



**Whitby Girls Hockey Association
House League Handbook
2020-2021 Season**

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Section 1: Overview

This document is intended to be a guide to the WGHHA House League Program and is intended to help the coaching staff understand their responsibilities as coaches, as well as the policies of the league in general.

Please read the document in full and keep it handy if you have any questions. For example, if your team plans on attending a tournament, there is important information in this document that will help you with that.

Make sure you understand the responsibilities of all of your team staff, review the important dates and deadlines.

If you have any questions, please direct them as follows:

Team members/parents: They should be communicating primarily with the head coach. If there is a concern with the coach, they may reach out to the convenor, or the house league director.

Coaches: Your first line of communication should be with the league convenor. Convenor contacts are on the website at <https://wgha.org/Convenors>. If they cannot answer your question, they will direct you to the proper contact.

If the convenors cannot resolve your question, then please reach out to the house league directors:

Mike Basque (jrhl@wgha.org), for divisions U11 and younger.

Denise McKinnon (2ndvp@wgha.org), for divisions U13 and above.

Section 2: Communication and Scheduling

Communication

Parents may have invested upwards of \$1000, and sometimes more on their child's registration, equipment and development, and want to know what's going on. Keep them informed.

The convenor will provide you with 1 email and phone number for each parent, based on what they used to register. You are encouraged to include all parents if they want to make sure that communications reach everyone.

Please pass on information provided by the convenor or house league director as soon as possible. This may include scheduling for events (such as pictures), development opportunities, or offers from our sponsors. Many of these are time sensitive, and we want to make sure our players have every opportunity they can get to develop.

You will want to decide if your team is interested in tournaments early, and register. Please see the tournament section below for details.

Web Site Access

Coaches will be provided with access to their team page on the web site. This will allow coaches to:

- Post notifications and details on their site.
- Schedule tournament games
- Schedule outside events and parties.

Please make sure that no private information such as names or birthdates are posted. Pictures may only be posted with the consent of everyone in the picture.

Scheduling

The schedule is posted on the WGHA web site, and this should be viewed as the official source. While the house league schedule does not change often, it does occasionally, and some weeks have changes based on ice availability or holidays. Parents are strongly recommended to subscribe to their team calendar so that they are automatically updated with changes.

Note that it is extremely rare that scheduled ice time will be cancelled due to weather. As long as the facility remains open, practices and games are on.

Any outside events can be scheduled, but please note that for insurance purposes, WGHA ice cannot be used for any purpose other than WGHA sanctioned activities.

In the event there is a last-minute change, you will be notified by the convenor. Please notify your team ASAP, preferably via email.

TeamSnap

The scheduling module of the wgha website allows synchronization to teamsnap. Teamnsnap is a great way to manage team contact information and messaging.

In addition to the fees charged by teamsnap, there is a fee to enable the synchronization. This is available from the control panel on the wgha web site.

Section 3: Team Staff and Roles

Head Coach

The Head Coach is responsible for every aspect of the team. The responsibility also includes conduct of the bench staff during all team functions. The Whitby Girls Hockey Association wants every player to have a positive experience while participating on a House League team and the Head Coach is the lead position to facilitate and implement this expectation. See section 4 for certification requirements

Responsibilities as follows but not limited to:

- Ensuring fair and relatively equal ice time and development for all players.
- Selecting Team Staff who are qualified or will be by the deadline. (November 15, 2020)
- Overseeing the proper conduct of Team staff on and off the ice during practices, games, while representing the team on and off of the ice.
- Demonstrating positive interactions with game officials and parents and players.
- Effective communication with players and parents.

- Complying with WGHA rules and expectations including reporting to the executive any staff or player that contravene the rules set out in this document.
- Promoting positive self-esteem for players.
- Ensuring all Team Staff has completed a criminal reference check for the vulnerable sector and the minimum requirements for their position as outlined in section 4, preferably before being on the ice, on the bench or in the dressing room, and by the date the waivers are signed.
- Ensuring all staff wear helmets during practices with chin straps done up.
- Complying with OWHA rules.
- Adhere to Policies, Procedures and Guidelines and rules of the WGHA outlined in this document.
- Ensure that the executive is informed and the game sheets for suspended players are marked correctly. The suspended game sheet is scanned and emailed to stats@owha.on.ca and “cc” jrh1@wgha.org, 1stVP@wgha.org and 2ndVP@wgha.org. Subsequent gamesheets for the duration of the suspension will then be marked beside the suspended players name as Game 1 of 3 and so forth until all games are served. Each suspended game served game sheets are again to be scanned and email stats@owha.on.ca and “cc” jrh1@wgha.org, 1stVP@wgha.org and 2ndVP@wgha.org until all suspended games are served.
- Coaches may want to consider enlisting the help of a Team Manager to assist with the above duties keeping in mind that the head coach is responsible for ensuring that all duties listed are complete.

Assistant Coach

It is the responsibility of the Assistant Coach to reinforce the objectives of the Head Coach and take over the Head Coach responsibilities in their absence. The Assistant Coach will work with the Head Coach to enable the players to achieve their full potential in a positive environment. It is strongly recommended the Assistant Coach also have the same minimum requirements as the Head Coach. A team may have 1 or 2 assistant coaches. The head coach should work with the assistant coach to set out specific responsibilities.

On-ice Help

On-ice help support the coach and assistant coaches in practices. On-ice help may be parents who have completed the required certification requirements.

On-ice help may also be players currently registered in the WGHA or WMHA who are at least 2 years older than all players in the division they are assisting in. Player on-ice help do not need to be on the roster but are required to wear full protective equipment while on the ice.

Teams may carry up to 6 assistant coaches/on-ice help for U7 , 5 for (U9 and U11) and 4 for U13-U18.

Team Manager

The manager is an optional, but recommended role for house league. The manager will play a key role as a liaison between the parents and coaching staff.

- Ensure all players are registered with the association.

- Keep a copy of the team roster and call up forms for any tournaments.
- Be responsible for the majority of the team administrative obligations (registering for tournaments, collecting police background checks, etc).

Trainer

All teams must have a **female trainer** (at least one per team) and all trainers will have current HTCP Level 1 certificate. A female trainer must be present at ice level for all practices and games.

Responsibilities of the trainer:

- To monitor the dressing room and report any behaviour issues to the Head Coach so as to ensure the proper care and safety of the players.
- To ensure that all players are appropriately warmed up prior to any physical activities, this will reduce potential injuries.
- To inform parents of any injury that has been sustained.
- Complete and submit injury reports when required.
- Perform equipment checks and inform parents of any observed equipment concerns.
- **Maintain a properly stocked trainer's kit and have it available at all times at ice level and at warm up.**
- Should have a cell phone with them and the numbers of the arena's emergency contact staff with them. Phone the arena's contact numbers for emergencies before calling "911" unless the situation is extreme and warrants such action immediately.
- **MUST** be present in the arena (**ice level**) for all on ice activities, development sessions, practices, and games as injuries could occur. The bench trainer's current, valid number must appear on the game sheet as proof of the trainer's certification and attendance at the OWHA sanctioned event.
- To ensure that cell phones, PDA's, cameras and other recording devices are not used in the dressing rooms. **Zero tolerance**. Must be reported immediately.

Dressing room help

In U7 and U9, parents are allowed in the dressing room. Major U9 parents are encouraged to stop helping their kids in the dressing room to help them get ready for the next level.

In U11 and above, only the trainer and designated female 'den moms' are allowed in the dressing room. Teams may name 1 or 2 people to help out and monitor the dressing room for the same concerns as the trainer. Dressing room help will be required to have a current Criminal Record Check (CRC) with Vulnerable Sector Search (VSS).

Section 3: Training and Certification Requirements

Head Coach

Head coaches have the following training requirements to be able to coach. Certification must be obtained and registered with the OWHA prior to the rosters being approved:

- Coaches of U7 and U9 divisions must hold Coach 1-Intro to Coach qualification - No other qualifications are accepted.

- Coaches of U11 and higher must hold Coach 2-Coach Level ‘Trained’ or higher: (Coach 2-Coach Level ‘Trained’ or ‘Certified’; Development 1 ‘Trained’ or ‘Certified’; High Performance 1 & 2 ‘Trained’ or ‘Certified’)

Assistant coaches are recommended to have the same level of training as the head coach.

Once trained, coaches can access their certification at coach.ca, and logging in to ‘the locker’.

Coaches are encouraged to further develop by taking available courses. Clinic listings are available on the OWHA and OMHA websites.

The WGHA will partially refund the costs of taking clinics for anyone who requires it.

Trainer

The WGHA requires that trainers be females. This allows the trainers to be present in dressing rooms and allows our players to be more comfortable if a physical examination is required.

Trainers must have the current HTCP Level 1 certificate. This certification is good for 3 years and can be renewed with a refresher course.

The trainer course is available at: <http://owha.pointstreaksites.com/view/owha/coaches/trainers>

Additional trainer resources are available at:

<http://owha.pointstreaksites.com/view/owha/coaches/trainers/resource-materials>

All team staff: Respect in Sport

All team staff who are directly involved with the players must take the Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders course. This includes coaches, assistant coaches, on-ice help, trainers and dressing room help.

Please note that there are two versions. Team staff must take the activity leader version.

The program is available here: <https://owha.respectgroupinc.com/>.

Parents are not required, but strongly encouraged to take the parent version.

All team staff: Criminal Reference Check (CRC) with Vulnerable Sector Search (VSS)

All team staff directly involved with the players must complete a criminal reference check. The check should be submitted with a photocopy and sealed in an envelope labelled with the team information. Any staff that fails to provide a criminal reference check to the WGHA will not be permitted to participate with any team in a coach, trainer, or on ice or dressing room help capacity. The WGHA will ensure that all Criminal Reference check submissions will remain confidential. A valid Criminal Reference check that includes the vulnerable sector must be submitted. Contact your Convenor for a letter from the WGHA that will reduce the cost of this police check to only \$20.

Note that even though some jobs such as teachers, first responders, and other positions working with children may require the same check, the OWHA requires that a valid check be submitted. Criminal Reference checks remain valid for 3 years. In the 2nd and 3rd years, a declaration must be provided instead of a full criminal reference check. A version of this is available in Appendix B.

Reporting certification to the league

The Head coach is responsible for ensuring that all team staff have completed their certification requirements. Staff that are not certified will NOT be allowed on the ice. Coaches that allow uncertified staff on the ice may be sanctioned or suspended.

The head coach should collect criminal reference checks or declarations as soon as possible, as well as the respect in sport and trainer certification numbers and submit the package to the convenor. If required, the Secretary can validate what certifications are registered for team staff.

Section 4: Policies and Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct

It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to ensure all bench staff acts appropriately. No staff shall be permitted on the bench if they have consumed any alcohol or are under the influence of drugs. Team Staff is not to belittle players and is not to use inappropriate language. Team Staff must ensure the philosophy of the WGHA is followed as well as the expectations of the WGHA Constitution, By-laws and Code of Conduct. The Team Staff is to conduct themselves in a positive, encouraging manner toward all players, parents/guardians, opponents, and on ice/off ice officials. All bench staff including the head coach, assistant coaches, on-ice help and trainer are required to take the Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders course. Violation may result in the suspension of the staff or head coach. Continued suspensions can and may result in further discipline or expulsion of the Head Coach.

Coaches should ensure that parents also remain positive to other parents, opponents and officials. It should be noted that especially in the younger divisions, the officials can be younger and learning as well.

Dressing Room

To provide a safe and comfortable dressing room environment with proper supervision for the player and team officials. In U11 and older divisions, no males shall be in the dressing room until such time as the Trainer clears them to enter (i.e. coaching staff prior to game time). The only females that should be allowed are those that have completed a criminal background check

Two Deep Dressing Room Policy

It is the Policy of the Ontario Women's Hockey Association that, when any player under the age of 19 is in the team dressing room(s) before, during and after a game or practice, a minimum of two of the following shall be present in the dressing room(s) or immediately outside the dressing room(s) with the door ajar: two team or club/association officials, properly screened or one such official and an adult person, 18 years or older, associated with the team. The OWHA recommends at least one of the individuals supervising a dressing room be a female. Males must stay outside the dressing room.

Cameras / Recording Devices / Smartphones

No cameras, smartphones or other similar devices capable of recording audio or video may be used in the dressing rooms. Devices should be put away or collected when entering the dressing room. This applies to players, parents and staff. Any violation of this policy must be reported immediately, and may result in suspension.

Teams using speakers for music in the dressing room must come outside the room to control the playlists.

Sanctions

Any person found to be in violation of this policy will receive a warning for a first offence, a two week suspension for a second offence, and a one year suspension for a third offence.

24 Hour Rule

It is a WGHA policy that Team Staff and parents/guardians follow the 24-hour rule as this may assist in seeking a positive resolution. Hockey is a fast-paced exciting game, where sometimes things happen that may cause people to react emotionally. While the concern may be valid, the WGHA requires that 24 hours pass before addressing the concern with a coach or official from the current or other team.

For issues regarding allegations of abuse or harassment please refer to page 27 – 32 under the WGHA Constitution for detailed information regarding procedures to follow.

Fair and Equitable Ice

Equal Ice Time is over a three to five game period and can never be exact. In any given game, a player may have more or less ice than others on the team due to a number of factors – penalties, stoppages, timing of shift changes, etc. However, over a three or four game period, it is fully expected that players will receive equal ice time to others on the same team in the same position. If a team has two full Defense shifts (4 DEF) and three Forward Shifts, the time allotted to the Defense players cannot be compared to the time allotted to the Forward players.

There is a belief that the last “few minutes” of a game belong to the coach. **This is not a guideline for consideration by any House League Team during any regular season, tournament or playoff game.**

In younger divisions (U7, U9, U11) it is too early to specialize in positions. Players should have the opportunity to play every position. Preferences may arise, and players can start to focus. U7 and U9 may not have dedicated goaltenders. U11 may have dedicated goaltenders, though they are encouraged to play ‘out’ once in a while to give other interested players the chance to try the position.

Call-ups

During regular season only, in order to ensure safety and fair play the following process should be followed only when a HL team finds itself with less than 10 skaters:

- 1) Team with less than 10 skaters can call a player with similar skill across from another team in the same division OR
- 2) Call up from a division below (provided the division is playing the same size ice surface)

3) Team calling can only call up to a maximum of 10 skaters

i.e. A team with 15 on their roster and only have 12 in attendance cannot call up. If a team with 12 on the roster and has only 9 in attendance then only one player is considered for a call up position.

There will be no call ups/across for playoff and championship weekend. During playoffs and championship weekend, teams may choose to play with less than 10 skaters.

Special consideration for goalies may be made with permission from the division Convenor and appropriate House League Director.

Penalty and Suspension

The Whitby Girls Hockey Association House League program is a recreational program with the goal to give players equal ice time in a safe, developmental, and fun environment.

The following rules affect House League Divisions PeeWee and older (not DS).

- Any player that receives three penalties in the same game will be ejected for the remainder of the game. Each subsequent occurrence will incur an additional one game suspension. For example, a third occurrence will incur a three-game suspension.
- Any player that receives a Game Misconduct penalty will have the occurrence reviewed by the Executive. Additional games may be added to the suspension. Subsequent occurrences may result in the player being removed from the league without reimbursement.
- Any team with 60 or more penalty minutes in the regular season (18 minutes in preseason and 36 minutes in playoffs) may result in the Head Coach receiving a one game suspension.
- **All game ejections and suspensions MUST be reported to the 2ndVP of HL for tracking purposes. Failure to do so will result in coach discipline.**
- Game sheets for suspended players must be marked (Game 1 of 3, etc) and scanned and emailed to stats@owha.on.ca and “cc” jrhl@wgha.org, 1stVP@wgha.org and 2ndVP@wgha.org, until the suspension has been fully served.

In addition to the above, the following applies only to the **Senior House League Division**:

Team reps will serve as the coach for the Senior division and will inform the 2ndVP of HL of any of the following:

- Any player that receives 15 or more penalty minutes during any three consecutive games will receive a one game suspension.
- Any player receiving a second suspension may be removed from the league without reimbursement.*
- Any team that incurs 90 penalty minutes may be removed from the league without reimbursement. Consideration will be given on a case by case basis.

- * Where a player/team has been removed from the league, the player(s) or the player's parent/guardian may appeal to the Executive within 48 hours of being notified that the player has been removed from the league.

Discipline

If parents/guardians have a concern they should follow this policy. If the parents/guardians concern is not resolved, they may first address the concern with the WGHA 1st VP/ Director of Hockey Operations who will oversee the necessary procedures to resolve the matter. It is recommended that parents/guardians submit concerns to the Director of Hockey Operations in writing. **It is a WGHA policy that all team staff and parents/guardians follow the 24-hour rule as this may assist in seeking a positive resolution.** For issues regarding allegations of abuse or harassment please refer to page 27 – 32 under the WGHA Constitution for detailed information regarding procedures to follow.

The executive must be made aware of and have the avenue to act accordingly in dealing with any discipline situation. The WGHA can if deemed necessary remove any coach or player from a team at any point in the season. The WGHA also reserves the right to add to any OWHA imposed suspension.

Regardless of where a suspension is received (DS or HL) ... every sanctioned game (HL, DS, Tournament) counts towards the suspension. **HL exhibition games are excluded (eg: Bantam HL games vs Oshawa) however the player is still ineligible to play these games until the suspension is served.** Any suspended player cannot be replaced so the team will play with a shorted bench for the duration of the suspension. Players can still participate in practices.

Injuries

Trainers are responsible for attending to any injuries on the ice and ensuring proper return to play protocol. In the event of a serious injury that requires the player to be removed from the game, the injury should be reported to the OWHA using the injury report form. The form can be found here:

http://owha.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded_documents/3323/OWHA_Injury_Report_Eng_OWHA_5.pdf.

This form allows the owha to track injuries throughout the season, and it is required if the player's family needs to make an insurance claim.

Concussions

Concussions are an unfortunate part of any sport, despite protective equipment and safety protocols.

Parents and coaching staff are required to annually review and acknowledge the concussion awareness resources.

In the event of a head injury on the ice, the trainer is responsible for removing the child from play if, by following the concussion protocol, they feel there is a potential for concussion. The child may only be returned to play after following return to play guidelines. Coaches or parents may not override the trainer's decision.

Trainers and coaches must regularly review the concussion guidelines from the OWHA website.

Use of WGHA Logo

The Whitby Girls logo is a registered trademark for the official use of the Whitby Girls Hockey Association. Teams are not permitted to use the WGHA logo without the advance written permission of the WGHA. The WGHA has tendered the clothing contracts and the company who has been awarded the contract is the only company permitted to apply the logo for any approved requests.

If you wish to use the logo, please submit a request via email to the Clothing Director. The clothing director will then forward to the WGHA executive. If the request is granted, the email is your proof of authorization and must be printed and filed with your team documents.

Many companies offer items and services, including photography, puck and stick labels, and other similar items. These companies are not permitted to use the logo without the permission of the WGHA executive.

Section 5: U7 and U9 programs

U7 (formerly Initiation)

U7 Cross-ice hockey

U7 coaches are required to read the Hockey Canada U7 pathway guidelines located at the home page of the OWHA web site: <http://owha.pointstreaksites.com/>.

Whitby Girls Hockey has implemented the following guidelines based on our normal registration:

1. The first 4 ice sessions are used to evaluate players so as to balance teams based upon skill level. This allows for, as much as possible, balanced skill levels and balanced teams so that coaches can focus on players of all skill levels, and games are balanced and fun
2. All ice sessions up to Nov15 are skills development sessions.
3. Beginning after Nov 15, games will be introduced. Two games will be run at the same time.
4. Coaches will support the setup of the cross-ice boards before the first game, and the teardown after the 2nd game
5. There will be no flood between games
6. Each end zone will be used for a 4-4 cross-ice game.
7. There are to be two coaches at each game (one from each team). They are responsible for keeping the game moving
8. The clock will be set for 48 minutes with a 2 minute buzzer
9. Coaches will divide their teams into 4 lines – A, B, C, D. One ice service will have the A and B lines from each team, and the other will have the C and D lines. Lines should be balanced to keep the play fair. This may mean that teams could be playing 4-3.

The convenors, working with the coaches and house league director may adjust these standards at any point if required.

Coaches should discuss before each game how reduced attendance may impact the game.

If there are not enough players to play 2 games, there should be 1 game played with A-B-C lines and skills development in the other zone.

Jersey Distribution

Jerseys are distributed to the U7 team at McDonald's at Taunton and Garden in the week after the evaluation skates. Your convenor will be in touch with the dates and times.

Playoffs

There are no playoffs for U7 hockey. On championship weekend, games will be played as normal. After the last game, players will receive awards

U7 Goalie Equipment

The WGHA provides easy to use goalie equipment for our U7 program. Each team receives 1 bag with 2 sets of equipment. The equipment is designed to be worn over a full set of gear, and can be put on and removed in less than 2 minutes.

U7 Banquet

The U7 year end banquet will be held at McDonald's at Taunton and Garden

U9 (formerly Novice)

U9 Half-ice hockey

U9 coaches are required to read the Hockey Canada U9 pathway guidelines located at the home page of the OWHA web site: <http://owha.pointstreaksites.com/>.

Whitby Girls Hockey has implemented the following guidelines based on our normal registration:

1. The first 4 ice sessions are used to evaluate players so as to balance teams based upon skill level. This allows for, as much as possible, balanced skill levels and balanced teams so that coaches can focus on players of all skill levels, and games are balanced and fun
2. All ice sessions up to Oct 15 are skills development sessions.
3. Beginning after Oct 15, games will be introduced. Only 1 half ice game will be run
4. Coaches will support the setup of the half-ice boards before the first game, and the teardown after the 3rd game
5. There will be no flood between games
6. Teams in each ice session should alternate which half of the ice is being used
7. There may be two coaches at each game (one from each team). They are responsible for keeping the game moving
8. Referees will also be on the ice
9. The clock will be set for 48 minutes with a 2- minute buzzer. Players will change on the buzzer with no stoppage in play

U9 hockey will transition to full ice beginning after January 15.

Playoffs

U9 hockey will not have playoffs. On championship weekend, teams will be matched up and will play a best of 2 series. After the

Section 6: U11 and up

Evaluations / Team formation

Beginning in the 2020-21 season, U11 will also have evaluation skates to help the convenors make the team. This is because the U11 rep program will have tryouts in the fall, which will delay the formation of the house league teams. Once the teams are made, they will be finalized.

U13 and up do not have evaluation skates, therefore the first 5 games are considered exhibition games, and the convenors may balance the teams any time before those 5 games are up.

- * For 2020-21 only, due to COVID-19 delaying all tryouts, all divisions may move to the U11 format.

Goaltenders

Starting in U11, players may start to specialize in the goaltending role. Coaches are encouraged to provide the opportunity for any player wishing to try the position to do so. For U13 and up, goaltenders are typically dedicated. In the case where there are not enough goaltenders for the division, goaltenders may be shared. Teams may also call up a goaltender from a lower house league division.

Banquet

The U19 /U23 division will hold it's own banquet, in a location to be determined by the convenor and house league director.

The remaining teams will have a banquet following the completion of games on championship weekend. Details will be released later in the season. Anyone willing to help organize is encouraged to reach out to the house league directors.

Playoffs

Playoffs begin in late January / Early February. The playoff format is as follows:

6 team divisions will have a 5 game round robin leading up to championship weekend. Each team will play each other team once. No games will be played during march break, including both weekends. Championship weekend will have the 5th and 6th place teams play for the 'C' championship; 3rd and 4th play for 'B' and 1st and 2nd play for 'A'

4 team divisions will have a 6 game round robin. Each team will play each other team twice. No games will be played during march break. Championship weekend will have the 3rd and 4th place play for the 'B' championship and the 1st and 2nd play for the 'A' championship.

Medals will be awarded after the 2nd game.

Section 7: Important Dates

- Many of the following are placeholders

Sept 2, 2020	Coaches meeting
Sept 12, 2020	Start of season, most divisions
Oct 3-4, 2020	Last exhibition games, Last day to rebalance teams
Oct 5-10, 2020	Submit final rosters to registrar and secretary, all documentation due
Oct 10-11, 2020	NO ICE - Thanksgiving weekend
Oct 17-18, 2020	Waiver signatures – PLEASE follow all instructions exactly
Oct 31, 2020	All waivers must have been submitted
Nov 14, 2020	Rosters delivered
Nov ??? 2020	House League Photos
Nov 28-29, 2020	NO ICE – WGHA Tournament of heroes
Dec 5-6, 2020	NO ICE – Silverstick tournament
Dec ???, 2020	Distribution of house league photos
Dec 26-27, 2020	NO GAMES – Christmas holidays

Jan 9-10, 2021	NO ICE – Ringette Tournament
Feb 13-15, 2021	NO ICE – Family Day
Mar 27-28	Championship Weekend and banquet

Section 8: Equipment

Required Equipment

The following is a list of equipment that is required for each player. All equipment must be in the proper state of repair to provide the protection that the equipment was manufactured for.

Jill

Shin pads

Pants

Shoulder Pads

Elbow Pads

BNQ certified Neck Guard*

CSA approved Helmet*

CSA approved Face Mask

Gloves

Hockey Skates

* Neck guards - (integrated into undergarment accepted if BNQ certified). Hockey Canada does not recognize the HECC certification. It is the HECC certification that often has an expiration date. Therefore, if a helmet is CSA approved but has an HECC sticker that shows the helmet has expired, the helmet is still valid if it is structurally sound. Trainers are to inspect helmets.

A mouth guard is strongly recommended.

Absolutely **no** Ringette or street hockey pads, pants etc. Only Ice Hockey Equipment is allowed. This equipment is to be worn in the proper manner, at all times, while participating in on ice activities. Failure to wear any of this equipment will result in the player being removed from the ice until the equipment is worn in the proper manner.

Jewelry should be discouraged and there should be no loops or dangling type earrings and no necklaces etc are ever to be on the outside of jerseys.

Goaltenders

The WGHA will provide a full set of goalie equipment and a stick to each team that requires it. Teams that have a dedicated goaltender with their own equipment may decline to borrow equipment. This equipment must be returned following the end of the season for cleaning and storage. A date will be published in the spring.

Pucks, Pylons and Whistle

The WGHA will provide 25 pucks and 8 pylons to each coach, as well as a whistle and whiteboard. The pucks and cones must be returned in the spring

Jerseys and socks

Every player will be provided with a jersey and a pair of socks. These are retained by the players at the end of the season. Name bars are allowed and can typically be arranged by our jersey provider for a small fee. Most teams apply name bars over thanksgiving weekend as that is an 'off' week for hockey.

No nicknames are permitted. Surnames, or an initial and surname only. Some teams may choose to put a name on the shared goalie jersey as well. Please note that this may not be anything that might be deemed offensive.

The name bars may not cover the number or any sponsor logos

Section 9: Sponsorship

There is no WGHA sanctioned fundraising or sponsorship for House League other than what the WGHA has received for sponsorship from the sponsors listed below.

Sponsorship or fundraising is not permitted for normal activities including name bars, tournaments or team activities.

If you are considering sponsorship or fundraising for special events – for example charitable purposes such as the U13 Good Deeds Cup, please forward your request to the Director of Sponsorship for approval.

If you or a parent on your team would like to sponsor a team, please reach out to the Director of Sponsorship.

National Sports

You were or will be given a supply of \$10 off cards that also includes an ongoing discount on skate sharpening. Please hand out to players. The WGHA earns gift cards from every purchase made. We earned over \$600 in gift cards in the past year and we gave or will give them all back to players (house league) as random draws or as part of raffles etc.

HOUSE LEAGUE SPONSORS 2020-2021

The following Sponsors have offered WGHA members special pricing/offers

PLAY IT AGAIN SPORTS

Specializing in catering to local sports teams and associations, Play It Again Sports is a long-time supporter of the WGHA. Throughout the season, watch for special promotions available only to WGHA players. Do you have an old pair of skates in great condition? See the staff at Play it Again about selling those outgrown pairs of skates on your behalf!

Pro Hockey Life

A leading provider in a range of hockey and hockey-related equipment and apparel, Pro Hockey Life is a sponsor of the WGHA and provides players with promotional discount offers

throughout the season. Players should also receive a free skate sharpening card early in the season that entitles them to some complimentary sharpenings.

Meet our 2020-2021 Sponsors

Tyke	McDonalds
Novice	Dodge Caravan Kids
Atom	atoMc (McDonalds)
Peewee	
Bantam	
Midget	
Senior	

Player of the Game

Where available, “Player of the Game” vouchers or certificates from local businesses will be provided through the conveners. As of the time of writing, these offers are not available for all divisions this season due to the withdrawal of some businesses from offering these programs.

Scotiabank

The WGHA is also sponsored Scotiabank, who provides funding to help support our house league player development programs.

Section 10: Attending Tournaments

Tournaments fill fast – in the first two weeks you should set the groundwork whether your team will be entering tournaments. If you plan on entering one or more, pick in advance the ones you will be entering. Contact your Convenor to inform them of the tournaments you are entering and inform your parents of your intent to register. Request their payment about two weeks prior to when you must pay the fee. This gives you ample time to request call up players from other teams within the same division or from the “major” level of the division one below your own (eg: Bantam may call up a Peewee).

For a full list of House League (“HL”) tournaments, there is a dedicated page on the OWHA’s site.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO READ THE TOURNAMENT RULES REGARDING PICK UP PLAYERS AND GOALIES. YOU CANNOT PICK UP MORE PLAYERS THAN YOUR HL ROSTER NUMBER. (IE. IF YOUR HL TEAM HAS 15 SKATERS ROSTERED YOU CANNOT PICK UP TO MORE THAN 15 SKATERS.)

House league has some natural breaks in the schedule that are ideal for scheduling tournaments; however please keep in mind the typical weekends that the DS team will schedule their tournaments. You do not want to enter a tournament missing 3-4 of your top players. It is recommended to discuss with the DS coach prior to committing to a tournament.

In addition, you cannot miss house league games to attend a tournament. In the event that a practice is missed, please let the other coach know so that they can plan a full-ice practice.

KEEP IN MIND HL CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND WHEN ENTERING TOURNAMENTS.

In order to enter a tournament, you will need your completed roster from the registrar. Please notify the registrar and secretary when you decide to enter a tournament so that they can accelerate the process, if required. No tournament before the 3rd week of November should be entered.

Section 11: Important Links

WGHA

www.wgha.org

Updates on WGHA related events, development, practice and game schedules, and announcements. It is strongly recommended that all members subscribe to the page to be notified immediately of any new events or development opportunities

<https://www.facebook.com/whitbywolves/>

Updates, sponsorship notices, pictures and other fun content. Please contribute.

<https://twitter.com/WhitbyGHA>

General information and late breaking info

<https://www.instagram.com/WhitbyGHA/>

News, events, and celebrations. Please post your pictures and tag us.

OWHA

www.owha.on.ca

Complete access to all clinic dates and locations, house league tournaments, tournament forms, call up forms, Proof of Insurance Forms, etc.

The U7, U9 and U11 pathways are also posted here and should be reviewed by all coaches.

Coaching requirements are also posted here

OMHA

www.omha.net

Additional clinics are posted here. Coaching clinics offered by OMHA member organizations can be attended by our coaches

HOCKEY CANADA

www.hockeycanada.ca

LLFHL

Lower Lakes Female Hockey League – find out how our rep teams are doing

www.llfhl.ca

Appendices

Appendix A: Criminal Record Check Letter

Please reach out to your convenor for a copy of the letter.



CRIMINAL OFFENCE DECLARATION

PRINT NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

POSITION: _____

TEAM: _____

I, _____ HEARBY DECLARE THAT:

☐

I have no convictions or outstanding charges for offences under the Criminal Code of Canada as specified in the OWHA Policy for Police Record Checks up to and including the date of this declaration for which a pardon has not been issued or granted under the Criminal Records Act (Canada).

OR

☐

I have the following convictions for offences under the Criminal Code of Canada as specified in the OWHA Policy for Police Record Checks for which a pardon under the Criminal Records Act (Canada) has not been issued or granted:

Signature: _____ Date : _____