

GEORGIAN BAY MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE
POLICY AND PROCEDURES
2025 - 2026

1. LEAGUE MEETINGS

Centres are required to provide a list of teams and their ice times for the upcoming season at the August league meeting. League meetings are mandatory*. Failure to attend will result in a \$50.00 fine to the Centre. This is payable prior to or at the next scheduled league meeting. Failure to comply will result in voting privileges being revoked until the fine is paid.

**Please Note: The only exception is severe weather.*

2. FEES

Each Center will pay an annual entry fee of \$90.00 per team, payable on or before the September League meeting. There will be a late charge of \$20.00 per team. There will be no refunds for the withdrawal of teams after September 30th.

3. PROTESTS

- a. The intention of filing a Protest must be communicated to the GBMHL President and Secretary within 24 hours of the starting time of the game/decision in question. A Protest must be filed within 48 hours of the starting time of the game/decision in question. A defense of Protest must be filed within 36 hours of notification of the Protest.
- b. Matters that may be Protested.
 - (i) A game official's rule application which in the opinion of the aggrieved team may be incorrect and may have given the opposition team a distinct advantage.
 - (ii) The participation of a player or team official deemed to be ineligible.
 - (iii) A violation of any GBMHL, OMHA, OHF or Hockey Canada rule, regulation or policy deemed to have had a significant and legitimate affect on the outcome of the game/decision.
- c. Matters that may not be Protested are a game official's discretion and judgement of the rules.
- d. The protest fee and defense fee shall be \$150.00. A scanned copy of the signed cheque must accompany the completed Protest form and submitted evidence. The protest fee shall be refundable to the winner of the protest.
- e. To file a Protest – the completed Protest form, attaching all documentation requested. This form must be signed by the President and Secretary of the Centre for the protest to be valid. The Protest form and attachments are to be delivered electronically to the GBMHL President and Secretary or in person to a GBMHL Executive member within 48 hours of the starting time of the game/decision in question.
- f. Notification of Protest – upon receipt of the Protest and pending satisfactory examination by the GBMHL President and Executive, the Secretary will notify the opposing Centre.
- g. Defense of a Protest – a separate Protest form is completed, with fee and accompanying evidence is filed as in (f).
- h. The decisions of the Protest Committee are final and binding. The Protest Committee shall consist of at least 3 of the League Executive. (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or Statistician) Protest Committee Members are not eligible to sit in on a protest that involves his/her Centre. Should a conflict occur within the Executive, then the OMHA RD shall appoint a Centre Contact or an OMHA Convenor to complete the Committee.

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- i. In rendering a final decision, the Protest Committee may:
 - (i) Allow the Protest
 - (ii) Dismiss the Protest
 - (iii) Determine the disposition of the game protested
 - (iv) Determine suspensions/actions that are appropriate.

4. REGULAR SEASON SEEDING

All 1st entry teams will be placed in Group 1, 2nd entry teams will be placed in Group 2 at the start of Season 1. Previous seasons result or input from centres may adjust the placement of the teams. Centres will be placed into "Tier 1", "Tier 2" and "Tier 3" for the second part of the Season, based on competitive balance. Centres with teams that are particularly weak or strong, in any given season, may be moved down or up, accordingly, with the approval of the OMHA RD and the League Executive.

5. LENGTH OF GAMES

Minimum length of games will be as follows:

U11, U13: 10-10-15

U15: 10-15-15

U18, U21: 15-15-FLOOD-15

Ice time allocation for all League games will be as per OMHA Manual of Operations, Rule 10.2 b).

Please advise your on and off ice Officials that they do not have the right to alter length of games.

Please advise your Ice Scheduler of the ice time allocations required.

6. ON ICE OFFICIALS

Recommendation of 2 on ice officials for, U11, and U13

Recommendation of 3 on ice officials for U15, U18 and U21

7. GAME TIMES

- a. No League games shall commence prior to 7pm on weekdays (Monday through Friday) unless agreed upon by both Centre Contacts. No League game shall commence prior to 10:30am on weekends (Saturday and Sunday and holidays) unless agreed upon by both Centre Contacts.
- b. For all GBMHL regular season and playoff games, there shall be restrictions regarding the latest start time when scheduling games unless previously agreed upon by both Centres when the following day is a school day for the travelling team.

Regular season & Playoff latest start times:

U11 7:30pm

U13 8:30pm

U15 8:30pm

U18 9:30pm

U21 9:30pm

8. GATE FEES

There will be NO gate fees for any Georgian Bay Minor Hockey League sanctioned games.

9. FINES AND PENALTIES

- a. The league regular season end date may be altered based on Playoff timelines each season. Any Centre judged responsible for not completing their League regular season schedule will not be eligible for League Playoffs.

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- b. All rescheduled games require written notification (email or fax) of the reschedule be sent immediately to the Chief Statistician, notifications must show proof of agreement to the reschedule by both centres. In the event that the Home team is unable to provide a suitable ice time for a reschedule game, it is permissible for the Visiting Team to do so. If any Away Centre cancels a game with less than 7 days' notice, * the Visiting Centre will pay full ice cost, gate keeper, referees, and timekeeper costs, if applicable.

**Please note: the only exceptions are severe weather or extenuating circumstances. If reimbursement amount is not agreeable, it may be reviewed by the GBMHL.*

- c. i) The Statistician's copy of the game sheet is the responsibility of the home team, game sheets of Inter-locking games, where all home and away games sheets must be submitted. The Centre Contact is responsible for submitting game sheets to the Chief Statistician within ten days of the scheduled game. Failure to comply will result in a \$30.00 fine for each missing game sheet.
ii) All electronic game sheets must be uploaded at the end of each day (12:00am). Failure to comply will be assessed and result in a \$30.00 fine for any game sheet not uploaded within the allotted time frame.
- d. That all games not scheduled at the League Scheduling Meeting must be rescheduled and duly completed 'Reschedule Form' sent to the Statistician by Dec.1. Some discretion will be used for inter-locking games.
- e. All fines must be paid on or before the August League meeting before any Centre may enter teams for the upcoming season.

10. SUSPENSIONS

- a. At no time will a Team Official decide when a game is to be played. That is the sole responsibility of the Centre Contact or designate (Ice Scheduler). A Team Official that does not make arrangements through the Centre Contact or designate (Ice Scheduler) will be suspended for the next three (3) scheduled League Regular Season or League Playoff games. A repeat offender will be suspended until the next League Meeting.
- b. Additional suspensions, deemed necessary by the League Governing Body, will be ruled on at the next League meeting or at an emergency meeting. League suspensions will be decided on, as needed, to bring the matter to a satisfactory conclusion.
- c. A coach refusing to play any scheduled league game, (except as per OMHA Regulations) will be suspended, a minimum of 2 games.
- d. All suspensions must be uploaded within 24 hours by the Centre (Team delegate, Coach etc.) for all U11 to U21 divisions. Failure to comply will be assessed and result in a \$30.00 fine for any suspensions not uploaded within the allotted time frame.

11. PLAYOFFS

NOTE - The Playoff Policies and Rules will be updated each season to reflect changes to procedures and rules. See Playoff Policies and Rules Appendix

a. Playoff Committee

The League Governing Body will appoint a Playoff Committee in November with the Chair being the current League Vice-President. There shall be a minimum of two Centre Contacts appointed to the Playoff Committee in addition to the Chair. The Playoff Committee shall administer League Playoffs in accordance with accepted League Policy and Procedure. Playoff formats will be

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determined at the December League meeting for the approval of the League Governing Body. The Chair may cast the deciding vote in instances of a dispute between Centres when the Playoff Committee cannot determine actions.

b. Expenses

The League shall reimburse all legitimate and substantiated playdown expenses to the Chairperson and the Playoff Committee mileage shall be as per current OMHA Manual of Operations Regulation 18.6.

c. Participation

League playoffs require the full participation and cooperation of all Centres as it is in the interest of strengthening the importance of League play.

d. Withdrawal

Centres with teams wishing to withdraw from League playoffs must indicate their intention to do so by submitting a list of said teams prior to or at the January League meeting or by a date as determined by the Playoff Committee or during League Playoffs will be considered as a default.

e. Defaults

A Team defaulting a game in the GBMHL Playoffs shall lose the two (2) points associated with the default and lose all **League** privileges for the remainder of the Playoffs. The score of the game will be recorded as 5-0. The defaulting team will be required to pay the GBMHL \$1,000/game; the GBMHL will reimburse the Opposing Centre for submitted expenses.

f. Home Ice Advantage

(i) In all League Playoffs, when League teams are playing each other, to determine a group winner the team finishing higher in regular season play* shall gain the extra game advantage.

*Please Note: Both the OMHA and the League may have a determined date for league standings.

g. Structure

(i) Round Robin Games – 6 games minimum to determine seeding for the League Championships. Points awarded 2 points for win, 1 point for tie, 0 points for loss.

(ii) Flow Charts/Bracketing - Completion dates as set on the Playoff Flow Charts must be strictly adhered to.

h. Playoff Contracts

Dates, time and details, for the minimum number of games which may be required to fulfill the obligation of a playoff series and to determine a winner, shall be agreed upon by the respective Centre Contacts or their designate prior to the start of a series. The Centre Contacts or their designate will fill out a League Playoff contract, sign, and then forward it to the respective Playoff Committee Representative. If a series cannot be agreed upon by the competing centres the Playoff Committee will determine the dates, time and details.

Exceptions for a best 3 out of 5 (or 6 points) series can be made provided the following requirement are met:

- there are more than 2 weeks to finish the series.
- both centres agree.
- A full contract (including extra game) is drawn up (with signatures) and submitted to the appropriate Playoff Convenor for final authorization.

i. No Ice

Where time or circumstance may not permit the extra game to be played in the appropriate Centre, the game may be played in the Opponent's Centre or in a Centre agreed upon, by the

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Centre Contacts involved, with the approval of the Playoff Committee. All receipts and disbursements, required to facilitate such game, shall be agreed upon, in writing, by the respective Centre Contacts prior to the game.

j. Reschedules

Rescheduling of playoff games shall be permitted by the Centre Contact or at the discretion of the Playoff Committee subject to the following: as per severe weather; should both Centres be in agreement, "Just Cause" as outlined in OMHA Manual of Operations regulation 14.2. Series must be completed within the prescribed time limits or default penalties will be assessed and the Chairperson and the Playoff Committee will determine a winner.

k. Playdown End Date

March 31st shall be considered the final date for the end of League playoffs. Approval for extensions will be granted at the discretion of the Playoff Committee. Extension requests must be in writing and signed by both Centre Contacts involved.

l. Time Out

Each team will be allowed 1 – 30 second timeout per game for all Playoff Games.

m. Curfew

No League Playoff game will be curfewed. In the event that a game cannot be completed the Playoff Committee and the OMHA RD will determine the appropriate action required.

n. Reporting Playoffs

Game sheets must be faxed to GBMHL Statistician by the Home Centre within 5 days of the game being played; failure will result in late game sheet fine. Electronic Gamesheets must be uploaded by the Home Centre within 24 hours of the completion of the game.

The winning team shall update the website within 24 hours of the completion of the series. In the event the series goes beyond the deadline, both Centre Contacts must report to the Playoff Committee Member the status of the series. Failure to comply will result in a \$50.00 fine to the offending Centre/Centres.

o. Awards

Awards, trophies and/or banners shall be awarded as approved by the League Governing Body.