

***CAPITAL BELTWAY HOCKEY LEAGUE (CBHL) CONSTITUTION,
BY-LAWS, AND 2009-2010 RULES AND POLICY GUIDANCE***

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SECTION I - CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE ONE: NAME

This organization shall be known as the Capital Beltway Hockey League (CBHL).

ARTICLE TWO: OBJECTIVES

To foster the maximum opportunity for young people to participate in amateur hockey and to develop and encourage sportsmanship and good fellowship among and between all participants for their physical and psychological betterment.

ARTICLE THREE: AFFILIATION

All teams of CBHL member Clubs shall register annually as members of USA Hockey and shall maintain membership in good standing with the local affiliate.

ARTICLE FOUR: MEMBERSHIP

The CBHL shall be composed of amateur ice hockey clubs and teams who seek to become members and are voted by the Board of Directors for membership in the league (Member Clubs or Clubs). League membership is not transferable. If a CBHL member club votes to dissolve their operations board or transfer operations to another party, the new board or party must reapply for CBHL membership.

ARTICLE FIVE: FEES

Fees shall be payable annually by each participating team in an amount determined by the Board of Directors as prescribed by the By-Laws.

ARTICLE SIX: GOVERNMENT

A. Board of Directors

There is a CBHL Board of Directors consisting of the Presidents of each CBHL Member Club or his or her designee. Each Member Club shall have one vote. Additionally, the Southeastern District Registrar of USA Hockey and a representative of the Southeastern Hockey Officials Association shall be non-voting members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors meetings shall be chaired by the Commissioner who will not have a vote. The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing broad general policy and by-laws.

B. Commissioner

There is a CBHL Commissioner, responsible for the operation of the CBHL and related matters, who is elected at the annual meeting and serves for a period of one year. The Commissioner may succeed himself indefinitely.

C. Secretary-Treasurer

There is a Secretary-Treasurer who is elected annually by the Board of Directors and who serves on the Commissioner's staff.

D. Annual Meeting

There will be an Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors convened by the Commissioner between April 1, and May 30. In addition, the Board of Directors may meet from time to time as determined by the By-laws.

ARTICLE SEVEN: AMENDMENT

Amendments to this Constitution and to the By-laws shall be made only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Board of Directors and only after written notice of the amendment is provided to each CBHL club by the Secretary-Treasurer at least thirty (30) days prior to the vote. Publishing such amendments on the CBHL Web Site and electronically communicating (i.e. email) the amendments to each CBHL club shall be construed as "written notice" under the terms of this Article.

SECTION II - BY-LAWS

1. MEMBERSHIP

A. In acquiring membership, each Club and Team expresses its agreement to comply with, and adhere to, the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, and Policy Guidelines of the Capital Beltway Hockey League (CBHL).

B. Application for membership by a Club or team shall be submitted to the CBHL Board of Directors for consideration. Criteria for membership are 1) Club must have its own checking account, 2) Club must not be run by rink management, 3) Club must agree to abide by the rules and regulations of USA Hockey.

C. A new Club accepted for initial membership shall become a provisional member for the first two seasons of its participation in the CBHL. At the completion of the second provisional membership season, the CBHL Board of Directors shall consider its application to become a regular member, if such application is made. A provisional member shall have the same rights and privileges as regular members, except for the right to vote on its application to become a regular member.

D. Clubs are expected to be represented at all CBHL meetings unless otherwise notified. Failure to attend CBHL meetings shall result in the offending club being fined \$20.00 and a notice being given to the offending Club president. The CBHL Commissioner can rescind the fine for non-attendance in extraordinary circumstances.

E. In order to maintain a complete record of all players in the CBHL area all CBHL Clubs will submit rosters for all registered players at all levels of play, including house and instructional programs to the Southeastern District Registrar.

F. A Member Club of the CBHL may be suspended or removed from the CBHL for refusal to pay league fees, lack of participation in CBHL events, repetitive violation of CBHL rules, or other conduct which is not in the best interests of area youth hockey. In order to be removed, the offending club will be offered a hearing with league members at a membership meeting – a one-month notification will be provided to all league members of such meeting. Suspension, sanction, or removal will be based on a two-thirds vote of the clubs attending the membership meeting.

2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall have the authority and responsibility to:

A. Amend the By-laws for the betterment of the organization consistent with the CBHL Constitution.

B. Issue written Policy Guidelines.

C. Annually recruit and elect by majority vote, the Commissioner, three member Board of Appeals (one to be designated Chairman by the Board), and a Secretary-Treasurer, and fill vacancies in these positions.

D. Approve the annual budget and establish member fees.

E. Consider applications for league membership. Approval for either a two-year provisional membership or a full membership shall require a two-thirds majority vote.

- F. Require each club to provide one individual who will report to the Commissioner for staff assignments.
- G. Remove the Commissioner for cause by a two-thirds majority vote after receiving a complaint from the Board of Appeals.
- H. Meet annually or at the call of the Commissioner or the Board of Appeals when appropriate.
- I. Establish rules of play and operation.

3. COMMISSIONER

The Commissioner shall be responsible for overall operation of the CBHL. In carrying out that responsibility he shall have broad executive power to make any and all decisions not specifically reserved to the Board of Directors. The Commissioner's authorities and responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- A. Convening and chairing meetings of the Board of Directors except those convened by the Chairman of the Board of Appeals.
- B. Approving of expenditures of CBHL funds.
- C. Scheduling CBHL Board of Directors meetings.
- D. Considering matters referred to him by the Board of Appeals and acting appropriately.
- E. Imposing discipline for violations of the rules of play.
- F. Imposing discipline, including fines if appropriate, on any CBHL club for violations of CBHL Constitution, By-Laws or Rules.
- G. Overseeing the interrelationship of all clubs.
- H. Supervising the league staff, assigning functional responsibilities and insuring proper functioning of:
 - o Liaison activities with area professional teams
 - o the scheduling of league games
 - o the registration of players and coaches
 - o the collection and dissemination of league statistics
 - o the operation of the Competition Committee.
- I. The Commissioner has authority to dismiss members of the CBHL staff for non-performance and obtain replacements from the dismissed member's clubs. The Commissioner is expected to recruit and assign additional staff from any source in the hockey community as necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of the Commissioner's office.
- J. The Commissioner shall ensure that current copies of all official documents of the CBHL are distributed to each officer and designated club representative to the CBHL Board of Directors at the earliest practical time following annual elections of officers and representatives. These documents include:
 - o Constitution of the Capital Beltway Hockey League
 - o By-Laws of the Capital Beltway Hockey League
 - o Rules of the Capital Beltway Hockey League
 - o Capital Beltway Hockey League Policy Guidelines

4. VICE-COMMISSIONER

The Commissioner shall appoint a Vice-Commissioner, with the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors, who acts in the absence of the Commissioner.

5. SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain a checking account in the name of the Capital Beltway Hockey League and be responsible for collection of membership fees from all teams entered in the CBHL each season. The Secretary-Treasurer will also be responsible for the following:

- A. Shall submit a proposed annual budget.
- B. Shall submit a financial report at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors.
- C. Shall submit interim financial reports to the Board of Directors as requested.
- D. Shall prepare the minutes of each meeting, and shall transmit copies thereof to other members of the board prior to the next Board of Directors meeting.
- E. Shall pay all proper financial obligations of the CBHL.

6. BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals shall consist of three members, one who is appointed Chairman, and all who are elected by the Board of Directors. The Board of Appeals has the authority and responsibilities to:

- A. Hear all complaints concerning the Commissioner or the Commissioner's decisions made by a member of the Board of Directors. If the Board of Appeals decides the complaint has no merit, the matter is closed. If the Board of Appeals decides the complaint has merit, it will refer the matter to the Commissioner for appropriate action; the Board of Appeals shall inform the Board of Directors of all complaints reviewed and actions taken.
- B. Refer complaints warranting removal for cause of the Commissioner directly to the Board of Directors.
- C. Direct the Chairman of the Board of Appeals to convene and chair special meetings of the Board of Directors. Such special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be limited to removal for cause proceedings against the Commissioner or to extraordinary circumstances.

7. RULES

The CBHL Board of Directors will review and approve the CBHL Rules prior to the start of each season. The Commissioner will notify the members of the Board of meetings for reviewing rules and will publish on the League Web Site and distribute complete and current copies of the Rules as soon as possible following their approval for the season. Rules may be changed after the season's start only for extraordinary reasons. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors must approve any changes to the rules after the start of the season.

SECTION III - RULES AND REGULATIONS

SUBSECTION A - GENERAL LEAGUE RULES

All Capital Beltway Hockey League (CBHL) games will be played under the rules of USA Hockey (to the extent that individual rink facilities permit such compliance). In addition, the Board of Directors may modify or supplement USA Hockey rules with local rules applicable to CBHL games as appropriate to carry out the objectives of the constitution and by-laws.

The CBHL Board of Directors will review and approve the CBHL rules prior to the start of each season and will not change them during that season. The Commissioner will notify the members of the Board of meetings for

reviewing rules, and will distribute complete and current copies of the rules as soon as possible following their approval for the season.

A.1 League Play

League play may be scheduled for teams entered in the following classifications: Mite, Squirt, Peewee, Bantam, Midget U16, Midget U18 and Girls Age Classifications as defined by USA Hockey.

A.2 League Divisions

Clubs shall declare their teams and, subject to preseason placement, will be placed into one of the following Divisions:

National Division
Patrick Division
Wales Division

Girls National Division
Girls Patrick Division
Girls Wales Division

Patrick and Wales Divisions consisting of 21 or more teams in a given season shall be divided by the League Commissioner into two divisions. Playoffs for split divisions will consist of two division semifinals and a championship game between the two finalists.

A.3 Classification of Teams

A.3.1 Mite Age Classification

Clubs will select the level of play for their Mite teams subject to the following limitations and conditions:

- o A Club with 2 or more teams at an age classification must enter at least one of those teams in the Patrick Division.
- o All Patrick Division Teams are eligible for league championship and CBHL playoff competition.

A.3.2 Squirt, Peewee, Bantam, Midget U16 and Midget U18 Age Classification

Clubs will select the level of play for their Squirt, Peewee, Bantam and Midget teams subject to the following limitations:

National Division - Teams Tier II

- o The National Division shall consist of the strongest teams at an age level. In order to qualify to play in the National Division, teams must be certified by the Placement Evaluators and Commissioner as having requisite skill and depth to play in the National Division.
- o The National Division shall consist of a minimum of 5 teams at an age level. If fewer than 5 teams at an age level declare their intention to play in the National Division then Clubs shall re-declare their teams at that age level based upon two Divisions (Patrick and Wales).
- o All National Division teams shall play each other an equal number of times during the regular season (Minimum of two games with no less than 16 games and no more than 24 games as determined by the League Commissioner prior to or at the time of the League Schedulers meeting).
- o National Division teams are encouraged to schedule non-league games against CBHL Patrick Division teams.
- o All National Division teams shall compete for the National Division league championship and the CBHL National Division playoff competition. National Division teams (Peewee through Midget) shall compete for the Southeastern District Tier II championship and ultimately the USA Hockey National Championship.
- o Regular Season National Division Champions will be awarded the "Bob Otte Trophy". The trophy may remain in the possession of the championship team until the January CBHL meeting, where it must be returned to the CBHL. A \$500 fine for lost trophies shall be imposed.

FOR THE 2009-2010 SEASON ONLY:

For the 2009-2010 Season National Division (PeeWee through Midget U18) will compete to represent their state in the Nationals as follows:

- a. The top two teams from the state will enter into a 3 game playoff where the team that wins two of the games will be recommended to the PVAHA to be the State Representative for that age group.
- b. Should only one team be fielded from a state, that team will automatically be recommended to the PVAHA to be the State Representative for that age group.
- c. Games shall comply with CBHL rules for ice slots and playing rules for CBHL Playoff games.
- d. Ice and venues shall be arranged and paid for by the competing teams with the highest seeded team being the home team for games 1 and 3 (if necessary).
- e. On-ice officials will be arranged and paid for by the PVAHA.

Patrick Division - Teams Tier II

- o Any Club may enter a team in the Patrick Division at an age classification.
- o All Patrick Division teams are eligible to compete for Patrick Division league championship and the CBHL Patrick Division playoff competition.
- o If the age level has no "National Division", the Regular Season Patrick Division Champion will be awarded the "Bob Otte Trophy". The trophy may remain in the possession of the championship team until the January CBHL meeting, where it must be returned to the CBHL. A \$500 Fine for lost trophies shall be imposed.
- o The Midget U18 Regular Season Patrick Division Champion will be awarded the "Terry Scott Trophy". The trophy may remain in the possession of the championship team until the January CBHL meeting, where it must be returned to the CBHL. A \$500 Fine for lost trophies shall be imposed.

Wales Division - Teams Tier II

- o A Club with 2 or more teams at an age classification must enter at least 1 team at the Patrick or the National Division and may not enter all teams at an age classification in the Wales Division.

A.3.3 Girls Divisions

Girls National Division

- o The Girls National Division shall consist of the strongest teams at an age level and each Girls National Division team must declare with the affiliate to be National Bound.
 - o The Girls National Division shall consist of a minimum of 5 teams at an age level. If fewer than 5 teams at an age level declare their intention to play in the Girls National Division then all teams will be entered into the Girls Patrick Division.
 - o All Girls National Division teams shall compete for the CBHL Girls National Division league championship and the CBHL Girls National Division playoff competition. The Girls National Division league champion will compete in the PVAHA playoffs for the right to move on to Districts.
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Girls Patrick Division

- o Any Club may enter a team in the Girls Patrick Division at an age classification.
- o All Girls Patrick Division teams are eligible to compete for the Girls Patrick Division league championship and the CBHL Girls Patrick Division playoff competition.
 - o In the absence of a Girls National Division at an age group, the Girls Patrick Division league champion will compete in the PVAHA playoffs for the right to move on to Districts. In this case, Girls Patrick Division teams are National Bound and must adhere to USA Hockey regulations for National Bound teams.

Girls Wales Division

- o This division will accommodate lower skill level teams.
- o Girls Wales Division teams will play a limited number of games, a maximum of approximately 10, to be decided yearly by the clubs participating.
- o No statistics will be kept on the website for the Girls Wales Division and no playoffs will be held for this division.

A.4 Player Assignment

Player assignment to classification from Mite through Midget and Girls shall be governed by the USA Hockey rules.

A.5 League Champion

The league champion at each level of each age classification of the CBHL will be determined by the team standings at the completion of all regular season league games.

A.6 League Standings

League standings shall be determined on the following basis. Points shall be awarded on the basis of two points for a win and one point for a tie. If two or more teams have an equal number of points, their final position standings will be determined by the results of the league games played considered in the following order:

- Total number of wins
- Points awarded head to head competition
- Subtracting goals scored against from goals scored in head to head games. The team's positions shall be in order of the greatest surplus
- Fewest goals allowed against all Clubs
- The team with the least total penalty minutes

A.6.1 If there are more than two teams tied in the standings and they have not played an equal number of times head-to-head, the 2nd and 3rd tiebreakers listed above do not apply.

A.7 League Standings Tie Breaker

If those two tie-breaking techniques do not resolve the tie, the Commissioner shall resolve the matter. (Note: This provision, which does not permit consideration of the total goals scored against all other teams, is specifically intended to give no benefit to a stronger team's running up the score on a weak team).

A.8 Club Jerseys

A Club that obtains permission to wear jerseys with a new color is responsible for providing contrasting cover-ups when playing an opposing Club that registered its color(s) first with the CBHL. The team most recently approved to wear the color must provide and wear the contrasting cover-ups unless some other arrangement acceptable to the opposing team has been agreed upon prior to the game. The degree of contrast must be acceptable to the game officials.

A.9 Ten-Goal Rule

At all levels of play, in games between CBHL teams (whether league or exhibition games), a ten-goal mercy rule is in effect. If one team attains a lead of ten goals, at any time during the game, the game terminates, the score and all statistics are final, and under no circumstances shall play be permitted to continue.

A.10 Participant Conduct

The home and visiting teams shall be responsible for off ice conduct of the spectators as well as the teams. After a game, the referee(s) should indicate the team to leave the ice first. The coach is responsible to see that his team exits the ice and enters the locker room without incident.

SUBSECTION B - ROSTERS

B.1 Roster Submission

USA Hockey Team Roster Registration Form (1-T) along with the team Membership Application Form (2-T) must be submitted to the USA Hockey Associate Registrar/District Registrar by all teams and Clubs prior to the team playing any league games. A copy of the USA Hockey Team Roster Registration Form (1-T) signed and dated by the USA Hockey District Registrar or Associate Registrar, along with copies of any roster changes must be submitted to the League Commissioner as soon as they are received by the Club/team from the USA Hockey Associate Registrar/District Registrar. Any league games played prior to the effective date of the USA Hockey Team Roster Registration Form (1-T) shall be deemed to be forfeited. NOTE: Requirement of birth certificate removed.

B.2 Roster Changes

All roster changes must be promptly reported to the USA Hockey District Registrar or Associate Registrar. No player may participate in any game that is not properly listed on a team's USA Hockey Roster. A team playing a player not on the team's USA Hockey roster shall be deemed to have forfeited that game. Roster changes shall be permitted up to December 31 under the following conditions:

B.2.1 Permanent transfer of a player from a lower skill division roster to a higher skill division roster is permissible.

B.2.2 Transfer of a player from a higher skill division roster to a lower skill division roster is not permissible unless specifically authorized by the Commissioner.

B.2.3 Any new player added to a team's roster between their first league game and December 31st must be registered with the USA Hockey District Registrar or Associate Registrar prior to participating in a CBHL league game. During this period, a team playing a new player not registered with the CBHL in a league game shall be deemed to have forfeited that game. A copy of the updated roster must be submitted to the Commissioner.

B.2.4 No player previously rostered on a Tier I team during a season may be added to the roster of a Tier II team unless specifically authorized by the Commissioner.

B.3 Player Transfer

Transfer of a player between organizations after rosters have been submitted is not permissible unless specifically authorized by the Commissioner, and both clubs involved specifically approve the transfer.

B.4 Player / Team Requirements

No team shall be entered for league play without a minimum of eleven (11) registered players. No Club may accept a player who has an outstanding monetary obligation to the Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey Association, the Southeastern Hockey Officials Association, or any USA Hockey registered or recognized organization within the affiliate. The Commissioner shall be advised regarding any outstanding monetary obligations on the part of any player by the regularly scheduled August meeting. The Commissioner must prepare and submit a list of all delinquent accounts to each CBHL-member Club by the regularly scheduled September meeting.

B.5 Player Limitations

B.5.1 No player may be on a roster and play for both a Tier 1 team or non-CBHL National Bound youth team and a CBHL team.

B.5.2 No female player may be on a roster and play for a non-CBHL National Bound girls team and a CBHL girls team.

B.5.3 A female player may be on a roster and play for a CBHL or non-CBHL girls team and a CBHL youth team subject to USA Hockey rules for dual registration.

B.5.4 A player is limited to playing on the one team on which he or she is registered in the CBHL, except for girls as allowed in Rule B.5.3 and goaltenders as allowed in Rule B.6.

B.6 Goaltenders

Goaltenders may play with more than one team according to the following rules:

B.6.1 When only one goaltender is rostered on a team or only one rostered goaltender is in attendance at a game, a CBHL goaltender from a younger division or lower skill division may serve as an emergency backup. The backup goaltender shall be permitted to participate in the game only if the rostered goaltender is injured or ill and cannot start the game or is forced to leave it. Once the backup goaltender has been substituted into a game for any period of time, the rostered goaltender cannot enter or return to that game.

B.6.2 When no rostered team goaltender is in attendance at a game, a CBHL goaltender from the same skill and age division or from a younger or lower skill division may substitute in goal as the primary goaltender for that

game and must be designated as such on the scoresheet. In addition, a goaltender from a younger or lower skill division may serve as an emergency backup. The backup goaltender shall be permitted to participate in the game only if the primary goaltender is injured or ill and cannot start the game or is forced to leave it. Once the backup goaltender has been substituted into a game for any period of time, the primary goaltender cannot enter or return to that game.

B.6.3 If no rostered team goaltender is in attendance at a game, a CBHL goaltender from a younger classification may play in goal for an older team, as provided for in B.6.2, and then return to play in goal for the team with which he or she is registered.

B.6.4 If no rostered team goaltender is in attendance at a game, a CBHL team goaltender from a lower skill division may play in goal for a higher skill division team of the same age classification, as provided for in B.6.2, and then return to play in goal for the team with which he or she is registered.

B.6.5 If no rostered team goaltender is in attendance at a game, a CBHL team goaltender may substitute in the goal of another team in the same skill division in which he or she is registered, as provided for in B.6.2.

B.6.6 A CBHL team goalie shall not play in the goal for a team at a lower skill division in his or her registered age classification or for a team at a younger age classification

B.6.7 A CBHL team goalie may skate out for only one CBHL team, including the team on which he or she is registered as a goalie. A CBHL team goalie may skate out on a team at any skill division within the same age classification as the team on which he or she plays goal, or within a different age classification. If a CBHL goalie skates for a team other than the one for which he or she is registered as a goalie, then he or she must be rostered as a skater on that team as provided for by Rule B.6.9 and is subject as a skater to Rule B.5.

B.6.8 A CBHL non-goalie may play in goal for a lower skill or age division team, but if he or she thereafter plays in the goal for the team on which he or she is registered as a skater, he or she may not again play in the goal for a lower skill or age division team.

B.6.9 A goaltender who intends to play in the goal for one team and skate at another position on another team shall be registered on the rosters of both teams, with an appropriate explanatory comment. When a goaltender plays on a team other than the one with which registered, or when a non-goalie unexpectedly plays in the goal on a team other than the one with which registered, appropriate information shall be entered on the scoresheet to identify the basis for the player's participation.

B.7 Responsibility for Goalie Rules

It shall be the responsibility of each team's coach to assure compliance with rule B.6 - Goaltenders. A violation of these special rules will result in disciplinary action, game forfeiture or both as defined in section D.

B.8 USA Hockey Coaching Requirements

Head and Assistant Coaches must meet USA Hockey Coaching Education Program (CEP) requirements. Proof of CEP level must be provided to the league with the submittal of team rosters.

SUBSECTION C – SEASON AND GAME SCHEDULES

C.1 General Schedule Information

C.1.1 Team Declarations

C.1.1.1 No later than the August CBHL league meeting, each Club shall declare: (i) the number of teams it plans to enter into each age classification during the upcoming CBHL season, and (ii) the bracket (advanced or intermediate) in which each team would like to participate during the Pre-Season Placement games.

C.1.1.2 The Pre-Season Placement games shall be held prior to two weeks before the Schedulers Meeting. The CBHL shall publish the final scores and shot counts by game no later than the first Monday following Labor Day.

C.1.1.3 No later than Friday following the conclusion of the Pre-Season Placement Games the CBHL will publish the division in which each team will participate.

C.1.1.4 Any Club that objects to the division assignment of any team must submit its objection in writing to the CBHL Commissioner no later than three days following the CBHL division alignment publication. Objections may be filed only by CBHL Representatives or Club Presidents.

C.1.1.5 The CBHL Commissioner shall appoint a Placement Committee for assessing the placement of teams in their appropriate division based on skill level., The Placement Committee shall consist of USA Hockey certified coaches.

C.1.1.6 The Placement Committee shall review each team's declaration and any timely-submitted protest. No later than the second Monday following the Pre-Season Placement Games, each Placement Committee shall advise: (i) the CBHL Commissioner of any team declaration that merits further review, and the CBHL Representative or Club President of any team for which either an objection to division declaration was made by a CBHL Club or the Placement Committee advised the CBHL Commissioner that the division declaration merited further review.

C.1.1.7 The CBHL Commissioner shall review the team declarations and results of the review of the Placement Committee. During the CBHL Commissioner's review, the CBHL Commissioner shall solicit input from the CBHL Club for any team that the CBHL Commissioner is considering determining should have declared itself in a higher division. If the CBHL Commissioner concludes that any team should have declared itself in a higher division, that team will be given a choice of: (i) changing its division to the higher division, or (ii) being precluded from participating in the playoffs of the division in which it declares itself and from advancing to represent the CBHL in any events following the completion of the regular season.

C.1.1.8 The CBHL Commissioner shall complete his/her review of the team declarations and publish the final declarations of all CBHL teams no later than the third Friday following the Pre-Season Games.

C.1.2 Pre-Season Placement Games

C.1.2.1 The Pre-Season Placement games shall be scheduled by the individual clubs. The CBHL will issue a list of recommended game opponents each club should schedule pre-season games with. This list will include teams declared at the team's declared skill level, the level above (if applicable) and the level below (if applicable)..

C.1.2.2 No later than Labor Day, each Club must submit to the Placement Committee Chairman a list of players for each team who either are or are expected to be rostered on that team. The list will include the following information: (i) the name of each player, (ii) the birth year of each player, and (iii) the team on which each player participated during the previous season, including the Club, age classification, and division. The list shall include each player expected to be rostered during the season.

C.1.2.3 Teams should declare for the Advanced Division if they are considering playing the season in the National Division.

C.1.2.4 If fewer than 5 teams or more than 12 teams declare for the Advanced Division, the Division composition must be approved by the Commissioner.

C.1.2.5 Scoresheets for the Pre-Season Placement games must be submitted to the league. Scores for the placement games will be posted for review by all members.

C.1.4 General Rules for Scheduling League Games

C.1.4.1 Weeknights are defined as 7:00 PM Sunday through 7:00 PM Friday.

C.1.4.2 No weeknight games may begin before 7:00 PM or after 9:00 PM.

C.1.4.3 Weekend games may not start before 7:00 AM.

C.1.4.4 It is the responsibility of each Club to have sufficient ice time to accommodate the above rules, even if it must buy additional ice at another rink.

C.1.4.5 No league games are to be scheduled during Thanksgiving weekend in November and from Christmas through New Years. The exact dates will be announced at the October league meeting each year.

C.2 Scheduled League Games

The Board of Directors shall determine the number of league games to be played and the length of the season. Mite teams shall play no more than 14 games in CBHL league play, unless specifically approved by the CBHL Commissioner.

C.3 Game Scoresheets

Clubs (utilizing whatever system they wish) are responsible for sending game score sheets to the CBHL Statisticians. The home team is responsible for sending the original (white) score sheet to the Divisional statistician. A score sheet of a league game must be postmarked no later than seventy-two (72) hours after the game has been played. If a score sheet is not received in accordance with this rule, the responsible Club will be fined \$20.00 and the game will not be recorded until the fine is paid.

C.4 Game Schedule Changes

Schedule changes are not permitted after November 15th except under the following conditions:

C.4.1 Severe Weather

In the event of severe weather conditions (not a predicted forecast, but actually occurring), a game may be postponed due to hazardous road/driving conditions, which could affect the safety of the players, coaches and parents. Postponement for severe weather conditions may not occur more than 16 hours before the scheduled time. The team manager from each team must contact their Club scheduler and the League Scheduler and/or Commissioner to report that the game is being cancelled.

C.4.2 Unplayable Ice Conditions

Unplayable ice conditions due to weather and/or mechanical deficiencies at the ice facility. If a game is postponed by the home Club for this reason, and the opposing team can prove that the facility could be used to play the scheduled game, or was used to play another game at the time of the scheduled game, the opposing Club may file a protest, which could lead to a forfeiture charged to the home team.

C.4.3 Lack of certified Officials

In the event that less than two (2) USA Hockey officials are present to officiate a game at the Midget level, the game will not be played and **MUST BE RESCHEDULED**. The home team is responsible for the rescheduling. In the event that only one (1) USA Hockey official is present to officiate a game at the Peewee or Bantam level, or in the event that only (2) USA Hockey officials are present to officiate a game at the Midget Level, then either coach may object to playing the game, in which case the game will not be played and must be rescheduled. The home team is responsible for rescheduling. A coach wishing to object to playing the game must do so by recording his or her objection in writing, on the score sheet, and then signing the score sheet in the available signature box, before the start of the game. Failure to record an objection in writing before the start of the game shall be deemed to be a waiver of any objection and it shall constitute agreement to play the game. If either team chooses not to play, rules

C.4.3.1 and C.4.3.2 below apply. In the event that at least one USA Hockey official does not arrive to officiate the game at the scheduled game time, the visiting team may:

C.4.3.1 Elect to reschedule the game with the home team at a mutually agreeable time and place. Both teams must notify their Club scheduler and the League Scheduler as noted in section C.5. Under no circumstances should a game be played in the absence of a USA Hockey certified official.

C.4.3.2 Agree to play the game with USA Hockey officials who are mutually agreed upon; but only if they arrive on the ice with sufficient time to meet the league minimum game slot time for the given age level.

C.4.4 Extraordinary Circumstances

In the event of extraordinary circumstances not foreseeable at the time of scheduling, either Club scheduler may request that the League Commissioner allow the game to be rescheduled.

C.4.5 Failure to Appear

When a team fails to appear for a game where the time and place appear in the official CBHL Schedule, where the two teams did not agree in advance to reschedule the game and notify the League Scheduler, the game will automatically be a forfeit win for the non-offending team. If the non-offending team prefers to play the game, it will be rescheduled at the convenience of the non-offending team and at the expense (ice costs and referee fees) of the offending team. The offending Club shall be assessed a League fine of \$250.00 for each game forfeited unless waived by the commissioner, and shall be responsible for costs incurred for ice rental and referee fees.

C.5 Game Rescheduling

For any game not played as scheduled, both Club schedulers must notify the League Scheduler in writing within 5 days that the game was not played. Club schedulers must reschedule the game within 10 days of the original date. If the Club schedulers can not reach a mutual agreement within ten days, both teams shall submit three (3) available time slots along with their team schedule to the League Scheduler for a final decision as to the date the game is to be played. The Commissioner has the right to forfeit the games if insufficient time remains in the season and both parties cannot agree to a rescheduled date.

C.6 Official Confirmation of Schedule Changes

Schedule changes under one of the above conditions are not considered official until both Club schedulers have notified the League Scheduler using the Official Game Change form. The game change form must be received by the League Scheduler within fifteen (15) days after the originally scheduled game if the game is moved to a later date or fifteen (15) days after the game has been rescheduled (but no later than the new game date), if the game is moved to an earlier date than originally scheduled or the offending Club will be fined \$25.00 for failure to submit proper notification.

C.7 Game Slot Time

It is the responsibility of the home team and the off-ice officials for the game to monitor the time available in the designated time slot. Both teams must be ready to play at the designated start time. If a game ends early and the subsequent ice slot is scheduled for a league game, teams are authorized to start a league game up to 15 minutes early under the following conditions:

- o the rink has confirmed that the ice in "unoccupied" and available for use
- o coaches from each team have agreed that they can start earlier than the scheduled game slot time
- o on-ice officials are available and have agreed to start the game earlier than the scheduled game slot time

In the event the game cannot start at the designated start time, the home team must:

C.7.1 Provide adequate ice time for the completion of the game, which shall be determined as one hour and five minutes for mite and squirt games, and one hour and twenty minutes for peewee, bantam and midget games (play time).

C.7.2 Agree to reschedule the game in the event the visiting coach refuses to play the game in the remaining time.

C.7.3 In the event the visiting coach agrees to play the game in the remaining time available, the coach must indicate his/her acknowledgment by signing the score sheet, next to the game number box, prior to the commencement of the game.

C.8 Game Periods

Periods shall be twelve (12) minutes stop-time for mites and squirts. Periods shall be fifteen (15) minutes stop-time for peewees, bantams and midgets. Clubs need to provide a minimum of 1 hour and 15 minutes for mite and squirt game slots and 1 hour and 30 minutes for peewee, bantam and midget games slots (these game slot times include a 10-minute ice resurfacing). Only a one (1) minute break will be provided between each period and a three (3) minute warm-up will commence as soon as the ice is ready.

C.9 Inability to Play Three Stop-Time Periods

It is the responsibility of the off-ice officials to ensure the exact start and stop times of the game slot. In the event of extraordinary circumstances that prevent having three full stop-time periods, two full stop-time periods will be played. Prior to the start of the third period, take the remaining time for the game slot, divide in half and put that time on the clock for the third period. Do not exceed the published time period for the third period. (Example: 20 minutes left in game slot = 10 minute stop-clock third period). At no time will a running clock be used. The home team is obliged to provide backup stopwatches for use in the event of a malfunctioning scoreboard clock.

C.10 Game Time Outs

One (1) time out per team is allowed in a CBHL game at any time, provided that the third period has not been shortened due to time constraints with the scheduled ice slot.

C.11 Penalty Times

Penalty times in games using 12-minute stop-time periods shall be 1-1/2 minutes for minor, 4 minutes for major, and 8 minutes for misconduct penalties. With stop-time periods of 15 minutes (or more), penalty times shall be 2 minutes, 5 minutes, and 10 minutes respectively. Penalty times shall not start until the puck is dropped, and no penalty shall be terminated unless or until the puck is in play.

C.12 Unequal Rink Conditions

In the event of rink conditions, which result in a potential inequality for one team (for example, sun conditions at an outdoor rink, the absence of a goalie crease at only one goal, etc.), the teams shall switch ends of the rink at the middle of the third period. The clock shall be set at one-half of the time of the third period. This is intended to assure that playing conditions shall be as even as possible for both teams.

C.13 Official Game Designation

A game is not an official game until two (2) full periods have been completed. If two full periods are not played, no recognition of the game being played will occur, except in cases of serious misbehavior, such as fighting, misconduct, or match penalties, (which may have been the cause of the game incompleteness). The Commissioner, per rules of USA Hockey, will decide serious cases of misbehavior.

C.14 Off-Ice Officials

The home team will provide a timekeeper, scorekeeper, and a home penalty box official. The visiting team will provide a visitor penalty box official

SUBSECTION D - SUSPENSIONS

D.1 Disciplinary Procedures

All games between two CBHL member teams are subject to USA Hockey disciplinary procedures. The disciplinary procedures in this section apply in addition to USA Hockey disciplinary procedures and are relevant to any game between two CBHL teams, and any CBHL-sanctioned events, unless the game is played under the sanction and auspices of another USA Hockey-sanctioned league, (for example, the Delaware Valley Hockey League), or the game is part of a formally-organized, USA-Hockey sanctioned tournament. (Applicable only to games between two CBHL teams and CBHL-sanctioned events; USA Hockey rules control other games).

D.1.1 Fisticuffs (fighting)

D.1.1.1 A player who receives a major penalty for fisticuffs (fighting) for the first time in a season shall be suspended for the next two (2) CBHL league games.

D.1.1.2 A player who receives a major penalty for fisticuffs for a second time in a season shall be suspended for the next five (5) CBHL league games. The player involved MUST appear before a disciplinary committee (consisting of 3 members selected by the Commissioner) prior to the automatic expiration of the fourth game suspension, for determination of additional action and to formally request reinstatement.

D.1.1.3 A player who receives a major penalty for fisticuffs for the third time in a season shall be suspended for the remainder of the season. The player must appear before a CBHL Disciplinary Committee for determination of additional action and to formally request reinstatement prior to the start of the next season.

D.1.1.4 A player who receives a major penalty for fisticuffs (fighting) and a minor for instigating shall be suspended an additional one (1) CBHL game.

D.1.2 Game Misconduct

Suspension for a player incurring any game misconduct, or match penalty after the end of the third period, shall be assessed as it would have been had the penalty been incurred while the game was in progress. Note: In considering USA Hockey rules 404(c) and (e) and 405(c), the term "proper authorities" who may impose further suspensions for a game misconduct or match penalty incurred in a CBHL game shall be the Commissioner, or Vice-Commissioner of the CBHL, not the coach's or player's own Club authorities. This does not prevent a Club from also imposing additional disciplinary actions.

D.2 Game Suspensions

Players and coaches suspended from any game shall be listed in the suspended player section of the scoresheet.

D.2.1 Coach Responsibilities

Enforcement of game suspensions shall be the responsibility of the offending player's coach. A failure to comply shall result in the automatic forfeiture of the game(s) in which the suspended player improperly participates. In addition, the head coach will receive a one game suspension for each game in which a suspended player participates. Violation of this responsibility is also subject to review by the Commissioner who may impose additional sanctions of up to a season (one year) suspension for the coach who plays a suspended player.

D.2.2 Player Responsibilities

A suspended player may not be in the bench area or participate as an off-ice official, including penalty box attendant, timekeeper, or scorekeeper, during the game.

D.3 League Game Requirements

A suspension imposed on a player as a result of misconduct in any game between two CBHL teams that is subject to this section under D.1, above, shall only be served by not participating in the player's team's next regularly scheduled league game(s). Note: This does not eliminate the need for the player to also sit out the next USA Hockey sanctioned game, if necessary.

D.4 Restriction For Player Rostered On More Than One Team

A suspension imposed on a player who is rostered on more than one team (i.e., plays goal on one team and skates out on another team) as a result of misconduct in any game between two CBHL teams may only be served by not participating in the next regularly scheduled league game(s) of either team on which he/she is rostered until the cumulative total of regularly scheduled league game(s) missed on that team on which the penalty occurred is equal to the suspension.

D.5 Suspension Carried Forward

If a suspension is not fully served in the course of a season, or if a suspension is incurred as a result of misconduct in a game between two CBHL teams after the regular season, the balance of the suspension must be served at the beginning of the following season.

D.6 CBHL Playoff Games

For the purpose of this rule, CBHL sanctioned play-off games are considered to be regularly scheduled league games.

SUBSECTION E - PROTESTS / COMPLAINTS

E.1 Protests

Recognizing that a vital objective of league play is development of concepts of sportsmanship, protests are not favored and normally may be expected to be denied except in instance of a gross violation of the rules, such as the use of an ineligible player. Protests that are submitted shall be handled in the following manner:

E.1.1 A protest may not be submitted by the Club of the winning team. (Only a losing or tying team's Club may submit a protest.)

E.1.2 A protest must be in writing and signed by the protesting Club's President or alternate member of the CBHL's Board of Directors. (A protest, which is not so signed, shall be returned without consideration of its merits.) It must be mailed to the league Commissioner using the league protest form. Protests ordinarily must be postmarked within 48 hours of the protested game. Protests filed after 48 hours may be considered on their merits, depending upon the reason for the late filing. The protested Club will be notified promptly by the Commissioner or his designee and shall have 72 hours to respond (unless more prompt action is required).

E.1.3 The Commissioner will appoint a protest committee of three members, not associated with the Clubs involved in the protest, to consider the protest. The league Vice-Commissioner shall be the chairman of each protest committee unless the Club with which he is affiliated is a party to the protest, in which case the Commissioner shall designate a disinterested member of the committee to serve as its chairman. The protest committee will rule on the protest, normally within 48 hours. The Vice-Commissioner will inform the Clubs involved of the protest ruling as soon as possible. The protest ruling will be final and recorded with the league secretary; there shall be no appeal to the Board of Directors or to the Board of Appeals.

E.1.4 An on-ice official's judgmental decisions are final and are not subject to protest.

E.1.5 In the event of the denial of a protest, the protesting Club shall pay a fee of \$25.00 to the Secretary/Treasurer of the league.

E.2 Complaints

A situation may occur which is not appropriate for protest, but with respect to which a team wishes to complain. In such a case, the same basic procedures as for a protest shall be followed. The result of a complaint will have no effect on a game's result, but may serve to clarify league, Club, team or individual membership actions and policy. No fee will be assessed in conjunction with the processing of a complaint.

SUBSECTION F - PLAYOFF RULES

F.1 Team Eligibility

No team may participate in the CBHL Playoffs if the CBHL Commissioner concluded before the season that the team should have declared itself in a higher division. Clubs must pay all CBHL fees and fines in full prior to the start of CBHL Playoffs in order for their teams to be eligible to participate.

F.2 Non-Participation

Any CBHL team that qualifies for the CBHL Playoffs and decides not to participate in the playoffs, in absence of extraordinary cause, said Club will be ineligible for the playoffs the next season at ALL age levels and the Club will be on probation for one (1) year. Provided, however, that if the Commissioner fails to set the playoff dates prior to December 1 of the current year then no penalty will be imposed.

F.3 Playoff Coordinators

Designated CBHL Playoff Coordinators will have responsibility for general supervision of each game in their assigned rinks to insure smooth operation of the playoffs. Their responsibilities include verifying satisfactory announcements, and presenting trophies upon completion of Finals in each division. They will have final authority concerning tiebreaker procedures.

F.4 Playing Rules

USA Hockey rules, as modified by published CBHL rules, will apply to all playoff games. Periods will be twelve (12) minutes for the Mite and Squirt levels, fifteen (15) minutes for Peewee, sixteen (16) minutes for Bantam, and seventeen (17) minutes for Midget U16 and Midget U18 levels, stop time. The ten-goal rule will apply. Each team MUST be ready to play fifteen (15) minutes prior to the published game start time. A warm-up period of three (3) minutes prior to the start of the game will be followed. In addition, the ice slot allocation for Midgets shall be 120 minutes (2 hours) in length. There shall be an ice resurfacing between periods 2 and 3, unless there is not enough time and events are running late. The playoff coordinator will determine if an ice cut can be done.

F.5 Home Team Designation

In each game, the team with the higher ranking in the CBHL regular season standings will be designated the home team.

F.6 Game Responsibilities

The team designated as the home team shall provide the official scorekeeper and an individual to man a penalty box. The team designated as the visiting team shall provide a timekeeper and an individual to man a penalty box. It is strongly recommended that the visiting team also provide an assistant scorekeeper. Announcers may be provided by either team, however, the individual selected MUST be UNBIASED in his/her presentation, or the Playoff Coordinator will have the person replaced. [Under unique situations where "third party" off-ice officials are previously scheduled, they will be responsible for scorekeeper, timekeeper and penalty box duties.

F.7 Tie-Breaker Procedures

If after the end of the third period, the score is tied, there will be a one (1) minute intermission. The following procedure will be followed by the Playoff Coordinator:

F.7.1 The CBHL playoff tiebreaker criteria will consist of a five (5) minute "sudden death" overtime period, followed by a shoot-out to determine the game winner provided sufficient ice time can be obtained.

F.7.2 If less than thirteen (13) minutes remains in the scheduled game slot, the Playoff Coordinator will bypass the 5-minute sudden death overtime period and immediately invoke the penalty shot procedures F.6.3 through F.6.7 to determine a winner.

F.7.3 The officials shall take a separate lineup card to each of the team coaches and request that the coach list five shooters in the order that they are to shoot.

F.7.4 The officials shall see that the scorekeeper records the players in the order in which the coach has designated. This should be verified by the Playoff Coordinator.

F.7.5 Starting with the first shooter for the visiting team, and alternating home and visitor thereafter, a penalty shot shall be awarded to each player designated by the coach. At the discretion of the Playoff Coordinator, based on time remaining in the ice slot, the home and visitor penalty shots can be conducted simultaneously. After all five (5) players have shot, the team with the most goals wins the game.

F.7.6 If after all five (5) players have shot, and the score remains tied, the following shall transpire:

F.7.6.1 The officials will return to each team coach and advise him or her that it is now a "sudden victory" situation. The coaches will send out one (1) shooter at a time (visiting team first) to attempt a penalty shot. NO PLAYER may shoot a second time until all other players on that team have shot once (excluding goalkeepers and ejected players).

F.7.7 It is the responsibility of the Playoff Coordinator to maintain the correct order and current eligibility of the shooters. Players whose penalties have not expired prior to the start of the overtime shootout are ineligible to participate in the shootout.

F.7.8 The use of artificial noise makers such as air horns, cow bells and coin-filled bottles is strictly prohibited during CBHL playoff games. This rule will be enforced by the Playoff Coordinator.

SECTION IV - POLICY GUIDELINES

1. OBJECTIVES

In order to further the Capital Beltway Hockey League (CBHL) objectives set forth in the CBHL Constitution, data appropriate for measuring team and player development, in addition to team won-lost records, will be collected, assessed and used by the Commissioner and the Competition Committee in program evaluation and in league competition decisions.

2. BUDGET

The CBHL Budget and schedule of fees for the season will be presented by the CBHL Treasurer prior to July 1 for approval. The Treasurer shall report budget status periodically during the season and point out all deviations from budget.

3. REGISTRATION

In order to maximize ice time and competitive skating opportunities for all CBHL skaters, CBHL clubs should coordinate with other interested clubs to ensure that players not selected for travel teams receive information on other travel team opportunities.

4. STATISTICS

The CBHL Statistician will collect goal-differential statistics on all league games and statistics on other appropriate measures of team performance/development for use by the Commissioner, the Competition Committee and other interested parties.

5. TIER I PROGRAM

CBHL clubs will encourage qualified coaches and players to try out and participate in a Tier 1 program.

6. PROGRAM PLANNING

The CBHL will maintain a standing committee, appointed by the Commissioner, to investigate and make recommendations for establishing a uniform program at the League.

7. COMPETITION COMMITTEE

The Competition Committee will consist of coaches and selected club representatives. The purpose of the committee is to provide recommendations to the league and Commissioner for ways and means to improve the level of play and the balance of competition throughout the league.