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| Policy Name: HNO Beyond the Ice Award | | Date of Approval March 8, 2025 | Effective Date: March 8, 2025 |
| Approved by: HNO Board of Directors | Prepared by: Brian Patterson | | Replaces Previous Versions New Policy |
| Review Cycle Yearly | | | |
| Responsible HNO Board of Directors | Accountable HNO Board of Directors | Consulted | Informed HNO Members. |

Purpose

To recognize Hockey Northwestern Ontario registered players, team(s) who have made significant contributions to their communities through volunteerism, and leadership.

Award Criteria

The **HNO Beyond the Ice Award** is presented to a minor hockey team(s) or individual who demonstrates outstanding commitment to serving their community through volunteerism, positive leadership, and a dedication to making a meaningful impact beyond the rink. There may be separate awards (one each) in each HNO Zone – East, Central, and West.

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Community Service & Volunteerism

- Actively participates in community service or volunteer efforts (e.g., helping local charities, assisting in community events, mentoring younger players, organizing fundraisers).
- Demonstrates a commitment to improving the lives of others through service, both within and outside the hockey community.

2. Leadership & Positive Role Model

- Exhibits leadership both on and off the ice, setting a positive example for peers, teammates, and younger athletes.
- Encourages others to get involved in volunteer opportunities and leads by example in their efforts to support the community.

3. Impact & Dedication

- Displays a sustained commitment to volunteerism, demonstrating long-term dedication to positive causes.
- Has made a tangible, positive impact on the community through their volunteer efforts, whether through improving local spaces, raising awareness for causes, or providing direct assistance to those in need.



4. Upholding Sportsmanship & Integrity

- Demonstrates good sportsmanship, respect, and integrity both in athletic competition and in volunteer activities.
- Maintains a positive attitude, showing kindness, respect, and a strong ethical approach in all aspects of life, on and off the ice.

Nomination Process:

- Nominations can be submitted by coaches, teammates, community leaders, community organization or school staff.
- Nominees must be registered players through Hockey Northwestern Ontario, a Minor Hockey Team or Organization actively engaged in hockey programs or leagues (Junior teams are not eligible).
- Nominations **must** include examples of the nominee's community service and specific contributions that demonstrate the qualities outlined above.



HNO Beyond the Ice Award Nomination Form

Thank you for participating in the nomination process. Please complete the form below with the required information. All nominations will be reviewed, and selected nominees will be contacted.

Nominee Information:

- **Full Name:** _____
- **Email Address:** _____
- **Phone Number:** _____
- **Team/Organization:** _____

Reason for Nomination:

Please provide a brief explanation of why you are nominating this individual/team or organization. Highlight their contributions, achievements, and impact.

Supporting Documents:

Attach any relevant documents (e.g., letters of support, photos, media articles, or other materials showcasing the nominee's contributions).

Nominator Information:

- **Your Full Name:** _____
- **Your Email Address:** _____
- **Your Phone Number:** _____
- **Your Relationship to Nominee** _____

Consent & Agreement:

- I confirm that the information provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- I consent to be contacted for further information regarding this nomination.
- I understand that submission does not guarantee selection.

Date: _____

Thank you for your nomination! Please submit this form via [submission instructions].