

Part 3
HOUSE LEAGUE POLICY
May 20, 2009

SECTION A
Objectives

1. To provide a high quality house league hockey program.
2. To ensure that house league players are involved with a team of the appropriate age group.
3. To serve girls and women from the western half of the City of Toronto who reside in the area for which the Etobicoke Dolphins is the closest girl's hockey association.
4. To provide an environment in which all participants have equal opportunities to play, to learn, and to have fun.

SECTION B
Team Organization

1. There will be seven divisions as follows:

	Ages
Tyke	4 - 6
Novice	6 - 8
Atom	9 - 10
PeeWee	11 - 12
Bantam	13 - 14
Midget	15 - 17
Senior	18 & over

These ages are approximate. The House League Director and/or Executive may adjust these levels slightly in order to obtain divisions with a reasonable number of players.

2. Players will be assigned to the most appropriate level according to their age and caliber.
3. The first week of ice time will be an evaluation skate. Players will be graded and results will be used to create balanced teams.
4. In the event that initial rosters produce unbalanced teams, changes may be made by the House League Director and Conveners up to December 31. After this time there will be no changes except to add newly registered players to teams. If exceptional circumstances require player movement after December 31, then this must be approved by the Executive.
5. All teams must wear sweater and socks provided by the EDGHL.

SECTION C General Operations

1. All disciplinary matters will be reported to and dealt with by the Discipline Chair/Co-chair.
2. All injuries must be reported to the Convener who in turn reports the incident to the House League Director.
3. No player will remain on the ice in any game, practice, or clinic without full approved equipment. This includes a CSA approved helmet and face mask, BNQ approved throat protector, shoulder and elbow pads, hockey pants or girdle and shell, shin pads, jill, mouth guard, hockey gloves and hockey skates.
4. Off ice altercations involving players or team officials will receive an automatic 3 game suspension subject to review by the Discipline Chair.
5. Regular season champions are decided by highest total points, based on 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 for a loss. In the event of ties, final standings are decided by the following tie-breakers:
 - i. most wins
 - ii. head to head record amongst tied teams
 - iii. largest goal differential (goals scored minus goals against)
 - iv. fewest goals against
 - v. fewest penalty minutes
 - vi. most goals scored

If still tied, both teams will be declared regular season champions.

6. Play-off format will be decided by the House League Director and/or Executive. The play-off format and any special rules pertaining to play-offs (such as the use of Rep goaltenders) must be given to all coaches in writing at least 2 weeks before any playoff game.

SECTION D Rules of Play

1. Players' names and assigned numbers must appear on the game sheet. Coaches must sign the game sheet prior to commencement of play.
2. All games should start on time. In the event that one or more teams are not on the ice at the appointed time the referee may start the clock anyway.
3. Each team will dress one goaltender. In the event of an injured goaltender the team will be given 5 minutes to dress a new goaltender from the players on the bench.
4. Any player receiving 3 penalties in one game will be expelled for the remainder of that game. Any player obtaining more than 10 minutes in penalties in one game will be brought before the Executive or Discipline Chair and will risk expulsion from future House League games. A further 10 minutes in penalties may result in expulsion from the League.
5. Slap shots will not be allowed in any House League game.
6. During a game, a maximum of 3 goals can be counted towards the score by the same player. If a player scores more than 3 goals, the additional goals will not be counted, however the play will stop and a face-off will still take place at center ice. It is the responsibility of the referee and time keeper to

determine when a player has reached the 3 goal limit and if possible notify the coach of this player to encourage her to pass the puck as her goals will no longer be counted. The 3-goal rule shall be in effect during regular season, play-off and championship play.

7. Tyke Division

- a. Upon a skills assessment, the players will be divided into teams based on their caliber of play.
- b. 50 minute games will be scheduled every week. Two games may occur at once utilizing the ice cross wise. Standings will not be maintained.
- c. Goaltenders will not be utilized. Players will be in net on a rotation basis.
- d. A Championship day will occur, but no winner will be declared.

8. Novice Division

- a. The Novice Division will play two running time periods. The first period will be 24 minutes and the second period will be 21 minutes, using a 3 minute buzzer system. The final two minutes of the game will use stop time.
- b. Teams should start at opposite ends from their bench, in order to give the team the ability to pull the goalie during the final minutes of the last period of the game.
- c. There will be two lines, classified A and B, which play alternately until the final buzzer. Line A represents the stronger players, and line B the less experienced players.

NOTE: There is no reference to age - all players will be graded at the beginning of the season and will only be moved to a different caliber with the agreement of all coaches in the division.

- d. Each team will dress a goalie. The remaining players will be assigned to the A or B line. The A line may not have more than five players. If there are less than 4 B line players in attendance then a less experienced A player may be added to the line, with all players rotating equally. When players are absent, coaches must confer prior to the start of the game to ensure balance between opposing lines.
- e. All penalties will be served during the shift of the line on the ice at the time it occurred except in the last 3 minutes of the game when all outstanding penalties will be served.
- f. A further 2-minute penalty will be given should a lengthy delay occur before a player goes to the penalty box. Since play is running time and the clock continues at the sound of the whistle to call the penalty, this penalty will be considered a delay of game.
- g. The play is declared ended at the sound of the buzzer after each shift.

9. Atom, PeeWee, Bantam, and Midget Divisions

These Divisions will play two 10 and one 12-minute stop time periods. Lines are to be determined prior to the start of the game providing equal ice time for all. In the event of complaints regarding equal ice time a two-minute stop time buzzer system may be put into place.

9. Senior Division

The Senior Division will play two 10 and one 12-minute periods stop time.

10. Conveners and coaches who wish to request an adjustment to playing rules to benefit the division

must submit the request in writing to the Executive with an explanation.

SECTION E

Equal Ice Time

1. The mandate of the EDGHL House League is to provide all players equal ice time per game while understanding the need to satisfy numbers in attendance and playing positions requested. Fairness to all is the priority.
2. Coaches experiencing problems with players cannot use "benching" but should discuss the problem with the player and her parents. If there is no resolution, the Convener should be involved to assist and if necessary the House League Director and/or Executive will be involved to take action.

SECTION F

Roles and Responsibilities

1. Assistant Referee-in-Chief

- a) Schedules referees and timekeeper for all House League games.
- b) Using monies received from the Referee-in-Chief, ensures all referees and timekeepers are paid for their services.
- c) Provides the Referee-in-Chief with an account of payment made to the referees and timekeepers.

2. Conveners

a. Team Rosters

- The Convener is responsible for maintaining up to date lists of the players on each team. Only the Convener can make changes to the team rosters. Teams should not exceed 16 players.
- If a new player is added to the division, the Convener should check with the Registrar to ensure the player has been registered. The Convener will then assign the new player to a team and notify the coach.
- If a player withdraws from the League, the Convener will notify the Registrar immediately. The Registrar will determine whether any refund is due. Players who withdraw from the League and receive a refund must return their sweater and socks to the Convener.
- The Convener should attempt to maintain good balance among the teams so that games are fun and competitive for all.

b. Communication

- The Convener will be a liaison between the Division and the House League Director and will be responsible for distribution of League paperwork to the teams. (i.e. newsletters)
- The Convener will bring any significant problems to the attention of the House League Director.

c. General Administration

- The Convener will ensure every coach (except Seniors) has two "Team Moms" to supervise the dressing room and to assist the Convener with communication to teams.
- The Convener is responsible for preparing and filing the game sheets and keeping track of the standings for their Division.
- Neither the Convener nor the coaches may alter rules regarding on ice play in any division. Any requests for rule changes or clarification must go to the Executive via the Referee-in-Chief.
- In the event of an injury, the Convener must complete the top section of the injury report form and request the parent to have their family doctor complete the bottom section. It is the responsibility of the parent to submit the form to the appropriate individuals as per OWHA policy.

3. Coaches

- a. House League coaches are required to have a minimum NCCP coach level certificate, or FUNdamentals level for the Tyke, Novice and Atom divisions. Coaches may request assistance from the EDGHL to obtain this.
- b. Coaches must ensure that all team members know the rules and receive the schedule of game times and any changes that occur.
- c. The coach is responsible for the goaltending equipment assigned to his/her team.
- d. Coaches must encourage good sportsmanship from his/her players and ensure that they conduct themselves properly while in any arena for a game.
- e. Coaches must assist the Executive of the EDGHL to provide a well-rounded House League, which may include help with fund raising projects.
- f. All coaches for levels other than Senior must have two team mothers who are in charge of supervision in the dressing room.
- g. Coaches are not allowed to assign new players to their team. Playing a non-registered player will result in forfeiture of any points earned in that game.
- h. Coaches must communicate any disturbances, injuries or abnormalities to their division Convener within 48 hours of the situation.

4. House League Equipment Manager

- a. House League goaltending equipment must be purchased and maintained for all divisions. Signed sheets to be obtained from a House League coach, goaltender and/or parent to verify what has been lent to them and subsequently returned. These sheets to outline the condition of the equipment when handed out and upon its return.