

2023-24 MINOR HOCKEY AAA PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

Preamble: Hockey NL offers a AAA program for teams competing at the AAA Provincial Championships. This program is meant to supplement the programs offered at the local minor hockey associations. Players and coaches' priority shall be to the guidelines set out by their local minor hockey associations. This program is not an entity on its own rather it was developed for the enhancement of players who require a higher level of competition.

Division, Zones, Tournament Host Sites:

Division: U13 AAA, U16 AAA

Zones: The following zones are eligible to send representation to the provincial tournaments: Tri-Com, St. John's, Tri-Pen, Central, Western and Northern.

Tournament Host Sites: Sites will rotate through the defined zones on an annual basis.

Coach and Team Selection:

The Head Coach shall be selected by a committee including the respective Hockey NL Minor Member, a representative of Hockey Development, the Hockey NL Technical Director and approved by the Minor Council Chair.

The respective Head Coach will be given the option to suggest his additional staff from those who applied or other candidates he brings forward in consultation with the respective Minor Area Member and Minor Council Chair. Final approval of the assistant coaches, trainer and DOP will rest with the Minor Council Chair in consultation with the respective Area Member.

Any male or female player registered in the U13 AAA or U16 AAA division with their respective minor hockey association may be eligible to participate subject to the guidelines set out by their local association. All players and coaching staff shall be in good standing with their association to be eligible to participate in the AAA program. Associations are responsible to inform their Minor Member if a player or coach is not in good standing.

All teams will be selected by an evaluation process involving two independent evaluators and the respective Head Coach. Assistant Coaches who do not have children participating in the try-out process can also be involved in the evaluation. The Minor Council Chair in consultation with the respective Minor Member shall approve the independent evaluator for each zone and the evaluators shall not have a child(ren) participating in the AAA program. The cost associated for the independent evaluators shall be included in the selection process registration fees.

The Director of Operations, or designate, shall conduct an orientation session during the first selection camp.

The selection process may include a minimum of six hours to a maximum of twelve hours of ice time.

The fee charged for the selection process should be sufficient to cover the cost of ice time, officials, and evaluators. Budget for tryouts shall be approved by the respective Minor Area Member.

Evaluations should include a minimum of one skill session for every three hours of the selection process.

All selection camps shall start no later than November 1st. Teams shall be selected, and team rosters submitted to the AAA Administrator (Robert Bouzane) along with the following information by no later than November 24th.

Name of Team

Division

Name of the person responsible for the team

Team roster of 19 (15 skaters, two goaltenders and alternates up to a maximum of 19 as per Hockey Canada Regulations)

Team Colors

Team Operations:

There shall be a maximum of one practice session per week. These sessions cannot conflict with the minor hockey associations regularly scheduled programs.

All exhibition games (maximum of two per month), tournaments and travel shall require prior approval by the respective Minor Member or Minor Council Chair.

Each team shall be allowed a maximum of one out of province tournament per season and shall require a travel permit approved by the Minor Council Vice-Chair.

All teams shall present to their respective Minor Area Member and AAA Administrator an annual operating budget no later than November 15th and a year-end financial statement by no later than April 30.

Provincials:

Representation: Each zone shall declare its participation in the provincial championship by no later than December 31st of each season.

Team Withdrawal: Teams withdrawing after the above date shall be assessed a fine in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2000).

Rules and Regulations:

To be eligible to participate in a provincial championship, a team must have respected all Hockey Canada and Hockey NL Rules and Regulations.

Teams failing to send a representative to the meeting held prior to the Provincial AAA Championship shall result in the Head Coach being suspended for the first two (2) games that his/her team participates in.

Teams failing to participate in the opening ceremonies of the Provincial AAA Championship, if applicable, shall result in the Head Coach of said team being suspended for the next two (2) games following opening ceremonies.