

SMHA Rep Hockey Agreement 2023-24



A) Introduction

1. The SMHA participates in the rep hockey program of the PCAHA, BC Hockey and Hockey Canada. SMHA is governed by the rules and regulations of these organizations.
2. Rep hockey strives to bring together dedicated players and dedicated coaches to form Rep teams to play in a league that has players competing against other players of similar ability.

B) Mission Statement

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

C) Vision & Value Proposition

1. The strategic vision and values of SMHA was developed to support the association's Rep hockey program. SMHA will continuously evaluate all aspects of the Rep program in order to identify areas for improvement and to capitalize on available opportunities. SMHA Board and Technical Director will strive to ensure that the association:
 - a. Provides quality coaching
 - b. Provides opportunity for skill development
 - c. Provides players with a platform to learn and grown in the game of hockey and as individuals
 - d. Instills our core values

D) Core Values

1. SMHA will provide an opportunity for players to compete at the highest level. Maximizing a player's individual potential is dependent upon several factors outside the rink. It is important that every Rep coach assists each player with his/hers/ their individual efforts in taking control of their personal development, and to help build the blocks of a solid foundation for lifelong success. Creating awareness and holding true to the values of SMHA will provide players with a toolbox full of practical values that enable them to have experience, build self-confidence, expand their horizons and potentially open doors to future opportunities outside of hockey.
2. Core Values are:
 - a. Sportsmanship
 - b. Commitment
 - c. Teamwork
 - d. Enthusiasm

E) Commitment

1. Rep teams will succeed where players, parents and coaches are collectively committed to the 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 needs to be built on the significant commitment and dedication of players, parents and coaches. Rep teams may require a significant level of time and financial commitment depending on the age group. Although there is some discretion based on individual circumstances, the following outlines in general terms the expectations of those involved.
 - a. Coaching Staff
 - i. Coaches will have the necessary qualification and experience in order to provide effective guidance and hockey knowledge to the team
 - ii. Rep coaches will display the time commitment that is required of the program. Exception being personal or work matters. Coaches will maintain a very good attendance record for all practices, games and tournaments.

- iii. Rep coaches will be expected to arrive at the rink at the same time that is expected of the players (i.e. 1 hours before games) otherwise deemed by work or prior commitments previously communicated.
 - iv. Rep coaches will come fully prepared to each practice and game
 - v. Rep coaches (and managers) will provide a schedule of events (games, practices, tournament and other hockey functions) planned so that players and parents can schedule this hockey commitment around work, family/ social functions and school. To whatever extent possible, ice schedules, regularly scheduled events and tournaments planned will be provided before players are asked to commit to the team.
 - vi. Rep coaches will follow the structure laid out by SMHA Board and Technical Director according to their contracts.
- b. Players
- i. 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.
 - ii. In order to be a team member of a Rep hockey team, the players must be prepared to make a commitment to attend 2 practices, 2 games and another 1 day of possible extra team development. Also most teams take part in 2-3 tournaments a year. This could alter depending on the team.
 - iii. If a player is also planning to be involved in another sport or school activity, ongoing appointments or holidays that will interfere with their ability to fully commit to the SMHA Rep team (i.e. attend 85% of practices and games per month), then the player must make this known during the try-out process. The Rep coach will most certainly factor this other commitment into his/her/their decision process when finalizing the selection for the team.
 - iv. Players will be expected to maintain a high level of fitness such that he/she/they will be able to compete at the level required of a high level hockey program and to help avoid injury
 - v. Players will be expected to give a 100% effort to all Rep hockey endeavors including practices, games and other training.
 - vi. Players will adhere to the SMHA dress code policy
 - vii. SMHA has a great reputation within our community and amongst other associations for being well behaved and respectful when participating in games and tournaments. We will continue to work together to continue this reputation.
- c. Parents
- i. Acknowledging the majority of minor hockey players require transportation from their parents to all the Rep hockey events, parents will be expected to agree to the player expectations noted above.
 - ii. If a player will miss a scheduled hockey event, the parents will ensure that the coach (and/ or manager) is notified in advance via proper communication channels (ie. phone, text, Team Snap)

2. The expectations set out in this document are in addition to the basic coach player and parent codes of conduct that 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 will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the head coach. If the coach feels a suspension longer than one game is required, he shall seek approval of such suspension in accordance with the SMHA disciplinary committee and Technical Director.
5. Coaches shall notify the VP Rep Hockey and Technical Director of any disciplinary action taken for breach of the rep program commitment. A record will be kept by VP Rep for each player who is disciplined. Should a player who has been disciplined for more than one breach of commitment try out for a Rep hockey team in a subsequent year, the VP Rep shall be at liberty to advise the coaches for the level at which that player is trying out of the player's past record.
6. Playing Rep hockey is a privilege, not a right, for ANY hockey player. Playing Rep hockey can be an incredibly rewarding experience since it allows participation in an activity at the highest level available. This being 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 to unwilling to make the commitment necessary, then another player will likely be chosen to play on the Rep team who is willing to make the proper commitment.
7. It is important, in order to avoid misunderstandings with respect to 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 the parents of each player will sign a document (Player, Parent and Coach Commitment Form) confirming their commitment to the principles outlined above.

F) Rep Fees

1. Rep hockey of necessity involved additional expenses for coaches, additional game and practice ice, tournaments, off ice training, travel and miscellaneous expenses such as team apparel. Players on rep teams will be expected to pay a rep fee to 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

SMHA has adopted a dress code applicable association wide. This shall be followed by all teams for games at home and away.

- Dress shirt or shirt with a collar
- Nice pants, dress pants

- Nice shoes
- SMHA jacket or black zippered jacket
- NO jeans, NO caps
- Black helmets - aware there is a period of transition from current white, so next required need to purchase a new helmet color will be black

H) Numbers of Rep Teams

1. The number of Rep teams will be decided by the board before the start of the season and after try-outs and will depend on a few factors including but not limited to the availability of ice and players.

I) Affiliate Players

1. Team sizes will consist of approximately 16 skaters and 1 goalie for a total of 17 players. This may fluctuate depending on player availability.
2. 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. This player may be irregularly called upon to maintain a minimum number of rostered players of a higher based team. Each Rep team should strive to affiliate numerous rep players.
3. Each player has a responsibility to their primary team first.
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
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/she/they are willing to be affiliated to that team, and
 - b. The affiliation shall be approved by the VP of Rep Hockey.

Player Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date (D/M/Y): ____ / ____ / ____