



### 1. **MHL WEBSITE**

- <https://hockey.on.ca> – Addresses such things as...
  - Insurance questions
  - Coaching Certification & Police Check questions
  - Discipline Updates and Suspension Procedures
  - Tournament and Exhibition game Permits, etc.
  - Games schedule and standings

### 2. **MHL YEARBOOK (i.e. MHL Rules & Regs)**

- Available online at our website, <http://hockey.on.ca/rules-regulations/>
  - Download it to your smartphone and carry it with you
  - Please be familiar with the MHL Minimum Suspensions Listing and our various other Policies
  - If there are any questions regarding a suspension, please contact your Association Discipline Chair or the MHL Office (905-607-1118, [info@hockey.on.ca](mailto:info@hockey.on.ca)) ASAP.

### 3. **BENCH PASSES**

- Not being used for 2021-22. Rather, one of the Rostered Coaching Staff (i.e. Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager, Trainer) will sign the Game Sheet before each game. This signature will denote that that individual has ensured that all players are properly registered and rostered (or properly affiliated as a call-up), and that the Coaching Staff are properly registered and certified as per MHL requirements, <https://hockey.on.ca/certification/>, and that any suspended players (or coaches) have been recorded correctly.
- House League Bench Staff will have until December 1<sup>st</sup> to be fully-credentialed. After December 1<sup>st</sup>, not-fully-credentialed Bench Staff will be considered ineligible under MHL Rule 17.

### 4. **POLICE CHECKS**

- Police Checks are a Hockey Canada requirement. Once the season gets underway, the process can bog down, so DON'T DELAY.
- Further details can be found on the MHL website at <https://hockey.on.ca/certification/>.
- Police Checks are "good" for 3 years of continuous service within the MHL. If you're unsure about the status of yours, contact your Registrar or call the MHL Office. (905-607-1118, [info@hockey.on.ca](mailto:info@hockey.on.ca))
- Note that for 2021-22, coaches volunteered in 2019-20, with an unexpired Police Check (on file with the League) will not be required to complete a new Police Check. Rather, they can sign a Criminal Offence Declaration and file that with the League instead.

### 5. **MHL DISCIPLINE EMPHASIS**

- Spelled-out on the last page of the Minimum Suspensions document, found at <https://hockey.on.ca/rules-regulations/>. In a nutshell, aggressive play, fighting, unsportsmanlike or abusive conduct, and discrimination of any kind, won't be tolerated.

### 6. **GAME OFFICIALS**

- Since 2016-17 special emphasis has been placed on improving communication between our Game Officials and our Bench Staff.
- Harassment or abuse of Game Officials will not be tolerated.
- Please note that there is a process to be followed for filing any complaints against Game Officials...
  - <https://hockey.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/MHL-Ref-Grievance-Policy.pdf>.
  - Coaches should review the process and know who their Association Discipline Chair is.

### 7. **APPEALS, PROTESTS and SUSPENSION INFORMATION**

- Coaches are reminded to review these processes (in the MHL Yearbook).
- All such actions are to be processed through your Association Discipline Chair.

### 8. **CONVENING**

- As in the past, Convening will take place in 2021-22. Due to the shortened season, convening will be somewhat condensed, say to 5, maybe 6 weeks. Any player movement between teams should take place during the first 3 weeks. A meeting of the MHL and Area Head Convenors is scheduled for October 21<sup>st</sup>, and the MHL House League season begins on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- We appreciate your cooperation with all of our Convenors during this very busy and stressful time.

## 9. **MHL REMINDERS**

a) Game Sheets will be supplied to each team prior to the season. The team denoted in the MHL Games Centre schedule as the HOME team is responsible to provide the Game Sheet for each game.

- Please be reminded of the importance of...
  - Filling out game sheets properly (particularly any Suspended or Affiliated/Call-up players)
  - Picking up your copy of the game sheet at the end of each game and reviewing it thoroughly
- If you happen to run out of Game Sheets, please contact your Association or the MHL Office to obtain more.

b) Injury Report – please be reminded of the importance of having these forms completed and submitted for any injury. (These can be downloaded from the MHL website, <http://hockey.on.ca/forms/>). Every team should have these forms with them at all times.

c) Body-Checking – There is no body-checking in the MHL/GTHL and no MHL teams are permitted to play in any games (exhibition or tournament) where body-checking is allowed.

d) Helmets... Must be worn by ALL Coaches, On-Ice Volunteers, and third party instructors (even those claiming to be self insured).

e) We are under pressure from the City of Mississauga to stay within our contracted ice times. As such, it is very important that our games start and end on time. Please be reminded that games CAN (and will) start up to 10 minutes early and note that the 3-minute pre-game warm-up will be rigorously followed (with Delay of Game penalties administered for non-compliant teams).

## 10. **TOURNAMENTS & EXHIBITION GAMES**

- MHL teams must apply for an MHL Tournament Permit to participate in any sanctioned tournament. Further, if a scheduling exemption is required, the MHL requires 6 weeks' advance notice. Full details can be found on the MHL website at <http://hockey.on.ca/tournament-permits/>.
- All MHL teams must obtain sanctioning permission prior to participating in any exhibition game. Full details can be found on the MHL website at <http://hockey.on.ca/exhibition-permit/>.
- Please note that these Permits are "no charge".
- For 2021-22 there will be no out-of-province (or country) Tournaments or Exhibition games.

## 11. **WARM-UPS & Other City Notices**

- Off-ice warm-ups are not permitted in City facilities in 2021-22.
- Use of markers and/or chalk on surfaces other than paper/whiteboard or chalk-board is NOT PERMITTED. Any damage caused will result in the team being billed for costs by the City.

## 12. **MHL Playoffs**

- House League formats to remain unchanged from 2019-2020
- House League Championship Weekend will be March 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- "A" & Gold will follow the same format as House League. The date for A/Gold Championship Weekend is "to be determined".
- As in the past, no games will be played during March Break (Sat, Mar 12<sup>th</sup> to Sun, Mar 20<sup>th</sup> inclusive) nor on the Sunday/Monday of Thanksgiving weekend. Note that we WILL be playing on the Sunday of Family Day weekend and on Super Bowl Sunday.

## 13. **Covid-19 Protocols**

- As we battle our way out from under the current pandemic, hockey is going to be a little bit different than when we left off in March 2020. Players, coaches and parents are encouraged to have a look at our "what to expect" posting on the MHL website... <https://hockey.on.ca/what-to-expect-for-the-2021-22-hockey-season/>.
- As part of the Covid protocols, every team will be required to have a Team Safety Rep, who duties are described at <https://hockey.on.ca/certification/>.
- We understand that 2021-22 is going to be "different", and we appreciate all of your efforts.

**Thank you and good luck with the 2021-2022 hockey season!**