

**HOCKEY CANADA  
INFORMATION MANUAL  
FOR THE CANADIAN  
DEVELOPMENT MODEL**



**AUGUST 2006**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Canadian Development Model (CDM) as we know it today is the result of over 3 ½ years of hard work by many dedicated volunteers and staff at both the Branch and National level. Delegates to the 2005 Hockey Canada AGM in Saint John, New Brunswick approved the CDM which included a series of recommendations affecting players aged fourteen (14) to seventeen (17) years of age. More importantly, they approved a philosophical direction for the development of players within the club system in Canada.

Since the 2005 Hockey Canada AGM, the CDM has received substantial exposure in the media as well as a complete and thorough review by parents, coaches and administrators which has resulted in a host of questions, comments and general observations on the CDM.

Hockey Canada, since the 2005 AGM, has made modifications to the CDM in order for it to be implemented in its inaugural season. As the modifications were made through the summer of 2005 and into the season there was a need to officially resolve and ratify the decisions for the 2006-2007 season. This was done at the 2006 Hockey Canada AGM in St. John's, Newfoundland. The three significant changes to last year's manual are affiliation procedures for players sixteen (16) years old and older, the sixteen (16) year old player limits and the removal of the grandfathering procedure.

This document serves two main purposes:

- This document will be the official reference document of the CDM. However, should an error or discrepancy arise from the reading of this document, the CDM Policy and official minutes of this Association's meetings will serve as the base for interpretation.
- The information contained here will hopefully answer the majority of questions that have been asked and will provide the administrators the direction and answers they need as the CDM is implemented.

This document has been structured in such a way that information can be quickly located as well as updated as we move forward. Sections are divided along the themes of the CDM, affiliations, grandfathering, etc. and the impact on specific age groups and the FAQ's attempt to answer most, if not all, of the questions. The regulations covering the CDM are in the last section so hopefully this document is one stop shopping.

It is important to understand that areas of the CDM are still incomplete and as such this is a working document. There will not be changes to the information contained in this document; however, there are other sections that still need to be formalized over the next two years.

Lastly, if as a reader of this document you are confused or do not understand the information please contact the Executive Director of your respective provincial Branch for clarification.

## **CANADIAN DEVELOPMENT MODEL PHILOSOPHY PUTTING CANADA AND THE CANADIAN SYSTEM FIRST**

The Canadian Development Model was developed out of the desire to create a uniform system for the progression and development of Canadian hockey players within the club system in Canada.

Our objective is to develop a Canadian hockey model that provides Canadian players with a program that meets their entire hockey and education needs within Canada.

We have always believed that the current Canadian development system is the best in the world and our success on the world stage supports that statement, but there are a few things to keep in mind.

We cannot rely on past successes. We must always strive to improve what we do, not just to win gold medals, but rather that we continue to be world sports leaders and offer our participants the opportunities needed to be the best that they can be while always remembering to put the athlete first in making him or her a better person.

We must also do a much better job of **telling** people we have the best programs and the best options for the participants. That is why you will see a comprehensive communications strategy that will get the message out that we are the best and are striving to stay the best. We want our players to have all the information when they choose what path their hockey career should take. We firmly believe that when they have all the information they will choose Canada and the Canadian system.

Is there work to do? Of course. We need to expand education opportunities. We need more options for players graduating from Junior hockey. We need to keep examining everything from recreational to high performance hockey to ensure that what we are doing is the best it can be, regardless of the stream, and that it is in the participant's best interests.

## GLOSSARY / DEFINITIONS

**Affiliate:** a player from a lower category/division team that has been called up by a higher category/division team so that the higher category/division may dress the maximum number of players allowable for a game in accordance with the Playing Rules. This is to be done in emergency circumstances or for evaluation purposes and must be done in accordance with the direction set out in this document.

**CDM:** abbreviated form for “Canadian Development Model”

**CHL:** abbreviated form for the “Canadian Hockey League”

**Club Affiliation:** The practice of affiliating one team to another team within a club structure. For example: the Swift Current Midget AA Hurricanes are affiliated as a team to the Swift Current Midget AAA Legionnaires.

**FAQ:** abbreviated form for “Frequently Asked Questions”

**Grandfathering:** a term of reference used when permitting a player to contravene the regulations based on his player status the previous season. For example, if under the new regulations a player becomes ineligible to play at the same level at which he played last year – allowing the player to continue with the same player status is known as grandfathering.

**Highest Level of Midget Hockey:** as determined by the Branch, this is the top level of Midget hockey available to the player. It may take the form of Midget AAA, Major Midget, etc. as per the respective Branch’s designation.

**Junior Hockey:** open to players aged twenty (20) years and younger, up to and including players sixteen (16) years of age, where permissible, during the current playing season. In general the term “Junior” shall refer to all categories of Junior hockey. Where required, the specific categories shall be Major Junior, Junior A, Junior B, Junior C and Junior D and shall be identified accordingly.

**Local Player:** a player who resides and has resided in the same community as the team is based and has played his Minor hockey in the same community as the team is based.

**Major Junior:** teams playing at the CHL level under the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL), and Western Hockey League (WHL).

**Midget AAA:** For reference purposes, this shall be the designation for the highest level of Midget hockey played in any Branch.

**Permanent Affiliate:** a player who registers on a lower category team for the express purpose of affiliating on a full time basis to the higher category team (not permitted).

**Register:** to have completed and signed a Hockey Canada player's registration certificate or equivalent (i.e. Branch form/roster) for the current playing season. To register means to be a member of a team which is a member of a Branch which is a member of Hockey Canada.

**Rural/Remote Provision:** a provision in the CDM to ensure that 15 & 16 year old players who live in a rural/remote area (as designated by the Branch) are allowed to play Junior C/D hockey where there is no access or no reasonable access to Midget hockey for 15 year olds and no access or reasonable access to Midget AAA for 16 year olds. Branches, at their discretion, are encouraged to use this provision in such a way that players are not forced from the game because of a lack of a Midget program in a rural area.

**Special Player Affiliation:** The practice of affiliating nineteen (19) named players (as opposed to naming a team) from a lower division or category from any number of teams within a geographic area designated by the Branch.

## **AFFILIATION**

### ***GUIDING PRINCIPLES***

A fundamental principle that exists in our club structure is the ability to affiliate to a team of a higher age classification or category. The concept of affiliation and the reason for the ability to affiliate has become somewhat convoluted in recent years with the practice of using permanent affiliates and some teams not following proper protocols when affiliating or calling up a player. Hockey Canada, through regulation change, has tried to address and will continue to address the affiliation process. For example, the practice of using permanent affiliates has been stopped and Junior teams are being allowed two (2) more active cards to reduce their dependence on affiliates in general and permanent affiliates in particular.

### ***THE FOURTEEN (14) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

There will be no affiliation to Junior hockey for players fourteen (14) years of age and younger – no exceptions.

### ***THE FIFTEEN (15) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

There will be limited affiliation to Junior hockey for players fifteen (15) years of age. Affiliation will be completed under the following provisions (F.51 c):

Affiliation of first year eligible Midget players (fifteen (15) year olds) to Major Junior and Junior A and B hockey teams shall be permitted with the following restrictions:

1. A team may affiliate no more than five (5) players for up to a maximum of five (5) games during the season.
2. The player must sign a special affiliation form with the permission of his regular team.
3. A player shall NOT be called up, except under emergency conditions, when the player's regular team is playing or when the player has semester exams at school.
4. When the player's regular team is finished its season, the player may join the Major Junior/Junior A or B team for the balance of its season.
5. In Junior hockey, the team would be restricted to calling up one (1) fifteen (15) year old per game and this player would count towards its total of sixteen (16) year olds allowed to dress.
6. A player may specially affiliate to a Major Junior team and a Junior A or B team in the same season and play a maximum of five (5) games with each team if he so chooses and his regular team agrees.



7. Should a Major Junior League choose not to utilize this provision, the player would NOT be eligible to affiliate to two (2) other Junior teams in that League or region.
8. This affiliation process is unique to Major Junior and Junior A & B hockey and the Branches are encouraged to keep this process consistent and not to have too many variations at the Branch level. Players have to be on an affiliation list in order to play and there can be no more than five (5) players (fifteen (15) years of age) per team. A team may add to the affiliation list to reach the five (5), but you cannot remove players and add another as a replacement. If a player is removed from a team, he cannot go to another team (unless it is a Major Junior team as per the above provisions). These players fall under the special affiliate classification. The final date to add names to this list is January 15.

### ***THE SIXTEEN (16) YEAR OLD PLAYER AND OLDER***

A player sixteen (16) years of age or older may be named as an affiliate player with both a Major Junior team and either a Junior A or a Junior B team in the same season.

A player sixteen (16) years of age or older may affiliate a total of ten (10) games during the regular season and playoffs with each of his affiliated teams as rostered in i). However, if his registered team completes its regular season and playoffs before his affiliated team or teams, he may thereafter affiliate an unlimited number of times.

Any player affiliation as a result of the National Junior / Under 17 / CWG Events / World Junior A Challenge will not count in the ten (10) game total per team.

Affiliation of goaltenders will be governed by rule E. 36 (b).

- E. 36 (b) Appearance of a registered player's name on the official game report of a game shall be considered participation in the game except in the case of an alternate goalkeeper, in which case actual participation only shall be considered as taking part in the game, and such participation shall be specifically noted on the official game report.

Therefore, a goaltender must actually participate in a game for it to be considered an affiliate game played.

## ***AFFILIATION FAQ***

### **Is affiliation the same for Minor to Minor as Minor to Junior and Junior to Junior?**

No. Minor to Minor affiliation will continue to affiliate according to Regulation E of the Hockey Canada Constitution. Minor to Junior and Junior to Junior affiliation will follow Regulation F.51 of the Hockey Canada Constitution also found in Appendix 1 of this document.

### **Am I still restricted in the number of games I can play as an affiliate after January 10?**

Yes, specifically for Minor to Minor affiliation. A player is restricted to five (5) games after January 10. For Minor to Junior and Junior to Junior affiliation the players are restricted to ten (10) games with the affiliate team(s) from the beginning of the season to end. The January 10 date does not affect when the ten (10) games may be used.

### **Is there still a maximum number of sixteen (16) year old players that can dress for a game?**

No. There is a maximum number of sixteen (16) year old players that can register with a Junior team; however, a Junior team may dress more than that maximum of sixteen year old players through affiliation.

### **What is a permanent affiliate?**

A player who registers on a lower category team for the express purpose of affiliating on a full time basis to the higher category team (not permitted).

### **Can players sixteen (16) years of age and older affiliate to two (2) teams?**

Yes, they may affiliate to two (2) teams of a different category, i.e.: Midget AAA to Junior A or B and Major Junior for a total of ten (10) games per affiliate team.

### **If I use the special affiliation for fifteen (15) year olds to a Major Junior and Junior team, am I excluded from my regular affiliated team?**

No. The fifteen (15) year old limited affiliation process to Major Junior and Junior does not affect regular Minor to Minor affiliation. No other Minor to Junior affiliation is allowed for fifteen (15) year olds.

### **If I do not affiliate as a fifteen (15) year old to a Major Junior team, can I affiliate to two (2) Junior A teams and if so, for how many games?**

You can play a maximum of five (5) games with a Major Junior team and a maximum of five (5) games with a Junior A or B team. It is Major Junior AND Junior A or B. If Major Junior does not use the fifteen (15) year old affiliation you are restricted to five (5) games with a Junior A or B team.

**Can a fifteen (15) year old practice with a Major Junior or Junior A/B team?**

Yes, provided that they are listed as a special affiliate and have approval from their Midget team.

## **PLAYER LIMITS**

### ***GUIDING PRINCIPLES***

The CDM acknowledges that a limited number of sixteen (16) year olds possess the ability to play a level of hockey higher than Midget AAA, while still recognizing the position that the best place for the vast majority of sixteen (16) year olds to play is Midget. The following grid was structured in such a way that through a three (3) year implementation process, we would reduce the number of sixteen (16) year olds from 2004/2005 levels to a level it was felt was in all the constituents' best interests. The first year of the CDM resulted in a large decrease in sixteen year olds participating in Junior hockey. Hockey Canada has adjusted the matrix below to allow for further collection of information in determining the most appropriate numbers of sixteen (16) year olds participating at the Junior level. The numbers will be reevaluated at the Hockey Canada Semi-Annual Meeting in November 2007.

### ***PLAYER MATRIX***

Players sixteen (16) years of age will be allowed to register and participate in Junior hockey under the guidelines indicated in the following matrix:

	<b>05-06</b>	<b>06-07</b>	<b>07-08</b>
<b>Major Junior</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Junior A</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Junior B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Junior C / D</b>	<b>1 (local)</b>	<b>1 (local)</b>	<b>1 (local)</b>

### ***AVERAGING PROVISIONS***

The number of sixteen (16) year olds in Major Junior, as per the regulation, may be an average per team as opposed to the maximum per team if the league chooses. For example, in the OHL there would be a league cap of eighty (80) in 2005/2006 or an average of four (4) per team (20 x 4) instead of a maximum of four (4) per team. The total number of sixteen (16) year olds does not change. This simply takes the averaging provisions of Year Three and applies them to the first two (2) years of the CDM. The Major Junior Leagues agree to continue tracking the sixteen (16) year olds (number of games played, etc) and provide all relevant data to Hockey Canada for research purposes.

The same averaging provisions will apply to Junior A and B hockey beginning this season (2006-2007), subject to the Junior league making application (with Branch

support) to Hockey Canada. Similar tracking and research around sixteen (16) year olds is expected of any Junior leagues using the averaging provision.

Junior C/D may register one (1) sixteen (16) year old providing that he is a local player and there is not a top level of Midget hockey available for that player in the area or he is not capable of playing that top level of Midget Hockey.

## ***PLAYER ALLOTMENT FAQ***

### **Who would administer using a league average as opposed to a per team cap?**

In Major Junior it would be up to each individual league should they choose to use this provision. In Junior A and B hockey, it would be up to the Branch and Junior league to decide if and how it would work should they choose to use this provision.

### **Is a CHL assigned player (1990 for the 2006/2007 season) an exception to the current cap on sixteen (16) year olds proposed by the Model?**

No.

## **RURAL/REMOTE DESIGNATIONS**

### ***GUIDING PRINCIPLES***

The guiding principle is that there must be no access or no reasonable access to Midget hockey for players seeking an exception to the CDM. Branches, at their discretion, are encouraged to use this provision in such a way that players are not forced from the game because of a lack of a Midget program in a rural area.

### ***THE FOURTEEN (14) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

This provision is NOT available to the fourteen (14) year old and younger player.

### ***THE FIFTEEN (15) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

Fifteen (15) year olds may be allowed to participate in Junior C & D hockey under this rural/remote provision if there is no reasonable access to a Midget program available (Branch discretion). Branches shall have the discretion needed to ensure players age fifteen (15) be allowed to play Junior C/D if they have no other options so these players are not displaced from the game. Permanent affiliations from Junior C/D to Junior A/B or Major Junior will not be allowed. Branches that have **limited or no** Junior C/D shall have the discretion to designate similar status to Junior B. Affiliation to any level of Junior hockey except under the special limited fifteen (15) year old affiliation process is prohibited.

### ***THE SIXTEEN (16) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

Sixteen (16) year olds may be allowed to participate in Junior C & D hockey under this rural/remote provision if there is no access or no reasonable access to Midget AAA hockey. Branches shall have the discretion needed to ensure players age sixteen (16) be allowed to play Junior C/D if they have no other options so these players are not displaced from the game. Permanent affiliations from Junior C/D to Junior A/B or Major Junior will not be allowed. Branches that have **limited or no** Junior C/D shall have the discretion to designate similar status to Junior B.

### ***THE SEVENTEEN (17) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

This provision is not applicable to the seventeen (17) year old player.

## ***RURAL/REMOTE FAQ***

### **Will the Branches be empowered to render decisions on questions on local issues arising from the implementation of the CDM?**

Yes, and are encouraged to do so. Decisions should be made within the direction and philosophy of the CDM while being sensitive to Branch needs. Hockey Canada only asks to be copied on any decisions.

### **If there is no Midget AAA team in the community, will sixteen (16) year olds in that community be able to play at the Junior level?**

As per the CDM, where no Midget program exists and where there is no reasonable access to Midget hockey, Branches are empowered to rule on the eligibility of fifteen (15) year olds to play Junior hockey and where there is no access or reasonable access to Midget AAA for sixteen (16) year olds to play Junior hockey.

### **What would constitute exceptions for aboriginal communities?**

One example is granting exceptions to aboriginal players to allow them to play on teams on the reserve where they live. Players who reside in an aboriginal community, and have played their Minor hockey in that aboriginal community may be allowed to participate in Junior C/D at ages fifteen (15) and sixteen (16). In order to qualify under this provision, the Branch shall have the discretion to determine eligibility based on their respective Branch residency regulations.

### **What distances are considered in determining whether a suitable Midget AAA hockey opportunity is available for a player?**

Branches, at their discretion, can determine what is best within the principles and philosophies of the CDM.

### **At what point does it become too inconvenient to play Midget AAA hockey versus Junior hockey?**

Branches, at their discretion, can make that decision based on the principles and philosophies of the CDM. Hockey Canada only asks to be copied on any Branch decisions around the CDM.



## **LOCAL PLAYER DESIGNATION**

### ***GUIDING PRINCIPLES***

In order to ensure that players who are not likely to play hockey at the Junior A or Major Junior level are not displaced from the game, the local player provision was put in the CDM to assist communities where a Junior C/D program was offered as opposed to a Midget AAA program.

There are two (2) criteria which are critical in determining a local player. The first one is the geographic area that defines a local player. Branches have the discretion to designate this area as they feel is in their best interest, while using the CDM definition of local as a guideline. The second is the concept of the local Midget AAA team having "first right" to a local sixteen (16) year old. Earlier in this document it states that a sixteen (16) year old can only play as a local player if he resides in the community the team is located and he has no access or reasonable access to Midget AAA hockey or is incapable of playing Midget AAA hockey. To ensure as smooth a process as possible, the following is suggested:

Branches should put a process in place whereby a sixteen (16) year old player must secure a release or waiver from the local Midget AAA team prior to being allowed to register with the Junior C/D team. Remember, the player must not have access or reasonable access to a Midget AAA team or must be incapable of playing Midget AAA hockey prior to registering as a Junior player.

## ***LOCAL PLAYER FAQ***

### **Where did this waiver business come from?**

Language in an earlier CDM document suggested that the only way you could be deemed a local player is if you live in the same community etc. and there is no top level Midget hockey available in that community. Since Branches have been given the discretion to define what a local player is, a situation was created where it was improbable for any player to have local player status because all players would have had access to top level midget hockey and therefore, by definition, could not be deemed a local player. As that was never the intent, we need a process where a player could get a waiver or permission to skate or whatever you want to call it, so he could register as a local player with his Junior C/D team if he is waived by his local Midget AAA team.

### **I have asked my Midget team for a waiver so I can register with the Junior C team in my hometown and they have refused. Can they do this?**

If a waiver is refused they must offer you a card. They cannot have it both ways.

## **EXCEPTIONAL PLAYERS**

Appeals for Exceptional Player Status will only be entertained for players fifteen (15) years of age attempting to register with any of the CHL leagues/teams.

### ***THE FOURTEEN (14) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

This provision is NOT available to the fourteen (14) year old and younger player.

### ***THE FIFTEEN (15) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

This provision is ONLY available to the fifteen (15) year old player that qualifies and ONLY at the Major Junior level.

### ***THE SIXTEEN (16) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

This provision is NOT available to the sixteen (16) year old player.

### ***THE SEVENTEEN (17) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

This provision is NOT available to the seventeen (17) year old player.

## **INTER-BRANCH TRANSFERS FOR THE SEVENTEEN (17) YEAR OLD PLAYER**

Seventeen (17) year old players should be able to play at their desired level of hockey, whether that be Midget hockey or Junior hockey, provided that they play within the appropriate geographic area as defined by the respective Branch.

Please review the revision to Regulation K.6 (a), included in Appendix 1 of this document.

As per K.6 (a), Hockey Canada recognizes agreements between the following Branches:

*None at time of printing for the 2006-2007 season*

Any seventeen (17) year old player that finds himself in a situation where an appeal of this regulation is desired, please review the section on appeals contained in this document.

## **APPEALS**

As the Branch has discretionary capabilities in certain areas, a Branch's decision will be final and binding on the applicant. An appeal pertaining to discretionary matters within the CDM will only be heard at the Hockey Canada level (National Appeals Committee) in instances where the Branch is perceived to have committed a procedural error. Please note By-Law TWELVE (1201) in Appendix 1 of this document.

In order to deal with questions and appeals surrounding the CDM, Branches are encouraged to use their current appeal process or to establish a separate CDM Committee structure that deals with only requests stemming from the CDM. For example, the OHF has developed such a Committee.

### ***THE FOURTEEN (14) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

The Branch discretion provision is NOT available to the fourteen (14) year old and younger player and therefore, the appeal process is not open to that player.

### ***THE FIFTEEN (15) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

As the Branch discretion provision is open to the fifteen (15) year old player, the Branch may entertain such requests. Their decision is final and binding. An appeal will only be heard at the National level in instances where the Branch made a procedural error in making their decision.

### ***THE SIXTEEN (16) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

As the Branch discretion provision is open to the sixteen (16) year old player, the Branch may entertain such requests. Their decision is final and binding. An appeal will only be heard at the National level in instances where the Branch made a procedural error in making their decision.

### ***THE SEVENTEEN (17) YEAR OLD PLAYER***

Seventeen (17) year old players should be able to play at their desired level of hockey, whether that be Midget hockey or Junior hockey, provided that they play within the appropriate geographic area as defined by the respective Branch. Should a player wish to appeal for an Inter-Branch Transfer at the National level, he may do so by following the procedure set forth in By-Law TWELVE. In this instance, the decision of the National Appeals Committee is final and binding.

***PLAYERS SEVENTEEN (17) YEARS OF AGE AND YOUNGER (USA HOCKEY TO HOCKEY CANADA)***

Players wishing to obtain a transfer to Hockey Canada from USA Hockey, and who are NOT moving with their parent(s), are not permitted to do so under Regulation K.6 (a). Should the player wish to challenge this regulation, the player is required to file an appeal with the Hockey Canada National Appeals Committee as per the procedure set forth in By-Law TWELVE. In this instance, the decision of the National Appeals Committee is final and binding.

***PLAYERS SIXTEEN (16) YEARS OF AGE AND YOUNGER (HOCKEY CANADA TO USA HOCKEY)***

Players wishing to obtain a transfer to USA Hockey from Hockey Canada, and who are NOT moving with their parent(s), are not permitted to do so under Regulation K.6 (b). Should the player wish to challenge this regulation, the player is required to file an appeal with the Hockey Canada National Appeals Committee as per the procedure set forth in By-Law TWELVE. In this instance, the decision of the National Appeals Committee is final and binding.

Please note that appeals heard at the National level by the Hockey Canada National Appeals Committee are typically driven by the **incoming** team via the anticipated **new** Branch (registration appeals). Exceptions to this procedure occur when the appeal is classified as an "individual appeal" and in the instance where the player is looking to move from Hockey Canada to USA Hockey. In these types of appeals, the appellant may go directly to the Manger, Regulations of Hockey Canada to file the appeal. All Hockey Canada appeals cost three-hundred dollars (\$300.00) and the appeal fee is non-refundable, unless the National Appeals Committee determines that they do not have jurisdiction in the case. Each case is considered on a case by case basis.

## **IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES BRANCH DISCRETION**

**AT ALL TIMES, BRANCHES ARE EXPECTED TO USE THEIR DISCRETION IN THE APPLICATION OF THESE PROVISIONS IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CANADIAN DEVELOPMENT MODEL ARE ADHERED TO, WITH THE PRIORITY BEING THE MIDGET PROGRAM.**

**APPENDIX 1**  
**HOCKEY CANADA REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE CDM**

**F.51 Variations for the Canadian Development Model**

Notwithstanding the preceding provisions in Regulations B and F,

- a) First year eligible Midget players (fifteen (15) year olds) shall only register and compete in Minor Hockey.
- b) First year eligible Midget players (fifteen (15) year olds) who believe they are 'exceptional' and should be excluded from the previous provision may appeal to play Major Junior hockey under the provisions and conditions outlined in the Canadian Development Model Agreement.
- c) Affiliation of first year eligible Midget players (fifteen (15) year olds) to Major Junior and Junior A and B hockey teams shall be permitted with the following restrictions:
  - i) A team may affiliate no more than five (5) players for up to a maximum of five (5) games during the season.
  - ii) The player must sign a special affiliation form with the permission of his regular team.
  - iii) A player shall NOT be called up, except under emergency conditions, when the player's regular team is playing or when the player has semester exams at school.
  - iv) When the player's regular team is finished its season, the player may join the Major Junior/Junior A or B team for the balance of its season.
  - v) In Junior hockey, the team would be restricted to calling up one (1) fifteen (15) year old per game and this player would count towards its total of sixteen (16) year olds allowed to dress.
  - vi) A player may specially affiliate to a Major Junior team and a Junior A or B team in the same season and play a maximum of five (5) games with each team if he so chooses and his regular team agrees.
  - vii) Should a Major Junior League choose not to utilize this provision, the player would NOT be eligible to affiliate to two (2) Junior A or B teams in that League or region.
- d) A second year eligible Midget player (sixteen (16) years old) registering and participating in Junior Hockey shall do so under the following guidelines:
  - i) Major Junior: Each team is allowed to register a maximum of four (4) players in 2006-07 and in 2007-08.
  - ii) Junior A: Each team is allowed to register a maximum of two (2) players in 2006-07 and in 2007-08.
  - iii) Junior B: Each team is allowed to register a maximum of two (2) players in 2006-07 and in 2007-08.



- iv) Junior C and D: Each team is allowed to register one (1) local player in 2006-07 and in 2007-08. The definition of "local" shall be that contained in the Hockey Canada Policy Manual. A local player shall not affiliate to any higher category team.
- e) Affiliation between Minor to Junior and Junior to Junior:
  - i) A player sixteen (16) years of age or older may be named as an affiliate player with both a Major Junior team and either a Junior A or a Junior B team in the same season.
  - ii) A player sixteen (16) years of age or older may affiliate a total of ten (10) games during the regular season and playoffs with each of his affiliated teams as rostered in i). However, if his registered team completes its regular season and playoffs before his affiliated team or teams, he may thereafter affiliate an unlimited number of times.
  - iii) Any player affiliation as a result of the National Junior / Under 17 / CWG Events / World Junior A Challenge will not count in the ten (10) game total per team.
  - iv) Affiliation of goaltenders will be governed by rule E. 36 (b).
- f) The maximum number of non-North American players that can register and play Major Junior Hockey shall be one (1), starting in the 2007-08 season.
- g) Major Junior Hockey shall establish by 2007-08 the maximum number of American players by team or league that can register and play on Canadian based teams.

### **Regulation K. 6 (a) and (b)**

- K.6 (a) No player of Midget eligibility or under (refer to Hockey Canada B.1) may be transferred from Branch to Branch, or from USA Hockey to Hockey Canada, or from any other IIHF Federation to play other than Major Junior Hockey unless such player comes under Regulation H. 8 (b). There is an exception for those Midget players in their last year of Midget eligibility, when there is no Junior A hockey in their home Branch.

In order to address regional differences that exist within the hockey program in Canada, Branches may enter into Agreements with other Branches, which would authorize the transfer of players in their last year of Midget eligibility. Said Agreements shall only be in effect upon being ratified by the Hockey Canada Board of Directors. In order for Hockey Canada to provide its ratification, such Agreements shall include provisions whereby any Branch which is a party to an Agreement may terminate the Agreement at the end of each playing season.

K.6 (b) No player of second year Midget eligibility or under may be transferred from Hockey Canada to USA Hockey unless a player resides with his parent and the parent changes his place of residence to the USA and the player continues to reside with his parent.

**By-Law TWELVE (Appeals) follows as pages 27-31 of this document, but noted as pages 71-75 as it is an excerpt from the Articles, By-Laws, regulations book.**

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## BY-LAW TWELVE

### GENERAL PROCEDURES OF THE NATIONAL APPEALS COMMITTEE

1200. The Board of Directors shall grant authority to the National Appeals Committee to act in its stead to determine all matters herein, and the decision of the National Appeals Committee shall be final and binding.

#### Appeal of a Branch Decision

1201. Any member of a Branch of Hockey Canada shall have the right to appeal to Hockey Canada when the Branch to which the member belongs makes a ruling directly affecting such member, where:

- i) Such decision is in conflict with the Branch or Hockey Canada's Articles, By-Laws or Regulations;
- ii) The Branch committed a procedural error, or failed to provide the aggrieved party with a fair hearing; or
- iii) The Branch did not have the authority or jurisdiction to make the decision.

1202. In the event of any dispute, difference or question regarding any matter of any kind arising at any time, but only where there is specifically provided elsewhere in the Articles, By-Laws, Regulations or Rules the right to an appeal from any decision made under the Articles, By-Laws, Regulations or Rules of Hockey Canada or of any Branch, the procedures as outlined within, shall be the recourse available to any member or individuals dissatisfied with any such decision.

1203. An appeal shall:

- i) Be brought within seven (7) days of the written decision of the Branch appealed from;
- ii) Be in writing;
- iii) Describe, in numbered paragraphs, the decision appealed from, the grounds for appeal, and the relevant facts. Pertinent documents, if any, shall be attached; and
- iv) Be filed, with proof of delivery to the Branch, with the Office of the

President of Hockey Canada, together with a cash payment or certified cheque payable to Hockey Canada in the amount of three-hundred dollars (\$300.00).

1204. Hockey Canada shall forward a copy to the Branch which rendered the decision. The Branch shall respond to the appeal:

- i) Within seven (7) days of receipt of the appeal from Hockey Canada;
- ii) In writing;
- iii) By describing, in numbered paragraphs, the position of the Branch including the grounds for the decision appealed from, and the facts supporting the decision. Pertinent documents, if any, shall be attached;
- iv) The Branch shall deliver a copy of its response to the Manager, Regulations of Hockey Canada who in turn will provide a copy to the appellant.

1205. All parties to the appeal may be requested to respond to any material provided by any party to an appeal within timelines as established by the National Appeals Committee, and failure to respond within the timelines shall mean that the party who fails to respond is in agreement with the material provided by any other party.

1206. In order to provide for adequate preparation by the National Appeals Committee, all material shall be submitted to the Manager, Regulations of Hockey Canada, no later than four (4) working days prior to the scheduled hearing date. Failure to provide material within the four (4) working day time-frame shall mean a postponement of the hearing until the next scheduled hearing date.

### **Registration Appeals**

1207. An appeal may be filed with Hockey Canada in disputes involving:

- i) An Inter-Branch transfer; or
- ii) A refusal by a team to release a player for purposes of an Inter-Branch transfer or International transfer to another IIHF Federation.

When a player has registered for the current season, he may not appeal under this regulation to secure his release and/or Inter-Branch transfer, USA Hockey transfer or an International transfer.

1208. All registration appeals must be accompanied by a fee of three hundred dollars (\$300.00). This fee does not include the Inter-Branch transfer, USA Hockey transfer or International transfer fee if a request for either is part of the appeal.
1209. The Branch to which the player wishes to transfer shall file the appeal setting fully the grounds therefore, with the Manager, Regulations of Hockey Canada; and shall give notification of such appeal, and grounds therefore, to the Executive Director of the Branch which the player desires to be transferred.
1210. On receipt of such an appeal, the Manager, Regulations of Hockey Canada must within one (1) working day, by fax or email, request the Branch which has refused the transfer for its rebuttal. This Branch must forward its rebuttal by fax or email, according to the request of the Manager, Regulations. If the rebuttal is not received prior to the requested deadline, the Branch concerned shall lose its right to make a rebuttal to the Hockey Canada National Appeals Committee.
1211. The preceding provision (1210) concerning timelines shall not be in effect from May 1 to July 31 of each year. Should an appeal be within that time frame, a decision will be rendered by August 15 of the current season.
1212. Notwithstanding K.17, the National Appeals Committee, upon receiving and verifying information that a player participated in Hockey Canada activities without proper approval from a previous Branch, USA Hockey, the IIHF, or the National Appeals Committee, may take, in its sole and unfettered discretion, any of the following actions against the responsible member Branch or team: issue a warning to the member Branch or team; assess a fine to the member Branch or team; or suspend any of the team officials involved.

1213. For Minor or Female players, all appeals filed, if granted, shall only be for the current playing season. Minor and Female players, shall be required to file a new appeal for any subsequent season, and the National Appeals Committee shall consider any subsequent appeal as a new appeal, and shall not be bound by any previous year's decision.

### **Other Appellate Jurisdiction**

1214. If a team requires special assistance through any unusual situation which develops, that team may appeal to the National Appeals Committee to obtain imports in addition to the number of imports allowed under K.26, provided:

- i) The appeal is submitted with the written consent of its Branch accompanied by majority consent of the league in which the team operates;
- ii) No such assistance may be granted after January 10 in any year;
- iii) The player or players, if obtained, shall be from the same or lower categories of the same Division or from lower Divisions.
- iv) The player or players, if obtained, shall be signed by the team not later than February 10.

1215. Notwithstanding restrictions referred to in any other regulations, the National Appeals Committee shall have the right to hear any appeal received on behalf of any team or individual concerning residential qualifications as stated in Regulation F.5, teams playing in other jurisdictions as stated in Regulation B.9 and replacements for players turned professional under Regulation K.31. Such appeals must be filed in strict compliance with appeal procedures as set out in By-Law 1201-1206.

1216. Notwithstanding 1209, any registered player in regular full-time attendance at a recognized university or college who has failed to meet the academic standard at such university or college at mid-term in the current season, may appeal to secure his release and/or Inter-Branch transfer under By-Law 1207-1213 inclusive, as provided for in Regulation H.8 (i).

- i) Such player may only be registered by February 10 with the last team or club with which he was registered prior to registering at the aforementioned university or college.

1217. All appeals under By-Law 1214-1216 must be accompanied by a fee of three hundred dollars (\$300.00). This fee does not include the Inter-Branch transfer, USA Hockey transfer or International transfer fee if a request for either is part of the appeal.

### Hearing Process for Appeals

1218. The National Appeals Committee shall conduct all hearings in the manner in which it sees fit, including but not limited to written presentations only, teleconferences, or face to face hearings.

1219. The decision of the National Appeals Committee shall be transmitted to any party to the hearing within forty-eight (48) hours from the time of decision. The report of the National Appeals Committee shall be limited to whether the appeal has been allowed, together with any conditions that are included, or disallowed, or that the National Appeals Committee lacks jurisdiction. No other information shall be provided.

1220. After a decision, the National Appeals Committee shall be granted the right to re-consider a decision if any of the interested parties to the decision provide to the National Appeals Committee new information that was not available to a party at the date of the original decision. In order to determine if the National Appeals Committee shall reconsider any decision made by it, the National Appeals Committee must first determine that the new information was not available to the interested party at the time of hearing. The decision as to whether new information does exist shall rest solely with the National Appeals Committee, and it shall not be subject to review.

1221. The National Appeals Committee shall be further granted the right to determine whether or not statements made by any interested party to an appeal were misleading or false. In the event that any interested party has provided such information, the National Appeals Committee, in its unfettered discretion, may rescind, or vary any order made by it, and recommend to the Chair of the Board that disciplinary action be considered against said member as set forth herein.

Working Day is defined as: Monday to Friday both inclusive, with the exception of any statutory holidays.

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