



Valley East Minor Hockey Association
5085 HWY 69N
P.O. Box 3005
Hanmer, On P3P1P7

Phone: 705-897-6444
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Website: www.vemha.ca

CONSTITUTION

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ARTICLE 1: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Valley East Minor Hockey Association, and may be referred to as the V.E.M.H.A.

ARTICLE 2: AIMS AND PURPOSES

Remembering that our main interest shall be in the player, the aims of our hockey program shall be:

- a) To provide a wholesome hockey experience for all boys and girls, team officials and Association officials.
- b) To promote sportsmanship, fair play, good citizenship, friendly competition, enjoyment and full participation for all Association members.
- c) That all boys and girls be given equal ice time, including playoffs, unless special circumstances exist and can be justified to the division Convener. Coaches will have discretion as to the last three (3) to five (5) minutes of each game.
- d) That the Tyke and Novice divisions be acknowledged as the initiation and developmental stages of our Association. That our program put further emphasis on developing Coaches, and hockey skills for our young players.
- e) The hockey program curriculum for Tyke and Novice shall be determined by Hockey Canada prior to the beginning of the hockey season.
- f) To instill good behavior in all players, coaches, managers, parents and members associated with the VEMHA; to stress respect for team and game officials and authority in general.



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ARTICLE 3: ADMINISTRATION AND OFFICERS

- a) The Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors and this board shall be responsible to the general membership.
- b) Each Director shall be a minimum eighteen (18) years of age.
- c) For the positions of Convener, Parent Representative, Equipment Manager, Sponsorship, Development Coordinator, and Tournament Chair each candidate up for consideration shall have a minimum of two (2) years in good standing as part of a Coaching staff with the Valley East Minor Hockey Association. In the instance where the minimum experience and requirements are not available the Board reserves the right to approve less experienced candidates.
- d) For Executive board positions including Past President, President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary each candidate shall require a minimum of two (2) years in good standing as a member of the Board of Directors for the Valley East Minor Hockey Association. In the instance where the minimum experience and requirements are not available the Board reserves the right to approve less experienced candidates.
- e) The positions of Referee and Timekeeper Assignor, Office Manager, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be selected at the full discretion of the Board of Directors based on a candidate's qualifications and experience and deemed appointed.
- f) The appointed positions of Referee and Timekeeper Assignor, Secretary and Treasurer shall become a board member with full voting privileges.
- g) Persons interested in consideration for positions on the board shall submit their name within a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the AGM. A resume and references will be required from those seeking an appointed position.
- h) All elected board positions shall be held for a two (2) year period with an option of a third year before the position becomes open for vote.
- i) All Board Members shall hold only one voting position each year.
- j) Unless otherwise determined by the Constitution, membership shall commence immediately following the Annual General Meeting and shall terminate immediately following the next Annual General Meeting unless otherwise renewed in accordance with the VEMHA's policies and procedures then in effect.
- k) The Board of Directors may from time to time appoint such Officers, Agents, Commissioners, and Committee Members and authorize the employment of such other persons as is deemed necessary to carry out the objects of the Association and such Officers, Agents, Commissioners, Committee Members, and Employees shall have the authority and shall perform the duties from time to time prescribed by the Board.



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ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

The VEMHA membership shall be comprised of its' Executive Officers and any properly elected or selected member of the Board of Directors, active members which include coaching staff (Coaches, Trainers, Managers), as well as participating members (Players, Legal Guardians). In order to have a vote for any of the positions outlined in article 3 of the VEMHA constitution you must be a member over the legal age of eighteen (18) and be in good standing with registration fees paid to date. Voting membership may also include any resident of Valley East if the Board of Directors approves such resident to vote.

ARTICLE 5: MEETINGS

- a) The board shall meet on a regular monthly basis or as otherwise provided by the by-laws of this Association. A special meeting may be called by the President or any Board Member by a majority vote of all Board Members. The dates for the monthly meeting shall be set out in the By-Laws.
- b) A general Coaches and Managers' meeting shall be called at the beginning of the hockey season to learn about new rules and the Constitution.
- c) In the case of an emergency situation a meeting can be called with only those persons involved directly in aforementioned emergency situation.

ARTICLE 6: COMMITTEES

This Association shall have standing committees to cover the operation of all phases of the Association. The board shall have the power to create committees as the need arises. The By-Laws shall set forth the committees and explain the committees for the coming season. All committees shall be agreed upon by a majority Board vote.

ARTICLE 7: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be submitted in writing. A notice of motion to amend the Constitution must be presented at a general membership meeting. All proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be circulated at the general membership meeting prior to the annual meeting. The prescribe vote to amend articles of the Constitution shall take place at the annual meeting.

The By-Laws of this Association shall be considered the day to day operating rules of this Association. They are to be attached to the Constitution and may be amended at a Board meeting by a simple majority of Executives.



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ARTICLE 8: QUORUM

50% + 1 members of the board of directors, which must include 50% of the Executive members, in attendance, shall be required to make up a quorum. At a board meeting, a simple majority of those present is required to carry a motion.

ARTICLE 9: TEAMS AND PLAYERS

- a) Valley East Minor Hockey teams shall be allowed to attend overnight tournaments and/or exhibition series for all categories when determined by a majority of team parents/guardians via a private and confidential vote.
- b) If a Coach is found guilty of not playing equal ice time for all players, he shall be given a verbal warning for the first occurrence. The second occurrence, the division Convener shall give a written warning when deemed appropriate by the Board. Upon a third occurrence the Coach may be given a suspension if deemed necessary by the Board.
- c) Coaching staff and Board Members are to be advised of all rule changes prior to the implementation of the changes.
- d) VEMHA players will only be affiliated within VEMHA. Any players that are not affiliated with a VEMHA team can be affiliated with another association at board discretion.

ARTICLE 10: ICE TIMES

Valley East Minor Hockey Association shall use all available Valley East ice times prior to arranging ice time in another municipality. Prime time is to be considered as weekends and after five (5) p.m. on weekdays. All league home games will be scheduled in Valley East, ice time permitting.

ARTICLE 11: TIER SYSTEM

All divisions of Valley East Minor Hockey, except Atom, Peewee, Bantam and Midget will, if possible and in the best interest of the players, adopt the division caliber system prior to the commencement of each season. A minimum of three teams per category shall be required at the Convenor and Board discretion.

****The Sr. Tyke division will be tiered in the same manner as the Novice division. The only stipulation is that there has to be a minimum of 8 teams. Any number of teams under 8 would nullify the rule change.



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ARTICLE 12: TOURNAMENTS

Valley East Minor Hockey Association shall hold two yearly tournament weekends. The first, being held the end November/start December which will include the Pee wee, Bantam and Midget divisions. The second, being held early February will feature the Novice and Atom divisions with an Initiation Jamboree. Both tournaments shall be mandatory to all registered teams in Valley East.

ARTICLE 13: COMPLAINTS

Any Parent/Association member who may have a complaint will abide by a mandatory 24 hour cooling off period before approaching any official within the organization. After the 24 hours have past that Parent/Association member will follow the following chain of contact:

- a) The manager of the team involved.
- b) If team officials are not able to resolve the issue to everyone's satisfaction, the issue will then be brought forward to the Convener of the division.
- c) If the division Convener cannot resolve the issue to everyone's satisfaction, the Convener shall bring the issue forward to the board Conflict Resolution Officer to hear the case and render a decision. The Conflict Resolution Officer may elect to have another impartial board member at any meeting to aid in a satisfactory resolution.
- d) If for any unforeseen reason a resolution cannot be reached by the Conflict Resolution Officer, the issue can and may be brought to the Board for further input.

ARTICLE 14: FAIR PLAY POLICY

The Valley East Minor Hockey Association will adopt as its own a "Fair Play Policy".

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Constitution shall come into force without further formality upon its enactment and shall replace any repeal and existing Constitution this 29th day of May 2019.