



FHHA League Constitution



1.0 LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

1.01 THE CONSTITUTION

This document is a living, breathing reflection of the rules & regulations, processes, policies and governance currently in place at Forest Hill Hockey Association. It is 100% representative of the League and shall be recognized as the sole guideline of all things FHHA. All members of the League – from kids & parents to volunteers to Board Members to the League President – are expected to abide by the contents of the Constitution.

1.02 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may only be amended by a 2/3 majority decision of the Board of Directors present at an Annual General Meeting or an otherwise agreed to special meeting. Any proposed amendment(s) to the Constitution must be submitted to the Board of Directors not less than 3 weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

In this Constitution, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (a) "FHHA" refers to the official name of the League, which is Forest Hill Hockey Association;
- (b) "Board" refers to the Board of Directors of the League;
- (c) "Regulations" refers to all regulations passed by resolution of the Board of Directors.
- (d) "Special Resolution" refers to any resolution passed by the Board of Directors and confirmed with or without amendment by at least two-thirds (2/3) majority where a quorum of directors is present at a general meeting of the Board duly called for that purpose, or at an annual meeting.
- (e) In this Constitution, singular form words shall include the plural form and vice versa, where appropriate.
- (f) In this Constitution, masculine form words shall include the feminine form and vice versa, where appropriate.



3.0 LEAGUE STATUS

3.01 NAME

The League shall be known as the Forest Hill Hockey Association.

3.02 STATUS

FHHA is a member club in good standing with the North York Hockey League, and by extension, with Hockey Canada, the Ontario Hockey Federation and the Greater Toronto Hockey League.

3.03 MISSION STATEMENT

FHHA is committed to promoting and maintaining a safe, fair, responsible, and inclusive community house league hockey experience for any kids and families who wish to participate.

3.04 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- (a) The purpose and objective of FHHA shall be to provide a community-focused minor hockey experience that promotes House League, Select and various levels of GTHL hockey in the district of Forest Hill in the City of Toronto.
- (b) FHHA shall be a non-profit organization and shall carry out all its activities without pecuniary gain or profit to any of its players, volunteers or Directors.
- (c) FHHA shall exercise control, supervision and direction of its organization, the players and the volunteers in accordance with the terms of this Constitution or by any rules, regulations or policies made hereunder.

3.05 VOLUNTEERS

The League could not exist without the support of its volunteers. We are extremely grateful for the help we get in support of all our kids. We encourage all parents to volunteer in some capacity. Should you wish to do so, please indicate so on your child's registration.

3.06 POLICE CHECKS

The GTHL has made it mandatory for all coaches, assistant coaches, trainers, convenors and managers to have a police reference check, including vulnerable sector screening. All Team officials must submit



an application for a police check with the police service responsible for the jurisdiction in which he/she resides, and provide a copy of the results to FHHA before the season starts, whenever possible.

4.0 POLITICAL STRUCTURE

4.01 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (a) There shall be an Annual General Meeting within 60 days of the end of the League season.
- (b) Any member of the Forest Hill Hockey community, including parents of kids who play in the League, is entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Any Association member – defined as one parent or guardian of any player registered by the FHHA for the present season – may cast a vote at the Annual General Meeting. Every Director, convenor, coach and referee shall qualify as an Association member for the present season.
- (d) Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be posted on the FHHA Website and communicated to all Board members, parents and players at least 3 weeks prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- (e) The Annual General Meeting shall be held at a location to be designated by the President.
- (f) The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall be set by the President but shall include the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, a Treasurer’s Report, and any other matters of business pertaining to the League, including any proposed amendments to the Constitution.
- (g) Proxies shall not be allowed at the Annual General Meeting or any other meeting of the Members.
- (h) The President may call a special meeting of the Board of Directors when he/she considers it necessary to do so.
- (i) The President shall call a special meeting of the Board of Directors when requested to do so by the Board or when requested in writing by not less than 66% of Directors in good standing.
- (j) Notice of the special meeting shall be given in the same manner as is stipulated for an Annual General Meeting.



4.02 COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall, at the Annual General Meeting, elect the following:

- (a) President
- (b) Executive Vice President
- (c) Treasurer
- (d) Registrar
- (e) Up to 12 Directors, comprising various supervisory roles in FHHA

4.03 ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

- (a) Directors in good standing of FHHA who wish to run for the positions of President or Treasurer must have served as a member of the Board of Directors for at least two years prior to the election year.
- (b) The list of candidates standing for election as President or Treasurer is to be published in conjunction with notification of the Annual Meeting.
- (c) To be eligible for a Directorship role in FHHA, the person must also have a supervisory or management role at FHHA, be of good character and good standing in the community, be willing and available to attend a majority of the meetings of the Board, and is committed to the responsible governance of the Forest Hill Hockey Association.
- (d) The immediate Past President shall automatically be entitled to a seat on the Board of Directors for the subsequent year and each year thereafter until there is a new Past President.
- (e) The active President (as Chairman), the immediate Past President (if elected as a Director), the Vice-Presidents and the Secretary shall act as a Nominating Committee for the purpose of proposing a slate of Directors for consideration of the Annual General Meeting. The slate so proposed shall be posted and published with the Notice of Meeting. This Committee shall meet at the call of the President.
- (f) A member of the Board of Directors may be removed by:
 - (a) an affirmative vote of a 2/3 majority of the Members at a Special Meeting, *or*
 - (b) an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the Directors at a Board of Directors meeting where the Board of Directors are satisfied that it is in the best interests of FHHA that the Director be removed. Prior notice of the intention to remove a member from the Board must be provided to all Board members at least seven (7) business days prior to the meeting where the motion will be presented.



- (g) The Board of Directors may, at a duly constituted meeting, fill any vacancies on the Board of Directors by a majority vote of members when a quorum is present.

4.04 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

- (a) In addition to the report of the Nominating Committee, other nominations may be proposed by at least six (6) members in good standing of the FHHA.
- (b) Additional nomination must be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least 10 days prior to the Annual General Meeting, and must be accompanied by the nominees' written consent.
- (c) An Association member (as defined in Section 4.01c) may only propose one Director.
- (d) If further nominations, in proper order, have been received by the Secretary, a ballot will be held to determine the Director for the forthcoming term of office.
- (e) All members of the Association, in good standing, may cast a ballot. The number of votes cast on each ballot must be equal to the number of Directors recommended by the Nominating Committee.
- (f) Proxy ballots shall NOT be allowed.

4.05 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The first Board of Directors Meeting in any year shall take place within 6 weeks of the Annual General Meeting and shall be called by the President. The President shall advise each member of the newly elected Board of Directors of the place and time of the first meeting.

The purpose of the first meeting shall be:

- (g) The introduction of new Board members.
- (h) The establishment of standing committees and the appointment of members to serve on those committees.
- (i) The consideration of candidates for appointments to all non-elected positions in the League. Such candidates may come from recommendations from the various committees submitted at the end of the previous fiscal year, and from nominations initiated by the Board.
- (j) The President shall also recommend the dates of the regular Board of Directors meetings for the upcoming hockey year and the date for the next Annual General Meeting.



4.06 CHANGES TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The President may, where he considers it necessary, change the time and/or place of the regular Board of Directors meetings, or call such additional meetings as the President considers necessary by advising each of the Directors of such changes in time or place or of the new meetings.

4.07 VOTING AT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

- (a) All members of the Board of Directors are entitled to one vote, except the President, who shall not cast a vote on matters unless there is a tie where a quorum is present, whereby he/she is permitted to cast the deciding vote.
- (b) The President shall chair all Board of Directors meetings when available. When the President is unavailable, the meeting shall be chaired by the Executive Vice President, or any Director designated by a majority vote of the Board members present.
- (c) A Director who has a conflict of interest in a matter before the Board of Directors shall declare his conflict and shall refrain from voting on any matter relating to the conflict.
- (d) All matters shall be decided by a majority vote of the Directors present at duly called meetings, unless required otherwise by this Constitution.
- (e) All votes shall be by hand, unless requested by any member of the Board of Directors who may call upon a vote by secret ballot.
- (f) A quorum for the proper transaction of business shall be one more Director than 50% of the current number of active Directors.



4.08 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- (a) The overall management and administration of FHHA shall be vested with the Board of Directors, who have the power to take any and all actions empowered under this Constitution.
- (b) The President shall report to the Board of Directors as necessary or as required by the Board of Directors.
- (c) The Board of Directors shall have the exclusive jurisdiction over:
 - (i) All policy matters.
 - (ii) All matters not specifically dealt with by this Constitution.
 - (iii) All matters of significant importance to FHHA.
 - (iv) Approving annual budgets and any revisions thereto, as required.
 - (v) Approving and review of all committee budgets, as required.
 - (vi) Approving and review of all League fees, ice fees and any other fees associated with operating FHHA.
 - (vii) The Board of Directors may retain and employ any outside professionals or persons as they see fit when they consider it is in the FHHA's interest to do so.
 - (viii) The Board of Directors of FHHA shall have full authority to act within the scope of this Constitution.

4.09 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRESIDENT

The President shall have the responsibility and authority to:

- (a) Execute documents on behalf of FHHA.
- (b) Preside at all meetings when available, and to designate a Chair when not available.
- (c) Exercise the powers of the Board of Directors in case of an emergency (subsequent to such action, the President shall have his actions ratified by the appropriate Board of Directors).
- (d) Call all meetings as deemed necessary.
- (e) Administer League policies.
- (f) Negotiate ice contracts with both City-owned and private facilities, or delegate this function to another Director.
- (g) Oversee the issue of cheques for League expenditures within the budgets authorized by the Board of Directors.
- (h) Troubleshoot problems in all areas of the League's operations.



4.10 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PAST PRESIDENT

The Past President shall have the responsibility and authority to assist the President in all his functions – as may be delegated to the Past President – and any and all other matters which have been assigned to the Past President by the Board of Directors.

4.11 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

The Executive Vice President shall perform duties as assigned by the President, and/or the Board of Directors from time to time.

4.12 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

- (a) Keep a record of all monies received and disbursed, reconcile deposits of all monies in the FHHA bank account and oversee all disbursements by cheque as directed and approved by the Board of Directors.
- (b) Ensure that there is at least one FHHA bank account for the operation of FHHA (in addition to any other necessary investment vehicles approved by the Board of Directors) and that the only signatories to such accounts are the Treasurer and President.
- (c) Present at each Annual General Meeting an updated financial report.
- (d) Have the financial statements examined at the end of each FHHA year of operations.
- (e) Provide the Board of Directors with a preliminary budget for approval at the September Board meeting.
- (f) Provide the Board of Directors with a final budget for approval at the final Board meeting.
- (g) Provide the Board of Directors with a regular financial report, as requested.
- (h) Obtain or arrange to obtain appropriate coverage of all insurance policies for the operations of all aspects of FHHA .
- (i) Accept and carry out all other finance related matters and such other matters as the Board of Directors may require.
- (j) Comply with CRA requirements.



4.13 TERMS OF SERVICE

The term of office for members of the Board of Directors shall be for a period of one year. The President shall be elected for a term of two years.

4.14 COMMITTEES

- (a) Committees are appointed by, and report to, the Board of Directors.
- (b) Committees shall operate within the mandate assigned by the Board, and communicate with the Board through the reports of the committee chairman and through the minutes of committee meetings.
- (c) The mandate of each committee shall be defined by the task assigned by the Board and shall operate within a Board-approved budget.
- (d) The purpose of each committee shall be to focus in depth on particular areas of the League's operation and make appropriate recommendations to aid the Board in making informed decisions.

4.15 OTHER ROLES

- a) Head of Sponsorship – The head of sponsorship shall be a non-director position whose role it will be to handle all sponsorship related duties, and oversee the procurement of sponsors for the House League, Learn To Play, and Select teams, as well as any other sponsorship avenues that may arise. This may and will include online content for the website.
- b) Ombudsman – The ombudsman will be a non-board position whose impartial role it will be to serve as an intermediary in the handling of issues that, for whatever reason, could not be resolved through the usual processes in place.

4.16 RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Board of Directors may pass or amend such Rules and Regulations as they consider appropriate and necessary for the proper function and in the best interests of FHHA.

It is expected that all changes or amendments to Rules and Regulations, as passed by the Board of Directors, shall be reflected in the League Constitution, and, if required, broadcast to league constituents via email and posted on the FHHA website.

For more information regarding all rules and regulations of FHHA House League, please visit <http://fhha.org/fhha/docs/FHHAHouseLeagueRules2010.pdf>

For the latest amendments to House League rules and regulations, please visit <http://fhha.org/fhha/houseleagueRuleAmend.aspx>.



5.0 CODE OF CONDUCT

5.01 INTRODUCTION

The FHHA Code of Conduct, adapted from other league Codes of Conduct which Forest Hill Hockey Association respects and adheres to, has been developed to aid coaches and other volunteers in achieving and maintaining a level of behavior that will allow the young athletes in our organization to grow, enhance their self-confidence and learn about becoming a productive, contributing member of our community.

Forest Hill Hockey Association is a community organization whose goal is to provide a fun, safe and thoroughly enjoyable hockey experience for every player and his/her family.

At the crux of this is the athlete/coach relationship. Coaches play a critical role in the personal and athletic development of their young athletes. Coaches must also recognize that they are conduits through which the values and goals of a sport organization are channeled. Thus, how a kid regards his/her sport is often dependent on the behavior of the coach.

Coaches must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it or mismanage it in any way that could be detrimental to the development of any kids.

It is assumed that these people will act in cooperation with one another to develop and nurture a positive environment for the kids and their families.

Coaching is a privilege, not a right, and any coach deemed to not be in compliance with the FHHA code of conduct will not be granted coaching status within the League, or will be removed from any existing role he/she has within the League.

5.02 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

Although this code is directed toward coaching conduct in general, it equally applies to other volunteer members of the FHHA family – i.e. convenors, trainers, managers and others.

5.03 COMMITMENT

As a commitment to excellence in coaching at Forest Hill Hockey Association, each coach –including House League, Select and “A” – as well as all house league convenors, Select managers and Select trainers, will be asked to read and sign a copy of the FHHA Code of Conduct prior to becoming officially acknowledged as a given team’s coach. Failure to sign will result in the immediate disqualification of the candidate. There will be no exceptions made for any reason.



5.04 RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL FHHA COACHES

- a) Treat all kids and their families fairly within the context of their activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
- b) Consistently display high personal standards and project a favourable image of the game of hockey and of coaching:
 - (i) Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches, convenors, officials or players on any team.
 - (ii) Abstain from drinking alcohol, being under the influence of alcohol or any drug, encouraging or facilitating the use of alcohol or drugs by any of the kids at any time while at the arena. Drinking alcohol on a team bus or at team events (sanctioned or otherwise) in public is permitted if done reasonably and in moderation. Remember, coaches are ALWAYS representatives of the League and role models for their kids.
 - (iii) Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of his/her duties as a coach.
- c) Ensure, to the best of his/her ability, that the kids are enjoying the game of hockey in a fun, safe environment at all times.
- d) Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the kids, and educate them as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment and fair play.
- e) Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in any diagnoses, treatment and management of a player's medical or psychological issues. Consider the player's future health and well-being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured player's ability to continue playing or practicing.
- f) Always treat opponents and officials with due respect, both in victory and defeat, and encourage the kids to do the same. Actively encourage the kids to uphold the rules of hockey and the spirit of such rules.
- g) Openly communicate and co-operate with the players' parents or legal guardians – involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development – and encourage all players to maintain open and constant communication with his/her parents regarding all areas of their hockey experience at Forest Hill.
- h) Openly encourage parents or legal guardians of Select players to accompany their kids and participate in out-of-town tournaments or other team-sanctioned events.



5.05 FAIR PLAY CODE FOR HOUSE LEAGUE COACHES

- (a) Being a coach means being reasonable. Players develop at different rates.
- (b) Shout encouragement only when the game is on. Discuss mistakes in a positive, constructive manner quietly one-on-one on the bench or after the game. Follow that with praise for things done right.
- (c) Give every player the same chance. FHHA House League is not about the elite player, it's about getting everyone involved as a part of a team, and ensuring that each kid can't wait to come back next week to play again.
- (d) Treat the referees and convenors the way you expect your players to treat you. With Respect.
- (e) Striving to win is not a sin. Striving to win every time, at all costs, means your players are not getting enough different opportunities. Everyone should get the chance to play defense, forward and goalie if they so choose.
- (f) Have fun. You are a volunteer coach, in a volunteer organization, and if it isn't fun for you, it will definitely not be fun for the kids on your team.
- (g) If you win, have ice cream. If you lose, have ice cream. If you treat winning and losing the same, you will teach your team a much more valuable lesson.
- (h) The center of attention should be the players at all times – not the adults.
- (i) Any coach who is made aware of a player needing accommodation due to a reported disability must immediately advise the Junior/Senior Vice President of House League so that the league can co-ordinate the necessary and reasonable accommodations.



5.06 FAIR PLAY CODE FOR SELECT COACHES

- (a) Be reasonable when scheduling practices, remembering that the players and their families have other interests and obligations as well as hockey.
- (b) Teach your players to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents at all times.
- (c) Ensure that all players get equal instruction, opportunity, support and roughly the same amount of playing time.
- (d) Do not ridicule or yell at your kids for making mistakes or for performing poorly. Remember that kids play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves, even in more competitive environments with more pressure.
- (e) Help the league, to the best of your ability, to ensure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the players' ages and abilities.
- (f) Remember that all kids need a coach they can respect. Be a positive role model and set a good example, regardless of whether your team wins or loses.
- (g) Any coach or other team staff member who is made aware of a player with a declared disability requiring accommodation must immediately inform the Head of the Select Committee, who, along with the Board, will endeavour to provide reasonable accommodations based on the information available.

5.07 24-HOUR RULE FOR PARENTS

There may be incidents which occur on or off the ice that parents would like to discuss with coaches, conveners or a Board member. In the absence of a true emergency, before any such conversation takes place, please ensure that you wait 24 hours before approaching ANY League volunteer regarding any issue, big or small.

FHHA volunteers have all been instructed to adhere to this policy.

Given this amount of "breathing time", it is our experience that cooler heads prevail and, in fact, many issues disappear altogether.



5.08 SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING POLICY

This policy will encompass public communications through such internet mediums and websites as Twitter, Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Google+, Foursquare and any other social media network that allows users to communicate online. Whereas the League respects your right to express your views publicly (i.e. posting a shot of your child's highlight on Facebook), FHHA remains aware of the potential negative issues that social media and networking can present.

As a result, ALL League volunteers must not communicate personally online with players via any social media network.

Further, there are to be no team websites including personal player information available to the public. Teams are free to create team websites for the parents' and players' viewing entertainment, but it must be a closed site, requiring login and password credentials for access.



6.0 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

6.01 FHHA LOGOS AND CRESTS

The official FHHA crests and logo, and derivations thereof, are the sole property of FHHA and cannot be used without the express written permission of the President and The Board of Directors of the Forest Hill Hockey Association.

No one shall use the official FHHA crest or logos, or represent themselves as being affiliated with, or sanctioned by, FHHA for commercial purposes without the express written permission of the Board of Directors.

No person shall promote any products as being official FHHA products or which bear the FHHA name, logo or other intellectual property without the express written permission of the Board of Directors. In considering whether to grant permission to use the official FHHA crest or sell official FHHA products, the Board of Directors shall only do so where they consider that it would be in the best interests of FHHA to grant such permission.



7.0 LEARN TO PLAY PROGRAM

7.01 LEARN TO PLAY GOAL

Our goal is to provide an opportunity for younger kids, with skating ability, to develop some fundamental hockey skills and be exposed to team play, puck control, drills and skills needed to take the next step in their hockey development and provide the self-confidence needed to enjoy the game of hockey.

7.02 REGISTRATION

- (a) *Format* – Registration for FHHA Learn To Play (“LTP”) is conducted online only using the Hockey Canada registration software found on the FHHA website.
- (b) *Registration Period* – The LTP registration period typically begins in April. Open registration then ensues until the program reaches forty (40) kids being the maximum number of players. More information on the registration process is available on the FHHA website.
- (c) *Waiting List* – Should the LRP program reach the maximum 40 players, registrants are encouraged to contact the league registrar to get on a waiting list for that division. The waiting list will be administered on a first come, first served basis.
- (d) *Acceptance* – Official acceptances will be sent via e-mail to the address provided at registration. Players not accepted will be contacted by e-mail as early as possible.
- (e) *Refund Policy* – As noted clearly on the FHHA website, our refund policy is as follows:
 - i) Registered players who withdraw before July 1 will receive a full refund (less a \$50 administration fee)
 - ii) Refunds will be given after July 1 (less \$100 administration fee) only if a replacement player is found in the same division
 - iii) No refunds will be given after September 1.

7.03 SAFETY AND UNIFORMS

It is mandatory that protective equipment be worn at all times by all LTP players. No player will be allowed on the ice or on the bench without full C.S.A. approved equipment, including a neck guard and a helmet with a full facemask. While it is not mandatory, FHHA also strongly recommends that all players wear an approved mouth guard to reduce the risk of concussions. All players will receive a jersey and matching socks.



7.04 PLAYERS WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with the Ontario Human Rights Code, FHHA will strive to accommodate registered players with disabilities. While every case is different and requires different measures, the FHHA will take every reasonable measure, with the help of the family, to provide an equal opportunity and to accommodate all registered players, regardless of a player's disability or condition.



8.0 HOUSE LEAGUE HOCKEY PROGRAM

8.01 HOUSE LEAGUE GOAL

Our goal is to provide an opportunity for friendly competition, to promote good sportsmanship, team play, skill development, love of hockey, and, of course, social interaction on the ice, in the dressing room and in the stands.

8.02 REGISTRATION

- (f) *Format* – Registration for FHHA House League is conducted online only using the Hockey Canada registration software found on the FHHA website.
- (g) *Registration Period* – The House League registration period typically begins in April with an early bird incentive window for returning players to register at a discounted cost. Open registration then ensues until the divisions reach their designated maximum number of players. More information on the registration process is available on the FHHA website.
- (h) *Waiting List* – Should a division fill up, registrants are encouraged to contact the league registrar to get on a waiting list for that division. The waiting list will be administered on a first come, first served basis. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this format, regardless of sponsorship, Select or any other factors.
- (i) *Acceptance* – Official acceptances will be sent via e-mail by the Registrar to the address provided at registration. Players not accepted will be contacted by e-mail as early as possible.
- (j) *Refund Policy* – As noted clearly on the FHHA website, our refund policy is as follows:
 - i) Registered players who withdraw before July 1 will receive a full refund (less a \$50 administration fee)
 - ii) Refunds will be given after July 1 (less \$100 administration fee) only if a replacement player is found in the same division
 - iii) No refunds will be given after September 1.

8.03 SAFETY AND UNIFORMS

It is mandatory that protective equipment be worn at all times by all players. No player will be allowed on the ice or on the bench without full C.S.A. approved equipment, including a neck guard and a helmet with a full facemask. While it is not mandatory, FHHA also strongly recommends that all players wear an approved mouth guard to reduce the risk of concussions. All players will receive a jersey and matching socks from the FHHA.



8.04 EQUAL ICE TIME

At FHHA, we strictly enforce an equal ice time policy, which entitles all players, regardless of skill level, to equal ice time to the greatest extent possible. All junior divisions also use a buzzer to manage shifts, again, to facilitate equal ice time.

8.05 DIVISIONS

House League is divided into the following divisions:

Junior Divisions

Squirt
Novice
Atom

Senior Divisions

Peewee
Bantam
Midget

Each division comprises two birth years of players. As a result, kids will alternate between being the older group and the younger group every year.

8.06 THREE-GOAL RULE

To level the playing field and ensure all players have a greater opportunity to contribute, no player is allowed to score more than three goals in a game in the Junior Divisions. Once a player has reached that threshold, he/she cannot score anymore. Should a player with three goals score again, it will not be counted.

As noted in Section 4.14, all rules and regulations of FHHA House League are available on the FHHA website. Please visit <http://fhha.org/fhha/docs/FHHAHouseLeagueRules2010.pdf> to view them.

For the latest amendments to House League rules and regulations, please visit <http://fhha.org/fhha/houseleagueRuleAmend.aspx>.

8.07 PLAYERS WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with the Ontario Human Rights Code, FHHA will strive to accommodate registered players with disabilities. While every case is different and requires different measures, the FHHA will take every reasonable measure, with the help of the family, to provide an equal opportunity and to accommodate all registered players, regardless of a player's disability or condition.



9.0 SELECT LEVEL HOCKEY PROGRAM

9.01 SELECT PROGRAM PURPOSE AND GOALS

The purpose of our Select program is to provide an additional opportunity for our more skilled and enthusiastic players to play higher level hockey in a more challenging and competitive environment. The goal of the Select program is to foster good sportsmanship, help develop positive social skills, encourage and teach the value of teamwork and to provide an environment that enables the progression of both individual and team hockey skills in each player.

With this in mind, it is also our hope that FH Select becomes the conduit that helps create lifelong friendships.

9.02 SAFETY AND UNIFORMS

No player will be allowed on the ice or on the bench without full C.S.A. approved equipment, including a neck guard and a helmet with a full facemask. While it is not mandatory, FHHA also strongly recommends that all players wear an approved mouth guard to reduce the risk of concussions. All players will receive home and away sets of jerseys and matching socks by the FHHA.

9.03 SELECT HOCKEY STRUCTURE

FH has the intention of icing a Select team for each birth year, starting at Tyke, through to Midget Senior, inclusive (see list below). Where the numbers support it, and there is suitable coaching and ice time available, FH will ice multiple teams in a given birth year. The following is a listing of all Select teams at FH:

- Tyke
- Minor Novice
- Novice
- Minor Atom
- Atom
- Minor Peewee
- Peewee
- Minor Bantam
- Bantam
- Minor Midget
- Midget Junior
- Midget Senior



9.04 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Only those players who have registered to play FHHA House League prior to the first tryout date, and have received official confirmation of acceptance from the Registrar will be allowed to try out for a Select team.

Under normal circumstances, a player may only try out for the Select team that corresponds to the player's birth year. Exceptions to this rule are made only if ALL of the following criteria are met:

- (a) the Select team corresponding to the player's birth year does not have an opening and is not inclined to create one for the sole purpose of adding the player
- (b) the Select team one year older than the player's regular birth year team roster is short or otherwise needs to apply to the NYHL for a roster exemption
- (c) the Select team one year older than the player's regular birth year team did not cut anyone after tryouts
- (d) The player in question is at least middle of the pack in terms of skill level amongst the players on the older team's roster
- (e) The player in question has prior experience playing with older kids in a competitive environment (i.e. Select, GTHL or equivalent)

9.05 GAMES

FHHA is a member in good standing of the North York Hockey League. In terms of Select games played, the structure is as follows:

- (a) Fall Season – All FH Select teams participate in a Fall regular season NYHL schedule – typically 10 games, starting in early October – which is used to more suitably place teams in the appropriate tier with other teams of similar strength.
- (b) Winter Season – Teams then play a Winter regular season schedule, which typically consists of eight games.
- (c) Playoffs – All teams make the NYHL playoffs. The first round of the playoffs is a round robin, whereby each team plays three other teams. Depending on the number of teams in each tier, teams are placed in 'A' and 'B' Divisions. For example, in a standard eight-team tier, 'A' Division would consist of the teams who finished 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th in the Winter season, and 'B' division would be the 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th place teams. The top two teams in each round robin Division then advance to the Semi-finals, whereby the top team in the 'A' Division of the round robin plays the 2nd place team in the 'B' Division (and vice versa), in a 'first-to-4-points' series. The two winners of the semi-final series' then play in the NYHL Championship using the same 'first-to-4-points' series format.



- (d) NYHL Exhibition Games – The NYHL may schedule exhibition games from time to time. These are used to get a better sense of the relative competitiveness of teams so that the League can more accurately tier teams in the Winter season. Select teams are also free to schedule their own exhibition games (with another NYHL team or otherwise), subject to certain NYHL restrictions and regulations.
- (e) Tournaments – Select teams typically enter one out-of-town tournament, and up to 3 local tournaments per year. Tournaments typically are a guaranteed minimum of three games over the course of a weekend, and, depending on results, could be as many as five.

While the League recognizes that tournaments are unique opportunities for Select kids and accommodations are often made for those who have a conflict between House League and a Select tournament game, the prevailing sentiment at Forest Hill is that House League commitments must remain a priority. All reasonable measures of accommodation for House League must be exhausted before permission to miss a House League game is granted.

9.06 GAME AND PRACTICE FREQUENCY

Typically, an average of one (1) Select game and one (1) Select practice will take place each week between Sunday and Thursday. However, Select game scheduling is done by the NYHL, so there MAY be weeks where a team is scheduled more than once, and other weeks in which a team has no games scheduled. Unless emergency circumstances exist and there is no choice, regular season NYHL games will never be scheduled on a Friday or a Saturday.

9.07 HEAD COACH SELECTION PROCESS

- (a) At least one member of the Select Committee must meet with each coaching candidate to ensure that the candidate:
 - (i) is suitable for the position from a hockey perspective
 - (ii) has appropriate previous coaching experience, preferably as head coach
 - (iii) is age-group appropriate in terms of the players
 - (iv) is PREPARED with a coaching plan
 - (v) has the requisite social and communication skills to deal with both players and parents in the most effective manner
- (b) The Select Committee will compile a list of all candidates and determine who they collectively feel are the best candidates for each age group.
- (c) Once recommendations are agreed upon by the Select Committee, the Committee will present the candidates to the Board for approval.



- (d) Upon Board approval, the League will publish the names of the head coaches for each team via e-mail blast and on the FHHA website.

9.08 HEAD COACH TENURE AND EVALUATION

There is no official restriction on the length of any person's tenure as the head coach of any Select team. Every head coach will be evaluated by the Select Committee following each season – using overall success of the team based on FHHA Select Program goals outlined in 9.01, feedback obtained from volunteer surveys and observations made by the members of the Select Committee.

As such, no coach should have the expectation that they will be chosen as head coach the following season simply by virtue of being the incumbent. All recommendations for head coaching positions will be made based on what the Select Committee deems best for each particular team and its circumstances.

9.09 PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS

- (a) While the player personnel process is typically very subjective, the Select Committee recognizes that there are many reasons for a given player to be chosen over another. As such, head coaches have full autonomy in choosing the players on his/her Select team. The League entrusts that all player decisions will be made in the spirit of choosing the best group available – where the many different roles and skillsets are accounted for – and not necessarily the 15 individuals who skate the best.
- (b) While it is not mandatory, the Select Committee encourages difficult decisions – such as last cuts or goalie decisions – to be delegated to a trusted 3rd party with no vested interest in the decision. The Select Committee will be made available to provide this kind of insight should the need arise.
- (c) No player should have the expectation that they will be automatically chosen to a team simply by virtue of having been on the team the previous year.



10.0 "A" LEVEL HOCKEY

10.01 "A" HOCKEY STRUCTURE

Beginning in 2013-2014 season, FHHA will ice its very first competitive "A" team, that will compete in the Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL). This "A" team is for the 2001 birth year.

This team, and all other future "A" or "AA" teams, will be governed by the rules and regulations set forth by the GTHL. A complete listing of GTHL Rules can be found at <http://www.gthlcanada.com/page/rulebook>.

It is the FHHA's intention, upon successful completion of the 2001 team's inaugural season, to add to the number of "A" teams representing FHHA in the GTHL as demand permits. Once a threshold of three (3) Forest Hill teams is registered in the GTHL, a permanent position will be created on the Board, whereby the appointee will be the official liaison with the GTHL for FHHA.

The number of GTHL teams representing Forest Hill will be determined on a year by year basis, depending on demand and ice availability.

10.02 "A" PROGRAM PURPOSE AND GOALS

The purpose of the "A" program is to provide an opportunity to those wishing to play more hockey, more often and a strictly competitive environment. The goal of the "A" program is to also foster good sportsmanship, help develop positive social skills, encourage and teach the value of teamwork and to provide an environment that enables the progression of both individual and team hockey skills in each player.

There is generally more emphasis placed on winning than in the Select program.

10.03 FINANCES AND TEAM FEES

All financial dealings will be kept separate from FHHA House League/Select, and administered by the League Treasurer, in accordance with the policies already in place at FHHA.

Team fees will be determined by the respective team staff. A portion of the team fees will be paid to "FHHA GTHL" program, and the rest will be used by the team to pay for its day-to-day operations.

10.04 SAFETY AND UNIFORMS

No "A" player will be allowed on the ice or on the bench without full C.S.A. approved equipment, including a neck guard and a helmet with a full facemask. While it is not mandatory, FHHA also strongly recommends that all players wear an approved mouth guard to reduce the risk of concussions. All players will receive home and away sets of jerseys and matching socks.



10.05 BODY CONTACT

There is no body checking in game play for "A" Teams until Minor Bantam.

10.06 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Subject to GTHL eligibility rules, any player who wishes to try out for "A" team may do so.

All Teams must register each player on a Registration Certificate. A player is not eligible to participate in any League or Tournament game until the player is properly registered with the GTHL. The GTHL Executive Director shall have the authority to decline the Registration of any player who is not in compliance with GTHL, OHF and Hockey Canada Regulations.

The last day in any Season for registration of a Registration Certificate is January 15th.

If a Club is utilizing "online" registration, that Club is responsible for ensuring that each Registration Certificate is complete in its entirety and shall keep the Registration Certificates on file for a period of 3 years.

"Online" registration will not take place until the Club's President, General Manager or Registrar is in possession of the properly completed Registration Certificate. Violation of this regulation will result in that team losing one player's registration certificate for the current season or one player's registration certificate for the following season if the total allotment has been used for the current season and the Club will be fined \$500.00.

10.07 TEAM AFFILIATIONS

- (a) "A" teams may affiliate downward with a Select team or with an "A" team in a younger division, or up to 19 players at large from House League Club that are from the same age division or lower.
- (b) When a team is affiliating downward with a Select Team or 19 GTHL registered House League players at large, the names of those players must be filed with the GTHL office by November 15th. If a player is listed on a game sheet as an affiliated player prior to November 15th, the player must be included in the November 15th listing.
- (c) An affiliate player may play for a "A" team any time, to a **maximum of ten (10) games**. However, if the player's registered team completes its regular season and playoffs before the player's affiliated team, the player may thereafter affiliate an unlimited number of times.
- (d) The Team Official responsible for completing the game sheet for any game in which a player participates as an affiliated player shall place the designation "AP" or "API" beside the name of such player, as appropriate, depending on whether or not the player is an import.



10.08 TRYOUTS

- (a) GTHL Tryouts will start on the Monday immediately following the OHF Championship weekend. FHHA "A" Teams will only announce tryouts once they are permitted to do so by the GTHL.
- (b) Neither the FHHA nor its "A" Teams shall advertise the time, date or location of tryouts, or the name of Team Officials for the following season prior to one week before the scheduled commencement of tryouts. For this purpose, any form of printed solicitation (including promotional articles about existing Teams), whether public or private, that contains this information shall be considered as a form of advertising.
- (c) Neither the FHHA nor its "A" Teams shall advertise "Player Wanted" anywhere until after the 15-day tryout period has concluded.
- (d) No tryouts shall be scheduled prior to 5:00 p.m. on a school day.
- (e) After the entire 15-day tryout period has ended, Teams may conduct practices and may continue to fill any positions that are available on their rosters.
- (f) During the Season, no player who is registered with one Team will be entitled to participate in any practice or on-ice skating session conducted by or that is organized by or on behalf of a Team Official with any Team with whom that player is not registered, except for players from Lower Affiliate Teams participating with their Higher Affiliate Teams.
- (g) The penalty for conducting tryouts and practices or any on-ice sessions outside the allocated time period, or allowing players registered with another Team to participate in practices or on-ice sessions as provided by this Rule can include:
 - i. the Head Coach shall be suspended; up to one year as is determined by a Special Committee, and
 - ii. the Club may be fined up to \$2,000.
- (h) Each "A" team will be responsible for reimbursing the FHHA for the cost of tryout ice, which will be provided by FHHA.



10.09 GAMES

- (a) "A" GTHL Regular Season – The GTHL consists of 36 games, starting in September.
- (b) GTHL Playoff structure is as follows:

Number of Teams in Group	Number of Teams making Playoffs
5-7	4
8-9	6
10-16	8
17 or more	12

Only players who are registered with the League Office on Registration Certificates will be recognized in AAA, AA and A playoffs. Any Teams having player(s) who are not registered with the League Office are ineligible for playoff or playdown competition.

- (c) Tournaments typically are a guaranteed minimum of three games over the course of a weekend, and, depending on results, could be as many as five.

"A" Teams have 3 exclusion times that they can use per year provided the GTHL is informed at least 5 weeks in advance. They may therefore play 3 tournaments in season (either local or away) but may play pre and post season tournaments or a Xmas tournament that do not count towards those three.

10.09 MISCELLANEOUS

- (a) ANY use of FHHA logos requires board approval and may not be used without the expressed written consent of the FHHA board.
- (b) ALL GTHL teams must use FHHA approved suppliers unless an exception has been granted by the organization.
- (c) ALL rules, policies, and Codes of Conduct in effect at FHHA and outlined in this Constitution are applicable to any and all GTHL teams, and includes all players, parents and staff.