

# SNOWBELT HOCKEY LEAGUE

## CONSTITUTION

AS ADOPTED 9/29/89 - AMENDED 09/15/90, 03/28/96, 05/21/98, 10/15/09, 10/17/13  
AND RETYPED 12/03/93, 10/20/95, 04/01/96, 10/17/02, 12/04/04, 7/15/05, 8/27/10, 11/10/12

*This League* is established for the sole and exclusive benefit of the participants.

The two main objectives of the League are:

- 1) To allow, so far as practical, participation in League play on an equal ice-time basis for each player; and,
- 2) To promote the general rules of sportsmanship among participants, coaches, officials, and spectators.

It is the intent of Snowbelt that it is to be a recreational Hockey League and that participation by Collegiate, Varsity and Junior Varsity High School Players should not be encouraged.

### ***ARTICLE 1.00 TITLE***

1.01 This League shall be known as the Snowbelt Hockey League (hereafter, LEAGUE).

### ***ARTICLE 2.00 MEMBERSHIP***

- 2.01 Membership to the LEAGUE shall be available to Youth Hockey Associations in New York State, provided:
- a) Such Associations agree to be bound by the rules of NYSAHA and USA Hockey including Hazing and Discriminatory policies,
  - b) Such Associations agree to be bound by the Constitution and By-Laws of the LEAGUE; and,
  - c) Such Associations are accepted to membership by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

### ***ARTICLE 3.00 BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

- 3.01 The LEAGUE shall be governed by the Board of Directors (BOARD), which shall consist of one (1) member from each participating Association. The President of the LEAGUE shall act as Chairman, and the Chairman shall conduct the meetings of the Board. A majority of the members of the BOARD shall constitute a quorum.
- 3.02 Each member of the BOARD shall have (1) vote in all cases where voting takes place, irrespective of number of participants or teams by such Association as they represent.
- 3.03 The BOARD shall have authority to make final and binding decisions on all matters

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concerning LEAGUE administration, scheduling and play. Such authority may be delegated as appropriate.

***ARTICLE 4.00 ADMINISTRATION***

- 4.01 The BOARD shall, by majority vote, elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Scheduler of the LEAGUE. Each shall serve a two (2) year term of office.
- 4.02 The President shall, pursuant to the Constitution and By-Laws of the LEAGUE, supervise the administration of all LEAGUE activities and, pursuant to Paragraph 3.01 above, shall also assume the office of Chairman of the Board of Directors.
- 4.03 The Vice-President shall substitute for the President in his absence and shall act as the Chairman of the Discipline/Protest Committee.
- 4.04 The Secretary shall maintain the official records of the LEAGUE.
- 4.05 The Treasurer shall maintain the financial accounts and records of the LEAGUE.
- 4.06 The Scheduler shall maintain the schedule, statistics, and rosters of the LEAGUE.

***ARTICLE 5.00 INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATIONS***

- 5.01 Each Association, which is a member of the LEAGUE, shall be fully responsible for the administration and financing of their individual programs. The LEAGUE shall not be responsible for any acts or omissions of any individual or any Association.

***ARTICLE 6.00 FINANCING***

- 6.01 The LEAGUE shall not endeavor to establish and/or maintain assets of any significant size, except as may be necessary to accomplish the objectives of the LEAGUE, as interpreted by the BOARD, for the season then being played.
- 6.02 Assessments may be made by the BOARD, on an equitable basis, solely to provide for expenses necessary to establish and maintain the LEAGUE and to publicize the objectives of the LEAGUE.

***ARTICLE 7.00 BY-LAWS***

- 7.01 The BOARD shall adopt By-Laws, which shall constitute rules to be uniformly applied by each member Association. Copies of the By-Laws shall be provided by the Secretary to each member of the Board.

***ARTICLE 8.00 AMENDMENTS, DELETIONS, and ADDITIONS***

- 8.01 Any member of the BOARD may propose amendments, deletions, or additions to the Constitution.

## **Snowbelt Constitution Continued**

- 8.02 The BOARD member proposing such change must:
- a) Provide each BOARD member written copies of the proposed change at least twenty-eight (28) days before the proposed change is to become effective.
  - b) Request the Chairman to place the proposed change on the Agenda of a meeting to be scheduled not earlier than twenty-eight (28) days or later than sixty (60) days of the proposed change is mailed to each BOARD member.
- 8.03 A majority vote of the BOARD must be counted to adopt any change.

# SNOWBELT HOCKEY LEAGUE

## BY-LAWS

AMENDED 12/93, 03/96, 02/98, 03/98, 09/99, 10/99, 11/99, 10/00, 3/05, 3/09, 10/09, 10/12, 10/13 & 10/16  
RETYPE 10/20/95, 04/01/96, 12/04/04, 7/15/05, 4/06, 4/07, 8/10

These By-Laws cannot cover every situation but are designed to establish rules to cover basic situations. Each Association is expected to approach problems in the spirit of cooperation so that our participants may learn sportsmanship, respect for others and respect for themselves.

These By-Laws apply to all games sponsored by the League.

### **ARTICLE 1.00 AGE GROUPS**

1.01 Participants shall be segregated by USA Hockey age groups.

### **ARTICLE 1.10 ATTENDANCE OF LEAGUE MEETINGS**

1.11 Any Snowbelt Association failing to appropriately represent themselves at 50% of THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING(S) will be placed on probation, following written notice of such.

1.12 Any Association missing meetings will be assessed a fifty (\$50.00) fine for the second (2nd) missed meeting and fifty (\$50.00) for each subsequent missed meeting. The fine will be paid within 30 days. If the fine is not paid the Association will be ineligible for the JAM tournament.

1.13 Any Association that will not be fielding any teams at any age division for a season may request a waiver on the requirement of Attendance of League Meetings for that season. An Association may request at most two consecutive seasons of waiver. After two consecutive seasons of waiver an Association must meet the attendance requirement or withdraw from the LEAGUE.

### **ARTICLE 2.00 TEAMS & DIVISIONAL PLAY**

2.01 At the start of each season, by the declared deadline, each Association shall declare the number of teams they intend on fielding in the LEAGUE at each age division.

a) Any association declaring multiple teams in an age division shall either:  
i) Tier their teams with the intent of teams being able to compete against teams/players of similar skills and abilities, where one team is a "Select" (higher skill/ability level) and the remaining team(s) shall be known as "House" teams.

OR

ii) To the best of its ability, divide the participants so that all such teams are of equal talent and ability.

b) Based on the Association team declarations, the BOARD shall decide on a Divisional Play format within each age division, with the goal of creating the

## Snowbelt By-Laws Continued

maximum number of competitive games during the league play for all teams. Based on team numbers at each age group, the starting guideline for Divisional play shall be:

Squirt/PW/Bantam	
Red	Associations with no State-bound teams and only 1 team
	Select team of Associations that Tier teams
White	Tier I / Tier II House teams
Blue	Tier III House teams
	House team of associations that tier teams
Midget	
Red	House teams that do not comply with max 4 HS/Split Season Travel players
Blue	Teams that comply with max 4 HS/Travel players rules

- c) After the deadline for final number of teams per association is set. For each and every team that is withdrawn from the League after this date, but before the League schedules are distributed, the association responsible shall pay the yearly team fee for the team even though the team will not be participating for the season. If an association is unsure of team numbers, it is in their best interest NOT to declare a team in the League; a pick-up schedule can be done after the League schedules are distributed when the team is confirmed. Request to add a team after schedule is final must be done by December 1st. If the team is withdrawn after the League schedules are distributed, in addition to the yearly team fee, the offending association shall pay an additional \$150 payable to the League. If an association chronically withdraws teams from the League (multiple teams and/or multiple years) that association shall be placed on probation and action taken deemed appropriate by the Snowbelt Board.

2.02 All teams shall be properly registered with USA Hockey and be comprised of twenty (20) players with a maximum of eighteen (18) skaters. No player shall participate on any other USA Hockey registered team or high school team concurrently, exception to this rule as noted under 2.07, 2.08 and 2.09 below.

2.03 Interim team rosters shall be submitted to the Scheduler before the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) weekend of play. Subsequent revisions to the interim rosters shall be reported to the Scheduler. Interim rosters consist of a list of all coaches, assistant coaches, and players.

2.04 USA Hockey rosters shall be submitted to the Scheduler no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>. Rosters must be official USA Hockey rosters but no signatures will be required. Players may be added to USA Hockey rosters only by approval of the League Board.

2.05 Any Association failing to properly submit either Interim or USA Hockey rosters for any team shall be fined \$50 for each team roster not turned in by the deadline. An additional \$25 fine shall be assessed each week thereafter until submitted.

2.06 As a general rule a team that is "State Tournament Bound" is ineligible for Snowbelt

## **Snowbelt By-Laws Continued**

league play. If a particular team's ineligibility provides a hardship for the League (e.g. not enough teams at Bantam age class), then the Snowbelt Board may waive this rule for the specific age class via a majority vote. This waiver would be in effect for one year with the possibility of renewal on a year-to-year basis. If an Association does not field a team that is "State Tournament Bound" in a specific age class, then a majority vote of the Snowbelt Board is required for that Association to participate in the Snowbelt Hockey League at that age class.

- 2.07 Players registered on a High School or split season tournament bound players are permitted to play on Midget teams provided:
- a) High School and split season tournament bound players are noted as such on the roster.
  - b) A written application must be submitted to the Snowbelt President for Board approval. The member association may seek a waiver of the ban on the use of high school/split season players in the Snowbelt League. The board may grant this waiver if the following conditions are found to exist.
    - i) The team involved is a midget team.
    - ii) The petitioning association must field a Midget team of ten (10) skaters and one (1) goalie non-high school/split season players before a waiver will be considered.
    - iii) A maximum of four (4) high school/split season players can be added and may not exceed twenty (20) players.
      - 1) In Red Divisional play, 3 may be waived with BOARD approval.
      - 2) This waiver is not intended to allow a State-bound team to join Snowbelt to fill out its game schedule while other split-season teams are on the break during HS season.
    - iv) Any waiver granted is valid for only one season.
  - c) Each high school and split season tournament bound player must play at least seventy-five (75) % of Snowbelt League games to be eligible for the JAM Tournament. Games missed due to Game Misconduct suspensions will be counted as an absence. Games missed due to significant medical reasons will neither count for nor against this percentage. Absences due to Injury shall be marked as such in the Remarks section of the game sheet.
  - d) Non-high school and non-split season tournament bound players have preference on a roster of twenty (20) players per USA Hockey.
- 2.08 Players registered on a High School team are permitted to play on Bantam Snowbelt team provided:
- a) High School players are noted as such on the roster.
  - b) A written application must be submitted to the Snowbelt President for Board approval. The member association may seek a waiver of the ban on the use of high school players in the Snowbelt League. Such application will be generally viewed with disfavor. The board may grant this waiver if the following conditions are found to exist.
    - i) The team involved is a bantam team.
    - ii) The petitioning association must field a Tournament Bound or UNYHL

## **Snowbelt By-Laws Continued**

- Bantam team as well as Bantam Snowbelt Team.
- iii) The High School player must have been a Snowbelt or House equivalent skater for the previous two seasons.
  - iv) A maximum of 4 High School players can be added to the team, with an 18 skater & 2 goalies (20 per USA Hockey).
  - v) Any waiver is granted for one season.
- c) Each High School player must play at least seventy-five (75) % of Snowbelt League games to be eligible for the JAM Tournament. Games missed due to Game Misconduct suspensions will be counted as an absence. Games missed due to significant medical reasons will neither count for nor against this percentage. Absences due to Injury shall be marked as such in the Remarks section of the game sheet.
  - d) Non-high school and non-split season tournament bound players have preference on a roster of twenty (20) players.
- 2.09 Any Midget age appropriate player not currently enrolled in high school must meet the following criteria in order to be permitted to play on ANY Snowbelt team:
- a) May not displace a currently enrolled High School attending student from the roster
  - b) Cannot be playing for any hockey team sponsored by or affiliated with a College or University (Varsity, Club, Intramural)
  - c) Must be approved by the Board on an individual basis after proof of meeting all of the above criteria
  - d) Must comply with the 75% rule in order to be eligible for JAM tournament. Games missed due to Game Misconduct suspensions will be counted as an absence. Games missed due to significant medical reasons will neither count for nor against this percentage. Absences due to Injury shall be marked as such in the Remarks section of the game sheet.

## ***ARTICLE 3.00 EQUIPMENT***

- 3.01 Safety equipment is encouraged but shall be no less than prescribed by USA Hockey rules.
- 3.02 Each team shall maintain uniform, numbered jerseys for each player.
- 3.03 The home team shall be responsible for maintaining color differentials from the visiting team. In the event the teams have similarly colored jerseys, the home team is expected to wear pull-overs, or make some similar accommodation.

## ***ARTICLE 4.00 SCHEDULES & POSTPONEMENTS***

- 4.01 The Board shall approve League Schedules. Changes can be made by the agreement of all Associations concerned, providing alternate arrangements are made to complete League Competition by the last day of the season. The Board at the first meeting of the season will determine last day of play.

## **Snowbelt By-Laws Continued**

- 4.02 In the event that weather makes travel safety questionable, all reasonable doubts are to be resolved against travel. Communication on road and weather conditions between coaches is encouraged.
- 4.03 No League game involving an out-of-town team may be scheduled prior to 9:00 a.m. when a team must travel more than 90 minutes.
- 4.04 Games that are postponed, canceled or otherwise unscheduled shall be considered a FORFEIT in final standings unless otherwise determined by the league.
- 4.05 CANCELING GAMES - As much notice as possible should be given when canceling games. If less than forty-eight (48) hours notice is given and the team initiating the cancelation is the away/visiting team, the offending team will be assessed a three hundred dollars (\$300.00) fine, (except when cancellation is due to weather) payable to Snowbelt within thirty (30) days. If the fine is not paid further action will be taken which could include suspension of the team from playoffs and/or placing the organization on probation. Snowbelt will compensate the Home organization at the end of the season. Notification for weather-related or less than seven (7) days of game cancellation must be completed by telephone to the opposing team coach or association scheduler and to the Snowbelt scheduler. Regardless of whether the above fine is assessed, affected teams shall put forth their best effort to reschedule the game before the last date of regular season play. This fine will not be reversed even if the make-up game is played.
- 4.06 Any team that does not complete assigned League games will not be awarded the Division championship. No team shall be penalized for not completing the assigned schedule if the opposing team forfeited. The League President and Scheduler will determine the fairness of the team forfeit.
- 4.07 Tournament games between two Snowbelt teams that are scheduled to play each other during regular league play may use tournament games toward their qualifying league games so long as the following restrictions are followed:
- a) Both teams must agree before the game commences that the game will also count as a Snowbelt league game.
  - b) Coaches and players must agree to abide by the normal Snowbelt rules and restrictions for the agreed upon game, including but not limited to Equal Ice play. An exception to this is period length: Both teams must agree to the period lengths set by the Tournament Director, which may include shortened periods, running time, or a mercy rule.
  - c) All round-robin or qualifying games shall be sent to the Snowbelt Scheduler prior to the tournament. If the two Snowbelt teams meet in a playoff or championship game, the Snowbelt Scheduler and Snowbelt President need to be notified by e-mail before the game commences.
  - d) The Tournament Director must agree that the game be used as a Snowbelt league game. The Tournament Director must receive the Snowbelt game code so that it can be included on the game sheet. The Tournament Director must provide the "Home" team with the white game sheet and the designated Home team is responsible for mailing the sheet in, just as with any regular league

## **Snowbelt By-Laws Continued**

- game.
- e) Fair Play Points will apply.
- f) The game will be counted as a Tie if the teams are tied at the end of regulation. Overtime periods or shootouts may be conducted for the tournament but will not count in the Snowbelt standings.
- g) Game Misconduct rules will apply as normal. Game Misconduct penalties must be served according to the normal rules (i.e. players scheduled to serve a Game Misconduct Snowbelt suspension will need to sit out the game, and players earning Game Misconduct suspensions will need to sit out the next Snowbelt game). Game Misconduct penalties earned during overtime periods of these games will incur the normal Snowbelt Game Misconduct suspension(s).

## ***ARTICLE 5.00 OFFICIALS AND GAME REPORTING***

- 5.01 The home association is responsible for securing game referees. All referees and/or linesman must be currently registered by USA Hockey for the age group participating.
- 5.02 The home association is responsible for timekeepers and score keepers. Scores should be reported by the home association to the Scheduler by Sunday night for accurate weekly League standings. Properly completed original (white copy) score sheets with game number indicated shall be submitted to the Scheduler. Game sheets not received within one (1) week will be considered delinquent and a notice issued. Game sheets not received within two (2) weeks of play will result in a FORFEIT for the home team.
  - a) Forfeits will only be removed after game sheets are received AND fines are paid.
    - i) Late game sheet fines are based on all games played within a weekend for each association (not team) as follows:
      - 1) First weekend – A \$25 fine will be assessed for the first weekend that each association has not provided game sheets by the two week deadline (regardless of the number of late game sheets that weekend).
      - 2) Second weekend – A \$50 fine will be assessed for the second weekend that each association has not provided game sheets by the two week deadline (regardless of the number of late game sheets that weekend).
      - 3) Additional late game sheets - \$50 will be assessed for each late game sheet thereafter.
  - b) Any team with outstanding fines for forfeits will be ineligible for the JAM tournament.
  - c) Any team receiving (4) FORFEITS for any reason other than late/missing game sheets shall be ineligible for the JAM tournament.
- 5.03 Officials must, as a first priority, control play. This responsibility includes controlling players, coaches and spectators.
- 5.04 Officials are encouraged, in the event of disorderliness by anyone in the rink, to

### **Snowbelt By-Laws Continued**

exercise their prerogatives to penalize players or teams. Referees by unanimous vote, may suspend further play in a game or, in extreme circumstances, declare an offending team in forfeit of the game. Suspensions of play or forfeits shall be reported immediately to the League President.

### ***ARTICLE 6.00 GAME PLAY***

- 6.01 All games shall be played pursuant to USA Hockey rules except noted herein.
- 6.02 Before starting each League game, the Captain(s) of each team shall meet with the Referees at center ice and exchange handshakes. Unless impractical coaches shall do likewise at the players' bench.
- 6.03 No more than four (4) USA Hockey Carded Coaches are to be allowed on the players' bench during the play of games (in accordance with USA Hockey). Each coach must comply with USA Hockey screening policy, hold the required level coaching card, and be registered on the team T-1 roster.
- 6.04 In accordance with the Snowbelt Constitution all players shall receive equal ice time in each game (except Goalkeepers, who may alternate games). Each Association shall monitor and enforce this regulation with its own team.

### ***ARTICLE 7.00 DISPUTES***

- 7.01 Members should try their best to resolve problems without going to the Snowbelt Board. However, the Board may entertain complaints, which shall be finally resolved by a majority vote.
- 7.02 Disputes must be followed up within seven (7) days by a letter from the Association Representative to the Snowbelt League President, stating the nature of the dispute and action requested. Failure to do so will result in the nullification of the dispute.
- 7.03 Disputes shall be reviewed by the Snowbelt League Vice-President, who shall investigate the matter concerning the dispute. If sufficient grounds for the dispute are determined, the Snowbelt Disciplinary Committee shall review the dispute and determine action to be taken. Findings and actions taken by the Disciplinary Committee shall be reported to the Snowbelt Board at the next regular meeting, who shall have final authority. USA Hockey Rule 410 Supplemental Discipline will be applied.
- 7.04 Referees' calls are final.

### ***ARTICLE 8.00 GAME TIMING***

- 8.01 All Snowbelt sanctioned games shall be three (3) periods in length. The length of each period, for all League and tournament games, shall be twelve (12) minutes for Squirt games and fifteen (15) minutes for PeeWee, Bantam, and Midget games.

## **Snowbelt By-Laws Continued**

- 8.02 All games shall be three periods of stop time. However, if the game has a curfew time, with each head coach notified (by the referee or arena staff) of that curfew time prior to the start of the game, then “running time” will start when the game clock plus one minute (to allow for post-game handshakes) equals the curfew time remaining. There shall be no timeouts allowed during “running time” play.

## **ARTICLE 9.00 PENALTIES**

- 9.01 Penalty times shall be stop time, as follows:
- a) **Minor** - One and one half (1 1/2) minutes; If 15 minute periods are used, Two (2) minutes.
  - b) **Major** - Five (5) minutes.
  - c) **Misconduct** - Ten (10) minutes.
- 9.02 A team member (player or coach) given a Game Misconduct is ineligible for the balance of that game plus the next following League game, including John Abbott Memorial (JAM) tournament games, even if the USA Hockey-mandated suspension has already been served in a non-league game.
- 9.03 A team member (player or coach) receiving two (2) penalties in League play during the season for Fighting or Match Penalty in any combination shall be suspended from further League play until his case has been dealt with by the League Discipline Committee. A hearing shall be held and a decision made relative to the case within thirty (30) days of the incident under USA Hockey Rule 410 Supplemental Discipline or the team member shall be automatically reinstated.
- 9.04 A team member (player or coach) receiving a third (3rd) penalty as described in 9.03 (Fighting or Match Penalty) during the season shall be automatically suspended from League play for the balance of the season.
- 9.05 The League Board may suspend or review any team member, team, or Association in constant or continuing violation of the rules and may apply USA Hockey Rule 410 Supplemental Discipline action, pending the outcome of a hearing.
- 9.06 Proper Authority as referenced in USA Hockey Rules shall be defined as the local Association. Such association must report to the League President and Central Section, findings and actions taken at any disciplinary hearings conducted related to League play. The report will include a copy of the Referee report, Score sheet and Local Association Discipline Committee report. Should the League President deem insufficient punishment, a Discipline hearing will be scheduled within fourteen (14) days.
- 9.07 All penalties imposed regarding suspension from future games shall carry over to the next season as applicable.
- 9.08 If any player or team official receives a Match Penalty, then the offender is immediately suspended from the League and the home association must notify the League President or Vice President within 48 hrs. A Match Penalty hearing will take

### **Snowbelt By-Laws Continued**

place with the Discipline Committee within thirty (30) days per USA Hockey upon notification from the Central Section President.

- 9.09 If any player receives five (5) penalties in one (1) game he/she will be assessed a game misconduct and serve the penalty as described in 9.02 and USA Hockey Rule 404.
- 9.10 If any team receives fifteen (15) or more penalties the head coach of the team will receive a game misconduct and serve the penalty as described in 9.02 and USA Hockey Rule 404.
- 9.11 Any appeal can be made to the Central Section President within twenty (20) days of any Snowbelt League discipline action. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Snowbelt President and the Central Section President.
- 9.12 A written disciplinary report must be submitted to the Central Section President on any discipline action resulting from a By-Law violation or a hearing. This written report must be submitted within seven (7) days for record keeping purposes by the League President.

## ***ARTICLE 10.00 DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP & POST-SEASON TOURNAMENTS***

- 10.01 It is anticipated that at the end of the regular season a Divisional Champion shall be declared for each Division the Board approves per age division. Standings will be determined on the basis of average points, two (2) for a win, one (1) for a tie, zero (0) for a loss, and one (1) for Fair Play if the team qualifies for a Fair Play point based on By-Law 10.02. In the case of a forfeit, the game will be recorded as a 1 – 0 score. The non-offending team will receive the win and one (1) Fair Play Point and the offending team will receive the loss and zero (0) Fair Play Points. Average points are the points total divided by the number of games played. In the event of a points tie, then tie in standings will be broken in the following order:
  - a) Head to head win/loss record
  - b) Fair Play points received in Head to Head games
  - c) Goal Differential (Goals For minus Goals Against) in Head to Head games
  - d) An average of least goals scored against, of common opponents played during the regular season
  - e) An average of Fair Play points received in games of common opponents played during the regular season.
  - f) Coin Toss
- 10.02 Fair Play Points: In any game when a team's Penalties in Minutes (PIM) does not exceed the following thresholds, their team gets awarded a "Fair Play Point". Both teams can be awarded fair play points in the same game if they both stay below the threshold. A team will not be awarded a fair play point in a game where a player receives a Game Misconduct or Match Penalty regardless of the teams PIM.

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Fair Play Point Penalty Thresholds	Penalty Minutes per Penalty Classification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Squirts: 5 minutes</li> <li>• PeeWee: 9 minutes</li> <li>• Bantams: 11 minutes</li> <li>• Midgets: 15 minutes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor 2 minutes (1:30 for Squirts)</li> <li>• Major 5 minutes</li> <li>• Misconduct 10 minutes</li> </ul> <p>Any Game Misconducts or Match Penalty automatically forfeits the Fair Play point regardless of PIM for the rest of the game.</p>

10.03 It is anticipated that post-season tournaments will be held, subject to these By-Laws, and that all teams will be eligible to participate. The teams will be divided into tournaments based on age division. The goal will be to place teams in tournaments where they should be able to have as competitive games as possible. The number of tournaments will be determined based on the number of host locations and the number of teams in each age division.

- a) The final tournament positions will be determined at the Snowbelt board meeting immediately preceding the JAM tournament weekend.
- b) The process for selecting tournament positions within an age division will be as follows:
  - i) Teams will be ranked by Divisional Play based on Average points per game (EXCLUDING FAIR PLAY POINTS) during the regular season;
  - ii) This ranking will be used to divide the teams into the tournament brackets where the tournaments will be as competitive as reasonably possible.

For Example: If there are 10 teams in the PW Red Division, after ranking (without fair play points):

- if teams 1-5 seem to be reasonably competitively matched, they will be placed in a 5 team tournament
- Teams 6-8 seem reasonably competitive with each other, they may be matched with teams 1-3 in the PW White division to form a 6 team tournament that is reasonably competitive.
- Teams 9&10 may be placed with teams 4-6 of the PW White division to form a 5 team tournament of reasonably competitively matched teams.

- c) The league will decide on the post season tournament format to be used. The format will guarantee a minimum of 3 games per team.
- d) The tournament rules and tie breakers will be set at the Board meeting immediately before the Post season tournament.

## ***ARTICLE 11.00 AMENDMENTS***

11.00 Any member of the BOARD may propose amendments, deletions, or additions to the by-laws.

11.01 The Board member proposing such change must:

### **Snowbelt By-Laws Continued**

- a) Provide each BOARD member with written copies of the proposed change at least twenty-eight (28) days before the proposed change is to be voted on.
- b) Request the Chairman to place the proposed change on the Agenda of a meeting to be scheduled not earlier than twenty-eight (28) days or later than sixty (60) days of the proposed change to be voted on.
- c) The proposed change must contain the date, author's name, association, the article number and the proposed change.
- d) Once a By-Law change has been made, that specific by-law may not be added to, deleted, or amended, for the duration of that season. A season is defined from the conclusion of the JAM tournament up to, and including, the next JAM tournament.

11.02 These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the BOARD.