

Player/Parent Agreement

The following are the terms by which the player ("Player") and the player's undersigned parent or guardian ("Parent") agrees to upon their acceptance of the offer of a position on a hockey team with _____ (MHA/Team) for the hockey season.

1.0 Expected Conduct of Players and Parents

- 1.1 Players must be well behaved during any and all team related activities where they represent _____. While not limiting a coach's right to discipline a player, behaviour which is judged by the Disciplinary Committee of the Association/League/Team to be unacceptable, may result in the player being disciplined by that committee.
- 1.2 Coaches, Players, and Parents shall treat each other, opposing players, coaches, game officials and others with respect and show good sportsmanship at all times.
- 1.3 Players, Parents or coaching staff will not damage rink property.
- 1.4 Parents agree to allow the volunteer coaches to coach the team to the best of their ability and not openly criticize their coaching or undermine their authority.
- 1.5 Parents wishing to discuss concerns shall arrange for an appointment through the Team Manager. At no time should coaches be approached in the rink before, during or after team practices and games to discuss matters related to individual players.

ANY BEHAVIOR WHICH IS JUDGED BY THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE TO BE ABUSIVE OR INTIMIDATING TOWARD A COACH, PLAYER, PARENT, EXECUTIVE MEMBER, ANY GAME OFFICIAL, OR OTHER VOLUNTEER, SHALL BE DEALT WITH SEVERELY AND MAY RESULT IN THE PLAYER, PARENT OR FAMILY MEMBER BEING SUSPENDED FROM ALL ACTIVITY WITH THE TEAM AND THE FUTURE REFUSAL TO REGISTER ANY MEMBER OF THAT FAMILY.

2.0 Rules Regarding Players Status

- 2.1 If a Player's Registration Fee is deemed to be outstanding by the Administrator after the final date for payment, the player will be removed from the team and will not be allowed to participate for the remainder of the hockey season.
- 2.2 Players are required to participate with their team in the Provincial Tournament during the of season and other critical tournaments as determined by the Division Director. If a Player fails to fulfill this requirement, that Player may be removed from the team immediately or prohibited from participating in program or development teams in the following season.

- 2.3 As part of the Player's commitment to their team, the Player is required to attend all practices, games, dry land training and team functions unless excused in advance by the coaching staff. Player is required to advise the coaching staff of his/her absence in advance of team functions. If the Player is unable to make participation with their team a priority due to demands on their time from another ongoing commitment, then the Player may be removed from the team to be replaced by another player. Likewise, excessive demands on player's time and expense will be arbitrated by the Division Director.
- 2.4 In the discretion and determination of the Division Director or the Association Board, a player can be removed from a team for prolonged absence or anticipated absences from team functions for any reason, notwithstanding medical or other justification offered.
- 2.5 Coaches, Players, and Parents are representatives of _____ and must conduct themselves accordingly. Players must behave themselves at all times, particularly when they are together as a team in the dressing room. Foul language, intimidation, bullying, and/or failure to adhere to policies of _____ and Hockey NL will not be tolerated.

3.0 Equipment and Uniforms

- 3.1 _____ will provide appropriate home and away team jerseys with cresting and numbers for all players. Team jerseys are the property of _____ and players will be responsible for the cost of any damage incurred while the jerseys are in their possession.
- 3.2 ***A \$200 deposit is required for the team jerseys. Deposits are to be made by postdated personal cheques, dated for _____. If the jerseys are not returned by this date, or if the jerseys are damaged beyond repair, the Association will cash the cheque(s) and purchase replacement jerseys.***
- 3.3 Team jerseys are to be worn ONLY at approved team functions.
- 3.4 ***Team jerseys may only be worn during games and not during practice sessions. Players are to carry their jerseys on hangers and protected from the elements with plastic covering or a garment bag. Team jerseys are not to be carried in the Player's equipment bag.***
- 3.5 Team jerseys shall be returned to the Administrator by the Team Manager before _____. Any Player who does not return their jersey shall be subject to clause 3.2 above.
- 3.6 Any player, who causes unnecessary damages to a team jersey or other loaned equipment, as determined by the Administrator, shall be suspended from all activities until the replacement cost has been paid.

- 3.7 Should _____ approve name bars for jerseys, the Player will purchase this through the team and be sewn on jerseys (not glued or heat applied). The name bars will be applied by the Association's preferred uniform supplier. The cost of the name bar application and removal will be included in the initial cost charged to the player at the start of the season, and the Association will arrange for removing all name bars at the end of the season after the jerseys are returned to the Administrator.
- 3.8 Players are required to wear association approved hockey socks so that they match the jerseys. Two set of socks will be provided at the start of the season, one for the home colours and one for the away colours. The cost of replacement socks are the responsibility of the player.
- 3.9 Players must wear all the equipment as specified and required by Hockey Canada and Hockey NL while on the ice or bench.
- 3.10 Equipment worn must be certified by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) if there is an applicable CSA equipment standard required by Hockey Canada.
- 3.11 All neck guards must be BNQ certified. The BNQ certification must be visible on the neck guard. Neck guards are to be worn at all games and practices. Players will be suspended from their next scheduled game for attending practice without a BNQ certified neck guard.
- 3.12 The wearing of an intra-oral mouth guard with strap (if not form fitting or custom made) is mandatory. An exception may be permitted if the player has a letter from a doctor indicating the player cannot wear a mouth guard for medical reasons. Mouth guards are to be worn at all games and practices.
- 3.13 Coaches are required to ensure all protective equipment is being worn by all players participating in all games and practices.

4.0 Payment of Fees

- 4.1 The fees for the programing are set by the _____ Executive annually.
- 4.2 Payment of fees is to be made in a timely fashion as established by the Administrator, but in no case shall be outstanding past the fee schedule established for the current season as detailed on the player registration form. Acceptance of this agreement shall mean that acceptable arrangements for payment have been made with the Administrator.

Please sign below indicating your acceptance of the terms of this Player/Parent Agreement and return to your Team Manager **along with the jersey deposit** referenced previously in paragraph 3.2.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS AGREEMENT WHICH GOVERNS MY CHILD'S PARTICIPATION IN _____ PROGRAMMING. ALSO, I HAVE DISCUSSED THE CONTENTS OF THIS AGREEMENT WITH MY CHILD TO ENSURE THEY ALSO UNDERSTAND THE EXPECTATIONS PLACED UPON THEM.

Player's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

ACCEPTED BY _____ MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION ON THE _____ DAY OF
_____, 20____. _____ MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Per: _____

PARENT GUIDE TO COMPETITIVE HOCKEY PROGRAMS

1.0 GENERAL

_____ holds open tryouts each year to assemble our teams to compete in the various Divisions of hockey we compete in. These tryouts are open to all members, although a minimum standard of skill and ability is required. These are competitive processes and players will be released when it is determined that they are better suited to participate at the non-competitive level. The following guide is for parents to help families through the competitive hockey experience.

2.0 PARENT'S ROLE

Participating in any tryout process can be both an exciting and stressful time for young people and their parents. All players will be working hard to make the team but the added pressure of tryouts can lead to feelings that players do not normally experience in a practice or game. This document is designed to help alleviate some of the pressure your child is feeling and allow them to have a fun and positive tryout experience - regardless of the outcome. Everyone is encouraged to remain positive throughout the entire tryout process. Acknowledge your child's effort through verbal and physical cues; a quick comment like "good job" or "well done" or a "pat on the back" can go a long way in building your child's confidence. You do not need to critique the tryout, your job as a parent is to support your child to have a safe and fun experience. Here are some tips:

- Keep the tryout process in perspective. Not only does your child want to make the team but they want to make you proud. Whether your child makes the team or not, do not let them feel like they have disappointed you in any way as this can affect their self-esteem.
- Do not question the evaluators or the process. Leave the technical aspect of the tryout to the evaluators and _____ as this is why they have been engaged. Your help is also needed as another coach for your child. Coach them by being supportive, motivating them and making sure they are having fun.
- Prepare your child for the possibility of not making the team they are trying out for. Being overly optimistic puts extra pressure on your child. Remind them there will be another team to try out for and to use this as an opportunity to continue developing their skills, to be ready for the next tryout, and to grow as a player and a person.
- Encourage your child to have fun. If your child is having fun and treating the tryout like a normal practice or game, their positive attitude will translate into their on-ice play.
- Take this opportunity to teach your child life lessons whether they make the team or not. If they make the team congratulate them and let them know it was because of their hard work and dedication. If they do not make the team teach them the lessons of acceptance, humility and perseverance.

- It is ok to seek feedback if your child does not make a team. Speaking with the **Technical Director** or the appropriate Association representative in a constructive way allows you to provide positive feedback to your child. Try to give your young athlete some direction on what they can do to improve and encourage them to continue to participate and work hard. Remember that other parents will feel express sympathy for you if your child does not make the team they are trying out for. Parents will not be given access to the evaluations or the evaluators.

It is a normal reaction to be disappointed when your child does not make a team. Children see and hear more than they are given credit for. They will see and be aware of behaviour around them, especially their parents/guardians. Getting upset, blaming the Association or those involved in the selection process, does not help children. The focus for the parents of the released child should be to identify their strengths and weaknesses and helping the child learn from the experience, and encourage them to keep working hard for when they try again. If your child is released, you can certainly ask questions regarding areas for improvement, but the most important thing a parent can do is to maintain the player's confidence and their motivation to keep playing and improving.

3.0 THE TRYOUT PROCESS

At the start of each season the Association hosts a tryout process aimed at identifying players to participate in its competitive hockey program. The players are evaluated by **qualified, independent evaluators** that are overseen by the Executive and its Technical Director. Players are asked to register by a deadline. There can be no late registrants. Based upon the number of players coming forward, the schedule for the tryouts is established. Typically, the tryouts will consist of 2 practice sessions and a minimum of 3 games. The players will initially be broken into teams to facilitate games. The number of teams will be reduced as players are released. While attendance at all on ice sessions is not mandatory, we encourage all players to attend all tryout sessions.

Players must identify the position for which they wish to be evaluated. Following the registration deadline and prior to the start of on ice sessions, the Association will determine if there are sufficient numbers of capable players at each position. If there are not sufficient numbers the Association has the following options:

- i. not assemble a team for the current season;
- ii. ask some players to consider changing positions;
- iii. select a team that has a different composition rather than the required 9 forwards, 6 defensemen and 2 goalie; or
- iv. solicit other local associations for additional players.

Any change from normal process will be communicated before the first release of players. While tryouts are open to any and all registrants, they should not be considered as an inexpensive preseason skate for your child. The evaluators have to spend a considerable amount of time

throughout the tryout process and only those with serious intentions should consider participating in the competitive tryout process.

Player releases can happen at any time. Every effort will be made to keep all players until the first game has been completed. If player releases are planned following any session, players will be notified in a timely fashion.

4.0 MAKING THE TEAM

There are expectations on those who are successful in the tryout process. _____ teams play teams from other local associations. Generally, games and practices are held during weekdays and weekends. This depends on the Association schedule, ice availability, and the availability of other associations for games. **Attendance at all games and practices are considered mandatory**, with notification of the coaching staff required for absences. Approximately four (4) weeks into the season, parents will be provided with a letter to sign that fully describes the terms and conditions for participation. In addition to regular games and practices, teams may also participate in dry land training sessions and will travel to tournaments elsewhere. The decision to include these extras is made at the team level, and while optional, it is essentially a situation where a solid majority rules. If you are not interested in meeting the high level of commitment required for the competitive hockey program, you may wish to consider whether competitive hockey is the right choice for your player and family. Parents need to be positive role models for our players. Individuals who conduct themselves in unacceptable ways will impact players, volunteers, and/or other spectators of a minor hockey game. Negative behaviours will not be tolerated. Identified individuals will be asked to leave and may result in sanctions to the respective team. Rink attendants, referees and coaches are instructed to work together in addressing concerns regarding negative spectator behaviour in a timely and safe manner.

5.0 SECONDARY TEAMS

Players that are released from the competitive program may return to house league evaluation process should this be available within _____. This process will immediately follow the competitive tryout. These evaluations will help the house league players to be assigned to Secondary Teams within _____ (example: B or C team). These teams shall also be eligible under Hockey NL rules for participation in Provincial Tournaments. The Secondary Team program will provide players with additional practices, exhibition games and a Provincial Tournament experience to assist in their development.

6.0 ENDORSEMENT

PLEASE SIGN BELOW INDIVATING YOU HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND UNDERSTAND THE

***COMPETITIVE HOCKEY TRYOUT PROCESS AND HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE
EXPECTATION AROUND COMPETITIVE HOCKEY.***

PLAYER NAME: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____