



# CONSTITUTION

## Article 1 – ORGANIZATION

- 1.1 The name of the organization is the Greater Metro Junior 'A' Hockey League, otherwise known as the GMHL, and for the purpose of this document, the League. The GMHL is incorporated as The Greater Metro Junior 'A' Hockey League Ltd.

## Article 2 – STATUS

- 2.1 The GMHL is an independent organization, operating as an elite level junior hockey program, operating under its own set of standards, practices and rules for the purpose of developing hockey athletes.
- 2.2 Each member of the GMHL shall operate in accordance with the standard, practices and rules as set out by the League and conduct their business in accordance with reputable business practices and codes of conduct.

## Article 3 – OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 To provide the an exceptional skill development program for all players from 15 years of age to 20 years of age;
- 3.2 To provide opportunities for all players, regardless of nationality or place of residence, to pursue the sport to its highest level;
- 3.3 Establish, maintain, and enforce rules and regulations that best prepare our athletes for College, Major Junior or Professional hockey;
- 3.4 To encourage and promote the ideals of character, dedication, and perseverance in the sport;

- 3.5 To assist member organizations with the operation and promotion of their programs and their players;
- 3.6 To promote the League and its objectives to communities throughout Ontario, Quebec and beyond;
- 3.7 To seek expansion opportunities with communities interested in membership in the GMHL;
- 3.8 To provide and maintain League insurance programs;
- 3.9 To develop and administer the League to the best of its ability and in such a manner as to improve League operations and standards on a consistent basis.

#### Article 4 – MEMBERSHIP

##### 4.1 CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership in the GMHL is established on a year-to-year basis;
- b) Members in good standing will automatically retain membership from year-to year;
- c) Members in good standing refers to up-to-date payment of yearly League fees, up-to-date payment of contracts for ice rental, busing, officials, equipment suppliers, and providers of any other significant product or service required in the operation of the club, as well as the club adhering to all standards, practices, rules and regulations as set out by the League;
- d) Members are ultimately responsible for their own affairs, financially or otherwise. The GMHL is not responsible in any way, shape or form, for the financial or contractual obligations of member clubs.
- e) Any member not fulfilling their obligations as members of the GMHL according to standards, practice, rules and regulations, and/or having overdue financial obligations contrary to Article 4.1(c) regarding 'members in good standing' may have their membership revoked or suspended at the sole discretion of the GMHL League Executive.
- f) Current members are entitled to all GMHL league services, including but not exclusively to, insurance, game sheets, scheduling of officials, management and monitoring of players registration cards, maintenance of league schedules, standings and statistics, and any other aspect required in the daily operation of the GMHL.
- g) Current members are entitled to vote on matters pertaining to GMHL playing rules and contribute to the disciplinary committee.

#### 4.2 MULTIPLE TEAM OWNERSHIP

A current member ownership may have ownership, in whole or in part, or more than one member club, provided specific rules, regulations, and obligations are fulfilled. Multiple ownership refers to member clubs with similar owner on more than one club, regardless of ownership percentage, and are subject to the rules stated below.

- a) Owners must continue to fulfill the league's mandate of development;
- b) Owners must restrict player movement amongst their teams to the period between the end of one season and the first game of the next season.
- c) Owners must adhere to the strict understanding that their teams will not be manipulated to provide undue strength of calibre to one team at the expense of the calibre of any other club(s) in which they have an ownership stake;
- d) Current owners must apply to the GMHL Executive for permission to seek membership for a new location;
- e) Upon approval for additional membership in any new location, the GMHL will reserve that location for the minimum period of 90 days, with the possibility of a longer term, at the discretion of the League Executive;
- f) The GMHL Executive has the right to remove that reservation after 90 days or at any time thereafter, should another party, either amongst current member ownership or new ownership groups seeking membership, express interest in that location;
- g) At the request of the GMHL Executive, any current member ownership or new party seeking membership, will be required to submit a formal written application for member, with appropriate monetary deposit as stated in Article 4.3.(a) below under NEW MEMBERSHIP

#### 4.3 NEW MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership requests must be submitted in writing and include a monetary deposit in the form of a certified cheque of 40% of current expansion fee;
- b) All applications in proper form will be reviewed promptly and discussed at the next available ownership meeting, if not prior;
- c) Approval for membership in the league may be subject to the GMHL League Executive performing its 'due diligence' based on references and financial information of the applicant(s), and may also include verification of an ice contract suitable and appropriate

- for rules relating to minimum practice requirements and availability of game times;
- d) Approval for membership in the league is solely at the discretion of GMHL League Executive;
  - e) Membership applications not approved by League Executive will be reimbursed for 100% of the deposit submitted. Membership applications withdrawn or conditions unfulfilled, after the approval and confirmation of League Executive, will forfeit their deposit.

#### Article 5 – AMENDMENTS

- 5.1 Amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Greater Metro Junior 'A' Hockey League are solely at the discretion of the League Executive ;
- 5.2 Current members may submit notices to request an amendment to these articles, but these notices must be submitted in writing 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting coinciding with the GMHL Draft Showcase each year.

#### Article 6 – PRESIDENT

- 6.1 As an independent organization, with consideration to all members in good standing, all final decisions within the context of the GMHL and its operation, both practically and financially, are the sole responsibility of the League President.
- 6.2 As an independent organization, with consideration to all members in good standing, all decisions made by the League President, within the context of the GMHL and its operation, both practically and financially, will be made solely with the best interests of the League as the primary objective.