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**Hockey Newfoundland &  
Labrador  
AAA Hockey League**

**CONSTITUTION**

Version 2.0

## Caution

Maintaining revision control of this document will be difficult as there can be numerous copies of this document in circulation. As a result, the Branch office will maintain the official (most recent) version of the document on file at all times. Also the official (most recent) version of the document will be posted on the League website and will be available through the League Administrator. The table below will track the various revisions and will be used to identify the actual revision of printed copies.

<b>Rev. No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Approved by:</b>
1.0	September 11, 2014	Original version adopted at inaugural AGM	Governors
2.0	September 9, 2015	AGM	Governors

## **FORWARD**

**This Constitution has been developed to provide guidance and assistance to League Executive, Team Management and Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador for the successful operation of the Newfoundland and Labrador AAA Hockey League (NLAAAHL). Interested parties must understand that it is impossible to cover every aspect of AAA PeeWee and AAA Bantam hockey within this document. Therefore, readers should be aware that the League Executive will be responsible for dealing with unusual occurrences that are not covered in this manual in a fair and dutiful manner that upholds the principles and objectives of the NLAAAHL. This will be done in consultation with Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador and/or Hockey Canada and the decision of the League will be final.**

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# ARTICLES

## **Article 1: NAME**

This League shall be known as the Newfoundland & Labrador AAA Hockey League (the "NLAAHL" or the "League"), operating as a Minor Hockey League, provincial in scope and deriving its authority from Hockey Newfoundland & Labrador ("HNL").

## **Article 2: OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the League will be:

To provide elite Peewee and Bantam aged hockey players in the Province of Newfoundland & Labrador with the opportunity to develop to the highest skill level in their respective divisions

To provide a level of competition for players of similar skill level respecting the financial and social values of families

To encourage PeeWee and Bantam players to continue to play elite hockey in Newfoundland and Labrador

To control and administer the playing of the game of hockey in accordance with the rules, regulations and etiquette of the game

To foster and encourage good sportsmanship in players, coaches and team officials who participate in the League

To promote players who participate in the League to other teams and leagues in an effort to further their hockey careers

To recognize those players and coaches who participate in the League through annual awards

## **Article 3: MISSION STATEMENT**

To foster a learning environment within the province of Newfoundland and Labrador for elite AAA PeeWee and Bantam players to develop the skills required to achieve their life goals and hockey goals

## **Article 4: LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the League shall consist of a maximum of ten teams representing the five geographical regions known as the Western Region, Central Region, TriPen Region, TriCom Region and St. John's Region. Provisions will be made to the league membership in the event that the Northern Region is able to ice a competitive AAA team in the future.

Member teams accept the authority, rulings and decisions of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador and Hockey Canada upon entry into the League. Members are accountable for their conduct on and off the ice in accordance with the rules and regulations of the NLAAHL.

**Article 5: GENERAL**

The Constitution shall conform to the Articles, By-Laws, and Regulations of HNL, HNL Minor Council and Hockey Canada. In the event any section of the Constitution is in conflict with the Articles, By-Laws and Regulations of any of HNL, HNL Minor Council or Hockey Canada, the Executive Committee is empowered to make such changes as are required so that this Constitution complies with the Articles, By-Laws and Regulations of HNL, HNL Minor Council or Hockey Canada.

The League shall register annually as a Corporation without Share Capital, under Part XXI of the Corporations Act of the Province of Newfoundland & Labrador.

**Article 6: BY-LAWS and RULES**

The By-laws and Rules must be followed by all persons involved in the administration, management and operation of the League, and its teams. The Bylaws and Rules may be modified and added to during the Annual General Meeting of the League as allowed for in Article 7.

**Article 7: AMENDMENTS**

All proposed amendments to the Constitution will require a majority vote of the Board of Directors in attendance at the Annual General Meeting where the vote is taking place. Any proposed amendment must be provided to the President at least 21 days in advance of the AGM, and copies of the amendment circulated to all Board Members within 14 days of the meeting.

**Article 8: MEETINGS**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the League will be held in June of each year. Attendance at the AGM is mandatory. A meeting quorum will be the majority of the Board of Directors in attendance. Any member of the Board of Directors, who misses three consecutive meetings, without having an alternate representative in attendance, will be asked to remove themselves from the Board of Directors.

Operational meetings may be called by the President, at the request of any member of the Board of Directors. With the exception of the Annual General Meeting, other meetings will be conducted through electronic media, to minimize the expense associated with travel for Board members. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be chaired by the President, and in his/her absence the Vice President.

**Article 9: AUTHORITY**

The NLAAHL derives its authority from its association with Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador and Hockey Canada. The NLAAHL will maintain membership in good standing with Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador. All rules, regulations and policies outlined within this document are accepted as the operating principles of the NLAAHL.

**Article 10: GOVERNANCE**

The League shall be administered by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of one Governor from each region in addition to a liaison appointed by Minor Council. Governors may not play a role in team management.

**Article 11: INDEMNIFICATION**

The Newfoundland and Labrador AAA Hockey League will indemnify, defend and save harmless the Directors (or any one of them) against (1) any and all causes of action (threatened or commenced), (2) liability incurred by, or, (3) judgments entered against any Director, as a result of the Director acting in his/her capacity as a Director of the League, and the League shall discharge this duty to the fullest extent authorized in the League's Certificate of Incorporation, and as amended by-laws, and applicable law. Directors shall be entitled to the protection of any insurance policies the Association maintains for the benefit of its Directors and Officers against all costs, charges and expenses in connection with any action, suit or proceeding to which (s)he may be made a party by reason of his/her affiliation with the League, its subsidiaries, or affiliates.

**Article 12: RULES OF ORDER**

The League will take as its Rule of Order: "Robert's Rules of Order".

## **BY-LAWS**

**By-Law 1: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors shall consist of six voting members. 5 Governors - 1 each from the five participating regions, and the HNL appointed Liaison

The BOD will hold elections for the positions of President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. The position of President and Secretary/Treasurer will be a two year term. In the initial year, the position of Vice-President will be for one year; after the first year it will also be for two years. Administrative support for the Board of Directors will be performed by the League Administrator who will be hired by the league to perform the day-to-day operations such as statistics, website maintenance, registration, scheduling and other duties as deemed necessary by the President. A more in-depth description of this position can be found at the end of this document.

The President's role will be to chair league meetings and provide direction for the Board of Directors and will be the official spokesperson for the League.

The Vice President will support the President in his role by filling in whenever the President is unavailable to fulfill his duties.

The Secretary Treasurer shall be responsible for the accounting of all League funds. S/he shall pay all accounts approved by the Board of Directors and shall keep record of all receipts and disbursements of League funds. The Secretary Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual budget and shall advise the League on all financial matters. The Secretary Treasurer shall present a financial report at the Annual General Meeting.

The Board of Directors is entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the calibre of the League meets the status of AAA hockey.

**By-Law 2: DISCIPLINE and PROTEST COMMITTEES**

The League will convene a three person Discipline Committee and Protest Committee when required, under the direction of the Vice President. The members of these Committees will be selected for their hockey knowledge, familiarity with the League, and experience with minor hockey.

Other members of the Board of Directors and members of team management are prohibited from serving on either of these Committees. The exception being, if the Vice President is believed to be in a conflict of interest, the Board of Directors will select another member from within their ranks to act as chairperson of the Committee in place of the Vice President.

When needed, Committees will make recommendations to the President. The President will be responsible for imposing disciplinary action upon a player, parent, members of team management, or any other person referred to the Discipline Committee for consideration. The President will also rule on a recommendation by the Protest Committee.

**By-Law 3: VOTING**

All members of the Board of Directors will have one vote for all matters under consideration at meetings. When a vote is called, all members of the Board of Directors are required to vote; there will be no abstentions. In the event of a tie, the President will cast a final deciding vote.

**By-Law 4: LEAGUE FORMAT**

The League will operate with a maximum of ten teams. More specifically, teams will be entered from the Western Region, the Central Region, the TriPen Region, the TriCom Region and the St. John's Region. Provisions will be made to the league format in the event that the Northern Region is able to ice a competitive AAA team in the future.



**By-Law 5: SCHEDULE**

Each team will play a minimum of 33 games in a balanced schedule per season. Allowances may be considered in the schedule to allow teams to participate in out of province invitational AAA tournaments.

Each team will be required to provide, in writing, confirmation of their home rink and home game times to the League Administrator at the League's Annual General Meeting. Within 30 days of the AGM a draft schedule is to be presented to the Board of Directors for approval.

**By-Law 6: AFFILIATIONS**

League teams will affiliate with minor players in the 5 Regions under the affiliation rules of Hockey Canada.

**By-Law 7: PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT**

There will be a Provincial Tournament at the end of the regular season to declare the Branch's representative for competition at the Atlantic championship tournaments. This tournament will consist of the five island teams as well as the Northern Team. It will be a round robin format following the tournament rules as set forth by Minor Council. The provincial champion for AAA PeeWee will represent the Branch in the Atlantic championship known as the Bell Aliant Cup. The AAA Bantam champion will represent the Branch in the Atlantic championship known as the Irving Oil Challenge Cup.

**By-Law 8: COACH SELECTION**

All members of the coaching staffs including head coach, assistant coaches, trainer, director of operations (DOP) and any other support staff must apply to the Chairperson of Minor Council. The Chairperson will convene a selection committee and make recommendations to Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador. No member of a coaching staff will be permitted to participate with a team until approved by Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador.

**By-Law 9: GENERAL**

Unless the context otherwise requires, words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa. Words importing gender shall include both genders.