

Membership in Hockey Northwestern Ontario (HNO) is governed by HNO's Constitution and By-laws, which may be amended annually by the members. Any discrepancy between this policy and the Constitution shall be resolved in favour of the Constitution.

**Membership**

1. HNO is composed of Directors, amateur hockey teams, Leagues and Associations.
2. Membership in amateur hockey teams, Leagues and Associations shall be restricted to individuals of recognized amateur standing.
3. A team, League or Association must be composed of at least three (3) individuals who have signing authority and assume responsibility as members, exclusive of playing members.
4. Membership by amateur teams, Leagues or Associations and their constituent members or players is purely voluntary and application for and acceptance of membership entails compliance with this Constitution and acceptance of the governing authority of this Branch and Hockey Canada.
5. HNO has one (1) category of Member:
  - a. Ordinary Member: shall consist of the Directors, and of such Amateur Hockey Teams, Leagues and Associations as admitted by resolution of the Board.
  - b. Ordinary Membership is open to all level of amateur hockey including: Senior, Junior, Minor (Recreation, U21, U18, U15, U13, U11, U9, U7), Adult Recreation, Scholastic (Secondary and Post Secondary institutions) and Female.

**Term of Membership**

6. The interest of a Member in HNO is not transferable and ceases by resignation or otherwise in accordance with the By-Laws.

**Resignation**

7. Members may resign by instrument, in writing, which shall be effective upon any date or time on or after the execution of the instrument of resignation. In the case of resignation, a Member shall remain liable for payment of any assessment or other sum levied or which became payable by him to HNO prior to acceptance of his resignation.

**Admission to Membership**

8. Membership in HNO may be obtained through adherence to the application process described herein:
  - i. Provisional membership may be acquired by application in writing made to the Board through the Executive Director, expressing compliance with the adherence to the Letters Patent, By-Laws, Resolutions and Regulations of HNO, accompanied by the requisite entrance fee annually. Such application shall be signed by the President and Secretary, and one (1) other Member of the team, league or association applying for membership and must state which level of hockey they wish to compete in.
  - ii. Each Member, as a condition precedent to membership in HNO shall adopt the Letters Patent, By-Laws, Resolutions and Regulations of HNO. A certificate of each Member's acceptance of the Letters Patent, By-Laws, Resolutions and Regulations, as existing and as from time to time amended, shall accompany each application of membership.
  - iii. Such membership shall take effect upon the election of the applicant by the Board on a two-thirds majority vote.

### **Membership Fee**

9. The annual membership fee is set out in the fiscal policy and reviewed annually by the finance committee.

### **Conditions of Membership**

10. Membership shall be subject to suspension or forfeiture in the event of failure to comply with any of the requirements of the Letters Patent, By-Laws, Resolutions and Regulations of HNO and it is expressly stipulated that any decree of suspension or forfeiture, when affirmed by a majority vote of the Board, be binding until the next Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of HNO, and expulsion by majority vote all voting delegates at such meeting.
11. HNO reserves the right not to accept any registered participant if it has reason to believe that such acceptance would be prejudicial to the fulfilment of the beliefs as stated in Article 3 of the Constitution.
12. HNO reserves the right to revoke the registration on any participant who conducts himself or herself in a manner that is prejudicial to the maintenance of a wholesome environment in which the game of hockey can grow and be an asset to those who enjoy playing the game of hockey. Such action may result in a registered participant being refused the right to continue.
13. All teams, Associations and Leagues under the jurisdiction of HNO will be required to adapt and adopt By-Law 804(b) for incorporation into their Constitution to reflect their membership structure.
14. All games played by a Member and the qualifications of all persons competing in such games as Members of a team, League or Association shall be in conformity with the Articles, By-Laws, Resolutions and Regulations.
15. To adopt, within its Minor Hockey Association, a standardized progression or step by step approach to teaching the fundamentals of hockey, otherwise known as the Hockey Canada U7 Program Curriculum.

### **Renewal of Membership**

16. Membership must be renewed annually by payment of the required fee set out in the fiscal policy.
17. Teams, Leagues and Association must annually complete a membership form.
  - a. A list of Officers and Executive Members must be provided prior to July 1
    - i. Any changes to these lists during the season must be provided to HNO with ten (10) days of the change
18. Membership form and Member Constitution must be completed and filed prior to July 1 to remain in good standing.

### **Removal**

19. Upon thirty (30) days written notice to a Member of HNO, the Board may pass a resolution authorizing the removal of such Member from the register of Members. Any such Member may re-apply for membership in HNO.

### **Members in Good Standing**

20. All Members who have paid their annual membership fee as required:
  - a. Shall be issued one (1) copy of the Constitution
  - b. Shall have access to release or register players or team officials in the Hockey Canada Registry.
  - c. Members and teams that play in a league must be in good standing with their League to be in good standing with HNO.

**Failure to Pay Annual Fee**

21. Failure of a team, League or Association to pay such fees as required by the By-Laws shall automatically entail loss of membership. No member teams shall be entitled to compete for a championship until its fees and registration have been received.

**Loss of Membership Status**

22. Any Member having suffered loss of membership and desiring to re-apply must do so in accordance with these By-Laws.

**Membership Status**

23. HNO shall not grant membership to any team, League or Association within a municipality where a Member team, League or Association, in good standing, offers a Minor hockey program or program for the same age level as that of the applicant.

**Board Decisions Affecting Members**

24. Where a Board decision may affect a team, League or Association, the Board will allow the affected Member (s) the opportunity to attend a Board of Director's meeting to present their position (s) and the opportunity to answer questions of the Board in regard to how it may negatively or positively affect them. The Board will then consider the Member (s) position (s) and debate and vote on the issue at the next Board of Director's meeting.

Approved by the Board of Directors: March 17,2018

New Policy

Reviewed: Triennial