



**House League Coaches Handbook
2021-22**

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Section 1: Overview

This document is intended to be a guide to the WGHA 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.

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:

Tim Baulk (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 at least one email and phone number per player for each parent, based on what they used to register. You are encouraged to solicit additional parent/guardian email addresses to ensure that communications reach everyone.

Please use bcc when sending emails out to all parents/players to protect privacy and cc the convenor.

Please pass on the 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 determine 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 website. 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 is posted. Pictures may only be posted with the consent of everyone in the picture.

Scheduling

Schedules are posted on the WGHA website and 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 found on the WGHA website so that they are automatically updated with changes.**

Note that it is extremely rare that scheduled ice time will be canceled 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.

Section 3: Team Staff and Roles

Head Coach

The Head Coach is responsible for every aspect of the team. The responsibility also includes the 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 are as follows but not limited to:

- Ensuring fair and relatively equal ice time and development for all players.
- Promoting positive self-esteem for players.
- Selecting Team Staff who are qualified or will be by the deadline. (November 15, 2021)
- 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.

- 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.
- Ensuring coaches work together during practices to develop all players
- 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 immediately if any players are suspended There will be a new electronic game sheet this season and further details on how suspensions are to be reported will be updated in this document. Please inform the junior HL and Senior HL director immediately if any of your players are suspended: jrhl@wgha.org, 2ndVP@wgha.org.
- 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's 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 should they be absent on occasion. 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 supports 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 does not need to be on the roster but is required to wear full protective equipment (if under 16 years of age) while on the ice.

Teams may carry up to **6** bench staff including on-ice help for U7, **5** for (U9 and U11), and **4** for U13-U18.

Team Manager

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

- Keep a copy of the team roster and call-up forms for any tournaments.

- Be responsible for the majority of the team administrative obligations (ensuring all staff have completed their VSS and other certifications and have uploaded them to RAMP, our registration system).

Trainer

All teams must have a **female trainer** (minimum one per team) and all trainers must have a current HTCP Level 1 certificate. A female trainer must be present at ice level (not on the ice or opening doors) for all practices and games. The role of the trainer is to observe for injuries during ice activity and gameplay.

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.
- 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 (first aid 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 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.
- Observing the ice surface at all times for any injuries that may occur - **Trainers are not to be opening doors.**

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 dressing room help are allowed in the dressing room. 2 deep rule applies. 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 in Ramp our registration system so that the OWHA can confirm and approve the team roster. **A team cannot enter a tournament without an approved official roster.**

U7 and U9 need to have Coach 1 -Intro to Coach 1 Trained. No other qualifications are accepted.

U11 to U18 need to have Coach 2 -Coach Level Trained

Assistant coaches are encouraged to also be certified with the same courses as the head coach. 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.

Please see our trainer resource page on the website: [Trainer courses](#)

All team staff (coaches, assistant coaches, on-ice help, trainers, and dressing room help) will require for 2021-22 season:

- 1) Valid Respect in Sport for Activity Leader or “Speak Out”
- 2) Hockey University Safe Return to Hockey
- 3) Criminal record check with Vulnerable Sector Search if you did not upload one to RAMP last season OR Signed Criminal Offence Declaration (for each of two years following CRC/VSS)
- 4) Complete Rowan’s Law Resource Review & Acknowledgement.

Parents are not required but are strongly encouraged to take the “Respect in Sport” parent version.

WGHA Staff/Volunteer Registration Process for the 2021-2022 Season

- 1) Everyone must register in RAMP for the new season

<http://WhitbyGHA.rampregistrations.com>

- 2) You must make sure that you have all your certifications up to date in the system. You can check what is needed here

<https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/whaontario/files/Coaches/OWHA%20TEAM%20OFFICIAL%20QUALIFICATION%20REQUIREMENTS%20%20%28Aug%204%202021%29%20V4.pdf>

3) Everyone please fill out the Criminal Offence Declaration and upload it to the box asking for your CRC: [\(Separate PDF to download\)](#) found on the WGHA website under Bench staff resources

4) If you did not upload a copy of your Vulnerable Sector Search (VSS) last season, you will need to do that this year. They are valid for 3 seasons.

5) If you need a new VSS, here is the volunteer letter to take to Durham Regional Police to obtain one: ([Separate PDF to download](#)) found on the WGHA website under Bench staff resources

6) The NCCP# field is a mandatory field. If you haven't put in the number previously you will need to do so now. You can find your number at <https://thelocker.coach.ca/account/login?ReturnUrl=%2f>

7) If you don't have an NCCP# you can create an account at the coach locker site above (you may also have a number attached to a different sport) or you can put in N/A (this would only pertain to Managers, Treasurers, Trainers)

8) The HCRID# is the Hockey Canada Registry ID. That number can be found at <https://account.spordle.com/login?lastPage=%7B%22from%22%3A%7B%22pathname%22%3A%22%2F%22%2C%22search%22%3A%22%22%2C%22hash%22%3A%22%22%7D%7D&referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fhcr3.hockeycanada.ca%2Fauth>

9) The Hockey Canada Registry has been updated and you will need to create a new login. You will not automatically see your old records. When you are in the Dashboard you will need to select 'Link a Member' choose 'Self' from the drop-down menu. This will show all your qualifications linked to Hockey Canada.

For Respect In Sport, you can look up your number or take the course here https://owha.respectgroupinc.com/koala_final/. Please make sure that you take the Activity Leader course and not the Parent course.

The Planning a Safe Return to Hockey course can be found here <https://register.hockeycanada.ca/clinic-details/1ebefbcd-3bd2-6f0a-914a-061c3f0f62c>

Coaching clinics can also be found here <https://register.hockeycanada.ca/clinics>

To complete your Trainers Certificate, you will find the course and refresher course here <https://htohockey.ca/>

Reporting certification to the league

The Head coach is responsible for ensuring that all team staff have completed their certification requirements and uploaded all necessary documents in RAMP as mentioned above. 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 ensure the above requirements are completed as failure to do so will result in the team roster not being approved. An approved official roster is needed for tournament and gameplay.

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 removal 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 pages 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 to five-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.

Penalties and Suspensions

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 U13 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.**

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 pages 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: U15 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 shortened 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 a 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 player from play if, by following the concussion protocol, they feel there is a potential for concussion. The player 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 OWHHA 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 that 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 it 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.

Practice Philosophy For All HL Divisions:

The WGHA believes that all players should benefit from the experience and skill of all coaches. To that end, coaches in divisions with shared practices (U7 through U15) shall work together each week to develop a combined practice plan that is based on stations and skill development as prescribed by the Hockey Canada Player Development Pyramid. By utilizing stations and players broken into various skill levels, drills can be modified as appropriate throughout the practice to ensure players are suitably challenged. This requirement is encouraged to be followed for the entire year but deviation may take place upon completion of the regular season and the commencement of playoffs. Newer coaches are also supported in this model which is important to develop coaches for future volunteer opportunities.

Section 5: U7 (formerly Initiation) and U9 (formerly Novice) programs

U7 Cross-ice hockey

U7 coaches are required to read the Hockey Canada U7 pathway guidelines located at the home page of the OWHHA website: [U7 Pathway](#)

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 Nov 15 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 surface 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 (pending COVID protocols) 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 (TBD based on COVID restrictions)

U9 Half-ice hockey

U9 coaches are required to read the Hockey Canada U9 pathway guidelines located on the home page of the OWHHA website: [U9 pathway](#)

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 31 are skills development sessions.
3. Beginning after Oct 31, 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 9, 2022.

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 last game, players will receive awards.

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 teams. 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 may or may not have evaluation skates, therefore the first few games are considered exhibition games, and the convenors may rebalance the teams any time before those first few games are up.

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. 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.

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 (TBD) based on COVID protocols will be awarded after the 2nd game.

Banquet

The U18 /U22 division will hold its 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. (TBD based on COVID restrictions)

Section 7: Important Dates

Sept 21, 2021	Coaches meeting and distribution of jerseys
Sept 25, 2021	Start of season, most divisions
Oct 10-11, 2020	NO ICE SUNDAY
Nov 28-29, 2021	NO ICE – Silverstick tournament
Dec 3-5 2021	ICE ON SUNDAY ONLY
Dec 25 , 26, 27, 2021	NO GAMES – Christmas holidays
Jan 9-10, 2021	NO ICE – Ringette Tournament?
Feb 13-15, 2021	NO ICE – Family Day Monday
Mar 14-18	March Break Practices Only
Mar 26-27	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 mouthguard 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.

HOUSE LEAGUE SPONSORS 2021-22 season

The following Sponsors have offered WGHA members special pricing/offers

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 2021-2022 Sponsors

U7	Small Fries
U9	Smash Kitchen, Cupcake Junkie
U11	atoMc (McDonalds)
U13	Trafalgar Castle School, Smash Kitchen, OPG, ProperSoft Inc
U15	Minto Communities, Turner Carpentry
U18	Scotiabank and Roy's Enterprises
Senior	

Scotiabank

The WGHA is also sponsored by Scotiabank, which 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 for 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: U15 may call up a U13).

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 A PLAYER(S) THAT WILL EXCEED 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 an approved 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



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 : _____

CRC/VSS Volunteer letter can be found on the WGHA website: [Bench staff resources](#)