receipt of a formal complaint.

HEARING

12. The Panel will hold the hearing as soon as possible, but not more than 15 business days after the Panel has been appointed.
13. The Panel will govern the hearing as it deems appropriate in the circumstances, provided that:
 - a) Members of the Panel shall select from among themselves a Chairperson;
 - b) A quorum shall be all three Panel members;
 - c) Decisions shall be by majority vote where the Chairperson carries a vote;
 - d) The parties may be accompanied by a representative;
 - e) The hearing will be held in private;
 - f) The parties will be given 10 business days written notice of day, time and place of the hearing;
 - g) The Respondent will receive a copy of the formal complaint;
 - h) The Complainant and Respondent will each receive a copy of the Investigator's report;
 - i) Both the Complainant and Respondent will be present at the hearing to respond to the Investigator's report, give evidence and to answer questions of the Panel. The hearing may proceed in the absence of either or both parties;
 - j) The Investigator may attend the hearing at the request of the Panel;
 - k) The Panel may request that witnesses to the incident be present or submit written evidence;
 - l) Once appointed, the Panel has the authority to abridge or extend timelines associated with all aspects of the hearing;
 - m) In the event that one of the Panel's members is unable or unwilling to continue with the hearing, the matter will be concluded by the remaining two Panel members who will make their decision unanimously.
14. In order to keep costs to a reasonable level the Panel may conduct the hearing by means of a telephone conference.

DECISION

15. As soon as possible but in any event within 10 business days of the conclusion of the hearing, the Panel will provide its written decision to the President, or designate, with a copy provided to both the Complainant and Respondent. The decision will contain:
 - a) A summary of the relevant facts;
 - b) A determination as to whether the acts complained of constitute harassment as defined in this policy;
 - c) Disciplinary action against the Respondent, if the acts constitute harassment; and
 - d) Measures to remedy or mitigate the harm or loss suffered by the Complainant, if the acts constitute harassment.
16. If the Panel determines that the allegations of harassment are false, vexatious, retaliatory or frivolous, its report may direct that there be disciplinary sanctions against the Complainant.
17. Unless the Panel decides otherwise, any disciplinary sanctions applied shall take effect immediately.
18. The decision of the Panel will be final and binding upon the Complainant, the Respondent and the CBHA.

CONFIDENTIALITY

19. The CBHA recognizes the sensitive nature of harassment matters and in particular, the difficulties associated with coming forward with a complaint of harassment and with being accused of harassment. The CBHA recognizes the interests of both the Complainant and the Respondent in keeping any matter being dealt with under this policy confidential, except where disclosure is required by a disciplinary proceeding or by law.

CBHA INTERNATIONAL PLAYER REGULATIONS

International Regulation A

- Players under the age of 26 who are invited to a National Camp, or regarded as National team prospects, must attend at least two National camps (Regional International Immersion Camp's could be included as one) before being considered for clearance by the "Team Canada Program" to play for another country. The intent is not to hold young players back, but to see how they develop before being released, and that the "Team Canada Program" will use this veto only with true National team prospects.
- Players who want to revoke the right to play for Team Canada outright, must write a letter to the "Team Canada Program" detailing why they do not want to play for Canada. Upon consideration and a personal confirmation of the facts with the player, by the "Team Canada Program", the player will be given his outright release.

International Regulation B

- All players who played for other programs in 2005, or prior, are now exempt from playing for Canada. These players can continue on with the country they chose to play for. This will continue in infinity, unless the said program is disbanded whereas International Regulation A shall apply once again.

International Regulation C

- Other CBHA fed International programs must pass along detailed rosters for clearance by "Team Canada Program" by the end of calendar year before the World Championship. The roster shall include player's name, league, if he has proper passport & ISBHF paperwork, what level he plays, and age. Once the "Team Canada Program" gives clearance, our members who desire to play for another program, and who are not deemed a "prospect" by the "Team Canada Program", will be verified as clear to do so.

International Regulation D

- Other programs that are composed of have 60% plus of players from the CBHA, may be held accountable by the membership of the CBHA to make their said international team available and marketed to all players and members of the CBHA who are not "protected" by the National program. A tryout camp shall be held if possible for transparent decision making, or announced formal scouting procedures at Nationals, thereby protecting the fair play rights of our association and members. Other programs operating in Canada must have a working agreement with the said country's governing sport body, and support the development of ball hockey being played in that said nation, fostering the growth of our great Canadian game in new places.

International Regulation E

- These CBHA regulations shall be passed through to the ISBHF, in order to protect the integrity of our program, and protect all players in the CBHA. Players who have not received clearance from the "Team Canada Program" will not be allowed to participate in World Championship. It is noted that ISBHF transfer policies may be applied wherever and whenever possible in these circumstances.