



# SMHA REP HOCKEY POLICIES

## A. Introduction

1. The SMHA participates in the rep hockey program of the PCAHA, BC Hockey and Hockey Canada. SMHA rep hockey is governed by the rules and regulations of these organizations.
2. Rep hockey brings together dedicated, skilled players and dedicated, experienced coaches to form teams to play against the best hockey players and coaches from other associations. Rep teams play in a league that permits players to compete against players of similar ability.

## B. Mission Statement

1. To challenge, motivate, teach and inspire every Rep Hockey player to strive towards their maximum potential by providing them with a well defined and structured program. To give each and every player the opportunity to become the best they can by having an organization that is committed to professionalism, integrity, respect and sportsmanship.

## C. Vision and Value Proposition

1. The strategic vision and value proposition of the SMHA Rep program was developed to support the organization's Rep hockey mission statement. The SMHA will continuously evaluate all aspects of the Rep program in order to identify areas for improvement and to capitalize on available opportunities. The SMHA Board will strive to ensure that the organization:
  - a. Provides high quality coaching ☐
  - b. Provides the best in skill development and power skating. ☐
  - c. Provides players with a platform to learn and grow in the game of hockey and as individuals. ☐
  - d. Instills our core values. ☐

## D. Core Values

1. The SMHA will provide an opportunity for players to compete at their highest level. Maximizing a player's individual potential is dependent upon several factors outside the rink. Therefore, it is incumbent upon every Rep coach to assist each player with his or her individual efforts in taking responsibility for their personal development, and to help build the blocks of a solid foundation for lifelong success. Creating awareness and internalizing the core values of the SMHA will provide players with a toolbox full of practical values that enable them to collect experiences, build self-confidence and expand their horizons while opening doors to future opportunities. Core values are:

- a. Sportsmanship – Showing respect for yourself, your teammates, your coach, your opponents, and the officials. Winning and losing as a team with dignity and class.
- e. Commitment –To yourself, your team and the organization to always put forward your best effort to continue striving for improvement at all times. □
- f. Teamwork – Recognizing that you are part of a team which only succeeds as a team.
- g. Enthusiasm – Bringing enthusiasm and passion with you at all times in an effort to be the best you can be.

## **E. Commitment**

1. Rep teams will only succeed where players and coaches are committed to the Core Values of the rep program. Rep hockey is a competitive program that is designed with the goal of achieving the highest level of hockey possible. The rep program is built on commitment and dedication. Participation in rep hockey requires a significant commitment from coaches, parents and players.

### ***Coaching Staff***

- Rep coaches will have all necessary qualifications and experience in order to provide effective guidance and hockey knowledge to the team. □
- Rep coaches will display the time commitment required for the program. With the exception of certain personal or work matters, the coach will maintain regular attendance record for all practices, games, tournaments and team social functions. □
- Rep coaches will be expected to arrive at the rink at the same time expected of the players (e.g.1 hour before games) □
- Rep coaches will have a well-defined annual plan for the team, which shall be reviewed with the Coach Coordinator and the Director of Player Development no later than September 1. □
- Rep coaches will come fully prepared to each practice and game. □
- Rep coaches (and managers) will provide a schedule of events (games, practices, □tournaments, and other hockey functions) planned so, players and parents can schedule this hockey commitment around work, family/social functions and school. To the extent possible, a general schedule of practice, home game and other regularly schedule events, as well as an indication of tournaments that the team will participate in, should be provided before players are asked to commit to the team, and as the year goes by schedules for upcoming events should be provided to players and parents as soon as they are known. □
- Rep coaches will follow the structure laid out by the SMHA Board.□

### ***Players*** □

- Unless there is an extenuating circumstance, players are expected to be available for all practices, games, training, tournaments (including out of town tournaments) and social functions. □
- In order to be a team member of a Rep hockey team, the players must be prepared to make a commitment often at the expense of **high school hockey, spring hockey, other sporting endeavors**, free time and/or social events. □

- If a player is also planning to be involved in another sport or school activity which will inhibit their ability to fully commit to the SMHA Rep team, then the player must make this known during the try-out process. The Rep coach and the Rep selection process will most certainly factor this other commitment into his/her decision process when finalizing the selection for the team. □
- Players will be expected to maintain a high level of fitness such that he/she will be able to compete at the level required of an elite hockey program and avoid injury.□
- Players will be expected to give 100% effort to all the Rep hockey endeavors (practices, games and other training).
- Players will adhere to the SMHA dress code applicable to their team.□
- The SMHA strives to achieve a great reputation within our community and among other associations for being very well behaved and respectful when participating in games and tournaments. Let's work together to establish this reputation for years to come.

### **Parents**

- Given the majority of minor hockey players require transportation from their parents to all Rep hockey events, parents will be expected to agree to the player expectations above.□
  - Parents will support and encourage the commitment the Players have made.
  - If a player will miss a scheduled Rep hockey event, the parents will ensure the coach (or manager) is notified in advance.
2. The expectations set out in this policy are in addition to the basic coach, player and parent codes of conduct which apply to all SMHA coaches, players and parents.
  3. Although the expectations of Rep hockey players and families are quite demanding, they are necessary in order to be fair to the coaching staff and other teammates who are willing to make a similar commitment. Therefore, it is important that these expectations are understood and agreed to early on so as to avoid issues later in the season.
  4. Failure to honor the commitment level as laid out by the SMHA Rep Hockey Program will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the coach. If the coach feels a suspension longer than one game is required, the coach shall seek approval of such suspension in accordance with SMHA policies-
  5. Coaches shall notify the VP Rep of any disciplinary action taken for breach of the commitment policy, and the VP Rep shall maintain a record with respect to each player who is disciplined. Should a player who has been disciplined for more than one breach of the commitment policy try out for a Rep hockey team in a subsequent year, the VP Rep shall advise the coaches for the level at which the player is trying out, of the player's past record.
  6. Playing Rep hockey is a privilege, not a right, for the skilled hockey player. Playing Rep hockey can be an incredibly rewarding experience as it allows participation in an activity at the highest level available. This said, it is not skill alone that dictates who will be selected and able to participate in the Rep hockey program. If players and/or parents are unable or unwilling to make the commitment necessary, another player will likely be chosen to play on the Rep team who is willing to make the appropriate commitment.

7. It is important, in order to avoid misunderstandings with respect to the required commitment, to properly articulate the expectations of the Rep hockey program at the outset. Before being rostered with a rep team, it is expected that each coach, player and their parents will sign a document confirming their commitment to the principles outlined above.

## **F. Rep Fees**

1. Rep hockey of necessity involves additional expenses for additional game and practice ice, tournaments, travel and miscellaneous expenses such as team apparel. Players on rep teams will be expected to pay a rep fee to the SMHA, which will cover only a portion of these additional expenses, as well as to make additional contributions to team funds to cover a proportionate share of these expenses.

## **G. Dress Code**

For all Rep Teams, the Dress Code consists of:

- Dress Shoes
- Dress pants
- Shirt and Tie
- Rep Association Jacket
- For the above-noted teams, SMHA tracksuits with athletic shoes and other SMHA Rep approved clothing package may be worn instead, at the discretion of the coach.

## **H. Numbers of Rep Teams**

1. The number of SMHA rep teams will be decided before the start of each hockey season by the SMHA Board based upon the availability of both players and ice times.

## **I. Affiliate Players**

1. An affiliate player is defined as a registered player who is temporarily included on the roster of a team in a higher division or category within the SMHA. Each rep team should strive to affiliate numerous rep players, subject to the maximum limits prescribed by the PCAHA Rules. Every rep coach and manager should carefully review section C 34, C35, and C38 of the PCAHA Rules prior to the start of the season (or, in the case of Atom rep coaches, sections C27 through C30).
2. Each rep team should strive to affiliate 10 skaters and two goalies. □
3. Each rep team shall strive to affiliate 5 skaters and one goalie by October 15 of each year. The affiliate list should be increased to the minimum set out above no later than December 31 of each year.
4. The VP of Rep Hockey shall coordinate the assignment of affiliate players to rep teams in order to ensure that (a) the PCAHA Rules are followed, (b) each team has appropriate levels of affiliate players, and (c) players are given an adequate opportunity to become affiliates of teams for which they are suited.
5. Before a player is rostered as an affiliate:
  - a. the coach or manager shall confirm with the player or player's family that he or she

- is willing to be affiliated to that team; and
- b. the affiliation shall be approved by the Vice President of Rep Hockey.

### **Team Officials Selection**

The SMHA board will have final approval of all coaches for all rep teams with support from the Coach Coordinator, including both parent and non-parent coaches.