**2015**

**N.B.B.H.A.**

**TEAM HANDBOOK**

NEW BRUNSWICK BALL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

REGULATIONS

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SECTION 1

TO ALL TEAM MANAGERS AND COACHES

In the interest of keeping our sport safe and equitable, I would ask that you ensure that each player on your registration form understands the regulations in this handbook. As your team’s coach or manager, it is your responsibility.

Wishing you all a safe and exciting season!

*New Brunswick Ball Hockey Association*

*Board of Directors / Executive*

NEW BRUNSWICK BALL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2015

**~~~~~~~~~~~**

**PRESIDENT** Sheila Elliott **VICE PRESIDENT** Sara Hayward **MINOR CHAIR** Gary Crossman **REFEREE IN CHIEF** Andrew Ellis

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SECTION 2

NEW BRUNSWICK BALL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS

1/ LEAGUES AND TEAMS

a) League**:** A ball hockey organization which may have registered its players in one or more recognized NBBHA divisions and which may operate four or more teams. All teams in a league organization must have common signing officers for purposes of registration and

release.

b) Team**:** A playing group made up of players who are all qualified in one division, under NBBHA regulations governing age and other qualification, up to the number provided by the NBBHA regulations.

c) Divisions**:** Classes of ball hockey that may be operated within the Men's & Women’s divisions of the NBBHA. Men's “B”,“C”,”**D**” , Women’s “A” , Masters Men’s & Women’s and Juniors.

A league may become a member of the NBBHA by making application to the NBBHA. The NBBHA Board of Directors/Executive may at its discretion accept or refuse the application of a league.

A team may become a member of the NBBHA by making application to a league in its area. The Executive

Committee of the league may at its discretion accept or refuse the application of a team.

RECOGNIZED STRUCTURE OF A LEAGUE**:**

To be a member leagues must have a minimum of 4 teams. (exceptions granted for new leagues) For 2 Tiers a league must have a minimum of 8 teams.

For 3 Tiers a league must have a minimum of 12 teams.

A team shall consist of not less than twelve (12) and no more than (25) registered players.

League size: A bona fide senior league must consist of at lease (4) teams and play a minimum

12-game schedule.

2/ LEAGUE DUTIES

Each league shall, each year, keep the NBBHA informed of the names, full addresses and phone

numbers of their:

i) President

ii) Vice-President iii) Referee in Chief

3/ LEAGUE REGISTRATION

**All leagues intending to compete in the New Brunswick Championships shall submit the**

**appropriate Team registration forms and fees into the NBBHA ~**  no later than June 1st**.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | REGISTRATION FORMS |  |
| FORM TYPE | TEAM DEADLINE TO LEAGUE | LEAGUE DEADLINE TO NBBHA |
| **TEAM REGISTRATION FORM** | CHECK WITH YOUR LEAGUE | JUNE 1st |
| **PROVINCIAL REGISTRATION** |  | JUNE 1st |

WHITE ~ SEND TO NBBHA

YELLOW ~ LEAGUE’S COPY

BLUE ~ TEAM COPY

FEES:

ALL Teams: $20.00 / Player/coach/managers/bench staff Minimum (12) Maximum (25) Officials: **$30.00**

PAYMENT: The League shall submit 1 (one) Certified Cheque or Money Order to cover ALL team registrations, in that League, made payable to the New Brunswick Ball Hockey Association (NBBHA)

**(A league shall not be considered registered until payment has been received)**

4/ TEAM REGISTRATION

a) To become eligible for membership in the NBBHA and to continue membership from year

to year, a team must fulfill the following conditions:

i) Complete an NBBHA Team Registration Form and submit same to its league's executive.

ii) Make payment in full its NBBHA team registration fees on or before the due date designated by its league executive. Payment shall be made payable to its league in trust.

b) All NBBHA team registration fees must be submitted to the NBBHA no later than June 1st, if payment is not received the team and/or league will be suspended until payment is received. After 30 days membership will be terminated. It is the responsibility of each league to ensure compliance with this regulation. (No player additions will be permitted after this date).

c) A person shall be eligible to register with a team in an adult league in the NBBHA provided that such person is: **at least 16 years of age in the calendar year of the season played**.

2) Not under suspension by the NBBHA or any of its leagues

3) Not registered with another senior team in the NBBHA

5/ NBBHA TEAM REGISTRATION FORM

a) Teams in the NBBHA may only use the NBBHA Team Registration Form issued to them by

their league.

b) The NBBHA Team Registration Form shall serve to register the manager and coach named therein and shall identify them as the two Executive officers of the team, accountable for its monetary obligations to the NBBHA and authorized to register and release players and sign Game Reports.

**c) Managers and Coaches who wish to also play on the same team must complete the players section of an NBBHA Team Registration Form in addition to the coaches and managers section. A Coach or Manager may sign as a player for a team other than the one he coaches or manages. A Coach or Manager cannot register with more than one team at the same level (i.e. B, C, D, etc).**

d) Teams may not have registered more than 25 players at any point in time. Players may be added until league deadline or NBBHA Deadline (June 1st). **Players must be signed on the NBBHA registration form** before **they can play their first game**. Teams are **allowed to delete a maximum of 3 players** from their roster by the registration deadline of June 1st and sign additional players to **maximize their roster to the 22 player limit.** Players deleted from a team may not resign with that team in the same calendar year. Maximum signing remains at 25 players in one year.

e) Teams shall keep their executive informed of changes of names and addresses of their managers and coaches. And in turn Leagues shall notify the NBBHA of such changes.

f) (i) No player shall be registered with more than one NBBHA team or league within one season.

ii) Men’s ” B” & “C” ~ Player Eligibility:

 A player will be permitted to play anywhere at “B” (Tier 1) **or** “C” (Tier 2) level during league play, but can only participate at one provincial level (cannot move to a lower level) & must play a minimum of 2 games in a season with a registered league / team to play in provincials.

 It is highly recommended that NBBHA Registered players NOT play in outlaw leagues (not registered with NBBHA or CBHA), due to insurance, safety, and suspension issues.

6/ TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

a) The NBBHA Board of Directors have the right to terminate membership of a team or

league at any time if;

i) The member is in default for a period of 30 days in the payment of any fees or fines due to the NBBHA;

ii) After notice, the member continues to be in breach of any condition of membership.

iii) After notice, the member continues to be in breach of any rule or regulation of the

NBBHA;

iv) The member's conduct is deemed by the NBBHA Board of Directors to be detrimental to the welfare of the NBBHA.

b) An identified conflict of interest on the part of any NBBHA member may result in expulsion from the NBBHA.

c) Any league, which does not uphold the minimum NBBHA suspensions, may face expulsion.

d) Save and except for termination of memberships for failure to pay fees or fines, a terminated member shall have the right to appeal a termination to the Board of Directors / Executive, at the next Executive Meeting or AGM. Notification of such intention must be made in writing to the NBBHA Board of Directors / Executive.

7/ PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

a) i) Every player competing in games provided by the NBBHA and its leagues shall be a member of a team which is registered with the NBBHA and shall, prior to competing in any such games, and subject to approval by the NBBHA Board of Directors / Executive,

complete the NBBHA Team Registration Form.

ii) This requirement is not necessary for pre-season games provided by the league. b) Any registered player is eligible to play in NBBHA playoff games  **or** Provincial

Championship games, as long as the minimum games requirements of the League / Province are met.

8/ TEAM AND PLAYER VIOLATIONS

a) i) Any team official who allows a player to take part in any game provided by the NBBHA

or its leagues, excluding exhibition games provided by the NBBHA, who is not registered will be suspended for a period of one (1) year.

ii) The offending team shall also forfeit to the non-offending team all games in which the non- registered player was allowed to participate. The non-offending team shall be awarded a (1-0) ~ win.

iii) No suspended player may take part in any NBBHA sanctioned event as a player, coach, assistant coach, manager, trainer or referee while under suspension

b) 1) The following constitutes player registration violations and shall result in the guilty party being automatically suspended from ball hockey with any team in the NBBHA for a period

of  **not less** than one (1) year and  **not more** than three (3) years from the date of violations;

i) Any player proven guilty of falsifying an NBBHA team Registration Form.

ii) Any player having had knowledge that same had been falsified and knowingly and willfully concealing this knowledge from the NBBHA Board of Directors; and

iii) Any player competing under an assumed name.

2) Any team official proven guilty of having been party to, or having knowledge of and having willfully concealed such registration violations, shall be liable for suspension for life from playing or holding office with any team or league in the NBBHA.

3) The matter of forfeit shall be as in 9 (a) above.

9/ LEAGUE OPERATION

The conduct and regulation of competition between teams in a league shall be under the control and direction of the League's Executive Committee.

a) At the start of the season, each league will establish a tie breaking procedure for any tied positions in the final standing. The procedure shall be published all teams in the league before regular season play begins.

b) Where goals for and against percentage is used as a means to decide a position in the standings, the goal average of a team is determined by dividing the goals for by the sum of the goals for and the goals against. The team having the higher percentage wins the position. Defaulted games do count when calculating a team's percentage.

10/ GAME TIMES AND TIMING

a) No game shall begin until the team official acting as coach of each team has furnished the

referee, on the official Game Report, with a list of registered players eligible to take part in such game.

b) All games shall be timed as two 20, 18, or 15 minute periods stopped time with an intermission. However, a league can adopt its own game time format, provided it is approved by the NBBHA Executive or general membership.

c) As a general rule in league play, a minimum of 48 hours' notice of any regular season or playoff games shall be given. However, where circumstances are beyond the control of your league Executive, teams must be prepared to play any game on 24 hours' notice.

d) During an altercation, at the discretion of the referee, the clock shall be permitted to run until the referee directs the timekeeper to stop the clock.

11/ TERMINATION OF GAME

a) With respect to dangerous playing conditions, the decision whether to begin or continue a

game is solely the responsibility of the referees with consultation with the League

President / Convener.

b) The referee may terminate a game if, in his estimation, it is getting beyond disciplinary control.

12/ DEFAULTS

a) A default shall include:

1) **Failure to present a team of at least**  6 **eligible players at the time and place appointed to play in any NBBHA game excluding tournaments and NBBHA championships.**

2) i) Withdrawal of a team from the surface and failure to return and start play, or if being on the surface, failure to start play within 2 minutes after being ordered to do so by the referee.

ii) If a team, after being ordered to return, does not return to the surface to start play, then a minor penalty shall be assessed. If the same set of circumstances occurs a second time within the same game, the 2 minutes allowance shall not be granted and the game shall be defaulted.

iii) The manager, coach or official and/or players of the team, which is responsible for any of these actions may be suspended for  **one year** or more from the date of the infraction. The referees shall submit a full written report providing details of the incident to the president of the league and the NBBHA.

3) Failure of the home team to wear cover-ups in the event that the two competent teams in a game cannot be distinguished as a result of sweater color clashes;

4) Any action on the part of a team deemed a default in the opinion of the NBBHA Board of Directors / Executive.

(b) If a team defaults a game, the penalty incurred shall be:

i) Defaults in NBBHA play may result in a team being banned from competing in games provided by the NBBHA for one (1) year.

13/ POSTPONEMENT OF GAMES

a) A game, postponed for any reason, shall be rescheduled by the president of the league on

the earliest possible date prior to the end of the regular schedule.

b) The Procedure for any unfinished portion of a game called by curfew or an act of God shall be as follows:

i) If the teams are to meet again during the regular season and if there is less than one period remaining, the remainder of the game shall be played prior to the start of the next scheduled game.

ii) If the teams are not scheduled to meet again during the regular season or if there is exactly one or more than one period remaining, the full game shall be replayed if it has any bearing on the final standings.

14/ EQUIPMENT

a) The following equipment is mandatory in all NBBHA games

i) **CSA approved helmet with chin strap properly fastened.**

 A player who loses his helmet during play must replace it immediately or leave the floor. If the player does not replace the helmet and/or does not leave the floor while not wearing a helmet, play will be blown dead immediately and the player will receive a minor penalty

ii) **Ice Hockey gloves and CBHA approved Ball Hockey Glove are permitted**

iii) **Sweater and pants or shorts must have the same base color**

iv) **Running shoes**. Goaltenders, however, may wear shoes offering more instep and toe protection.

b) The following equipment is optional, but highly recommended:

i) **Elbow pads** ~ which must be worn under the sweater;

ii) **Mouth guard ~** internal or external;

iii) **Knee pads** (basketball or volleyball) ~ which may be worn over or under the sweat pants;

iv) **Protective cup ~** which must be worn under the sweat pants;

v) **Shin pads ~** which may be worn over or under the sweat pants.

c) Shoulder pads are  **prohibited**.

d) Sticks must be of any composition but must be attached internally into the shaft and must be a blade manufactured for retail purposes. There is no stick curvature rule. Plastic attached blades are  **not** permitted.

e) It is strongly recommended that each team carry an adequate first aid kit at all times. It is also highly recommended that leagues have someone on hand with a recognized first aid certificate i.e. player, coach, official etc.

f) All other rules with respect to equipment shall be found in the official Canadian Ball

Hockey Association Rule Book, as amended from time to time.

15/ SPECTATORS

Any acts of physical abuse by any spectator or player against any official of the NBBHA shall not

be tolerated and shall be severely dealt with by the NBBHA Board of Directors.

16/ RELEASE OF MEMBERSHIP

a) A player shall cease to be a member of a team, that is, shall be declared a free agent:

i) When he/she qualifies as a player from a team whose membership in the NBBHA

has been terminated through the league to which it is registered.

ii) On October 1st of each year.

b) i) Once a team has signed with a league, then the team remains the property of the league to which it is signed until it obtains a release from or it withdraws from NBBHA play for one year.

ii) Any team wishing to move from one NBBHA league to another NBBHA league must obtain a written release from the league with which it is registered. Failure to obtain a release will result in a one (1) year suspension.

c) No more than 5 players can move down in level of play from one team to another, unless they sit out one full provincial season or their team finished poorly in their previous season.

17/ TEAMS MOVING FROM ONE LEAGUE TO ANOTHER

a) A team in any NBBHA league may move to another NBBHA league provided that it has complied with Regulation 17 b) ii).

b) Teams leaving one league for another must remain at the same level or higher as they were designated in the league they are leaving.

c) **60%** of the Roster constitutes the same team from one year to the next.

d) If a dispute arises and leagues cannot agree on the movement of a team, it shall be the privilege of either league to appeal to the NBBHA Board of Directors. All facts, shall be presented by both sides. Any decision(s) reached by the NBBHA shall be binding on all parties.

18/ NBBHA PENALTIES AND SUSPENSIONS

a)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| INFRACTION | TIME OF PENALTY | MINIMUM ADDITIONAL PENALTY |
| Minor | 2 minutes | none |
| 3 penalties in 1 game | 2/4/10 minutes delayed penalty when a goal is scored | game ejection |
| Any major | 5 minutes | Game Misconduct |
| Double Minor – Stick Penalties, attempt to head butt or spear | 4 minutes | None |
| Misconduct | 10 minutes | None |
| 2 misconducts | 10 minutes | Game Misconduct |
| Gross misconduct | 10 minutes | Game Misconduct & 2-game suspension |
| Match Penalty | 5 minutes | Game Misconduct & 5 game suspension |
| Fighting | 5 minutes | Game Misconduct & 5-game suspension |
| Fighting - instigator or aggressor | 5 minutes | Game Misconduct, 2-minute minor,  5-game suspension and additional 2- game suspension |
| Fighting - retaliation if aggressor called | 5 minutes | Game Misconduct |
| Third man in | 10 minutes | Game Misconduct & 1-game suspension |
| First player off players' bench during altercation | 4 minutes | Game Misconduct |
| Any other players off players' bench during altercation | 2/5/10 minutes | None |
| Fighting off surface | 10 minutes | Game Misconduct & 5-game suspension |
| Hitting official (physically or with equipment) | Match | Game Misconduct & life suspension |
| Verbal abuse of an official | Match | Game Misconduct & 5-game suspension |
| Verbal Threat of Abuse | Double Match | Game Misconduct & one year suspension |
| Physical abuse of an official | Match | Game misconduct & life suspension |

NOTE: Life suspensions carry an automatic 5-year minimum suspension. After five years, a review may be requested, by the individual suspended.

b) i) All NBBHA leagues must submit a suspension list declaring suspended players to the

NBBHA office no later than a week prior to the Provincials &/or Eastern’s Nationals.

ii) Failure to submit a suspension list by the deadline date may result in the offending league receiving a one (1) year suspension from the NBBHA.

c) i) If a player / team receives a suspension in an NBBHA league, then that suspension must be honored by  **ALL** leagues.

ii) Failure to respect an NBBHA league's suspension will result in the offending league receiving a one (1) year suspension from the NBBHA.

d) i) All NBBHA leagues must honor prescribed minimums for suspension as stated in the NBBHA Regulations. In addition, a league can increase suspensions beyond the prescribed minimums.

ii) Failure to honor prescribed minimums for suspensions as stated in the NBBHA Regulation will result in the offending league receiving a one year suspension from the NBBHA.

e) Any violation of the rules and regulations of the NBBHA shall render such player or team official liable to suspension by the NBBHA Board of Directors.

f) i) Any suspension must commence being served in a team's next scheduled league game, regardless of any pending appeal and shall extend over consecutive games.

**II)** It is the responsibility of the team officials to ensure that a player who incurs a suspension is not allowed to compete for the duration of his suspension. Failure to comply with this regulation shall result in the suspension of the team officials and forfeiture of game(s) as found in 9 a) ii).

***iii)*** Suspensions carrying over into a league's playoffs will be reduced by the maximum number of games in a playoff series whether or not all the games were played (i.e., if a best of three series ends in two games, suspensions will be reduced by three games).

g) i) A team official who is under suspension shall not be permitted to direct his team for the duration of his suspension. The penalty for violation of the regulation shall be an additional 2-game suspension for each game in which such an infraction occurs.

ii) A playing coach, suspended for any action, shall lose his rights as a player and a coach. h) i) Any suspension incurred by a player or team official before a tournament shall

disqualify such player or team official from participating in his team's tournament games.

However, tournament games shall not count in the duration of a suspension.

i) Any suspension incurred in tournaments or exhibition games must be served in league play as well.

j) Suspensions of 5 games or less shall be  **without right of appeal**.

k) The names of all players and team official under suspension by the NBBHA and its member leagues are available through the NBBHA office.

19/ SUSPENSIONS AND APPEALS

a) **Appeals**

1. Any player who feels aggrieved with regard to his status with a team/ league may appeal his situation to the Board of Directors / Executive.

2. Appeals of suspensions of over five games must be made within 48 hours of the penalty and must be accompanied by a deposit of $100.00/individual;

$250.00/team; or $500.00/league to the NBBHA office. Said appeal will be heard by the Disciplinary Committee at its next meeting. If the appeal is won half the amount of the deposit will be reimbursed.

3. Suspensions of **5** games or less, or any fighting suspensions cannot be appealed.

b) **Procedure**

All disciplinary cases shall be recorded and kept on record so as to be available to all Disciplinary Committee members. All members of the NBBHA shall have the right to present their version of any disciplinary action taken against them. Such interpretation shall be in written form and presented to the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee. Said written version shall be reviewed by Committee members and read aloud so everyone concerned shall have full knowledge of the involved person's interpretation. In turn, the official rules shall be interpreted by the Committee and communicated to the person(s) being disciplined or reprimanded.

c) **Voting and Action**

The Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee shall present all suspensions and fines to Committee members to vote on. All suspensions and fines shall be according to guidelines of the NBBHA Regulations and the NBBHA constitution. Additional

suspensions and fines shall be based on the severity of penalties incurred, past and present. Any Committee member involved in the accused person's infractions as a referee

or as a player shall carry no vote on the final decision. However, said member shall have the right to interpret his version of the infraction.

The final decisions made by vote, by the Committee members shall be recorded by the chairman and shall be turned over to the President to be put on record. Suspensions or fines shall become effective immediately.

20/ DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

(a) **Guidelines**

The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of three to five members. Said members will be appointed with at least (1) representative from each of the registered leagues. Length of term shall be one full ball hockey season, commencing after the date of election.

The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of:

1. **Chairperson:** The Chairperson of the Disciplinary committee should be a member of the

Board of Directors / Executive.

2. **Referee:** The referee shall be either or both of the Technical Directors or an assistant, as named.

3. **Any Three of Managers/Players/Coaches**

Several persons shall be elected and approved by the NBBHA Board of Directors. Members shall have at least one full year's experience with game play in the NBBHA. Members shall also have full knowledge of the NBBHA's Constitution and the NBBHA Regulations. Members are required to be of good conduct, past and present. If good conduct is not continued, the Chairman of the committee shall have the right to suspend or reprimand said members. Only three managers/players/coaches shall participate at any one meeting (**not from the teams involved).** All those eligible will be scheduled in advance so that all may serve as a member on several occasions.

(b) **Duties**

The Disciplinary Committee shall review all disciplinary cases or incidents incurred by players or persons involved in the function or playing of a game, with written reports of offending person's past and present conduct. All past history of a person's playing or performance at other functions within the NBBHA shall be taken into consideration when

making decisions on disciplinary matters. The Committee shall use guidelines of NBBHA

Regulations and the NBBHA Constitution. The Committee shall interpret these laws and enforce rulings against any person who violates such rules and by-laws. The Committee shall vote and make final decisions on all disciplinary cases brought before them. Said Committee shall only function with a minimum of 60% of members in attendance for all decisions handed down.

c) **Reviewing Cases**

All disciplinary cases shall be brought to the attention of the Chairperson of the Committee immediately. At that time, the Chairperson shall prepare an agenda for the following meeting.

All meetings should be held as soon after the infraction occurs so that any suspensions or disciplinary action can be enforced promptly. This is in fairness to the other teams and players and will prevent an offending person from participating in normally scheduled games when a suspension is in order but has not already been served by a referee to the offending person.

4. All suspensions must be honored regardless of pending appeals, i.e, a player must serve that portion (or all) of suspension if the appeal date is not prior to his next scheduled game.

5. Decisions made by the Disciplinary Committee may be appealed to the NBBHA Board of Directors. Said appeal, must be accompanied by a deposit of

$100.00/individual; $250.00/team; or $500.00/league and a written explanation as to why the Disciplinary Committee's decision was unjust. The NBBHA Board of Directors has the right to refuse the appeal if it feels that the grounds are not valid.

6. Deposits accompanying appeals, may be retained by the NBBHA Board of

Directors if said appeals are disallowed.

d) **Frequency of Meetings**

Disciplinary Committee meetings shall be held as needed.

21/ SUSPENSION CARRY-OVERS

a) Suspensions that do not expire prior to a team's elimination from further play during a season shall be carried forward to the next season.

b) Suspensions from league games will not run concurrently with NBBHA provincial championship games, as found in 19 h) i.

c) A suspended player or team official from a disbanded team shall remain under suspension until such time as reinstated as a free agent by the NBBHA Board of Directors.

This point in time shall be determined:

i) Within a season, in accordance with the disbanded team's original schedule;

ii) From the start of a season in the case of 23 a).

22/ ADDITIONAL PENALTIES AND SUSPENSIONS

**a) A player or team official incurring 2 match penalties or 3 gross misconducts in one**

**season shall be suspended for one (**1**) year from the date of the 2nd infraction.**

b) A player or team official shall be allowed a maximum of 3 game penalties in one game prior to being ejected from such game, provided that the first and/or second penalty does not carry an additional game ejection.

c) A penalty of 2 or 5 minutes must be served by the penalized player or by a player designated by the team, where the penalized player incurs an additional game ejection as a result of the nature of the original infraction.

d) During coincidental minor or major penalties, teams shall be allowed immediate substitution.

23/ PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Each league shall so arrange its playoffs or regular season so that it shall have its teams able to participate in the New Brunswick Championships at such dates as set by the Board of Directors /

Executive. Any league or team, which fails to conform to this regulation shall be liable to suspension by the NBBHA Board of Directors. Leagues are requested to inform the NBBHA of the uniform colors of teams advancing to Provincial Championships.

a) **Inter-League Competition**

The association shall conduct annually inter-league competition in men's, B & C and Women’s ball hockey for the Championship of NB. Such competition shall be under the control and direction of the Board of Directors / Executive of the Association.

No team shall compete in the New Brunswick Championship which has not participated in league competition during the season and has qualified through league and/or regional playoffs (if required).

The Association's representative at any tournament shall have the power to inspect the registration forms of every player competing. Teams competing in tournaments must carry such forms for all players and officials with them for this purpose. All teams competing in the Men's / Women’s Provincial Championships are entitled to **pick up an additional 4 players from their same league and tier (lower tier is also acceptable) for Championship play**, of which one may be designated as a goalie.

1) Provincial Championship Seeds Granted**:**

**SEEDS WILL BE GRANTED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING**:

 Final placing from the previous Provincial Championships;

 Current placing in respective league as of Provincial Registration Deadline date.

2) Provincial Championships Awards:

In conjunction with any awards, the following prizes will apply to the  **top finishers** in each category only under the premise that they will represent NB at the Nationals or Eastern the following year: **Funding will be provided to the team representative upon return of the event. Fee disbursement is dependent upon funding availability:**

 Regional Qualifier 1st Seed – Registration Fee

Recognized structure of a league:

**To be a member leagues must have a minimum of 4 teams**. For 2 Tiers a league must have a minimum of 8 teams.

For 3 Tiers a league must have a minimum of 12 teams.

**Optional Movement Between Levels:**

Leagues finishing in semi-finals of lower levels may request movement to higher level. The request will be granted if one of the bottom four in the higher level agrees to move down. The request must be made by March 1st with an answer from the NBBHA by the Spring General Meeting.

**New Leagues And Their Seedings**:

New leagues will be seeded last at each level they are granted.

If more than one new league enters, at any one level, their respective seeds at the bottom will be done by a draw.

**Growing Leagues and Their Seeds:**

Additional seeds granted will be seeded last below new leagues.

24/ OFFICIATING

a) The NBBHA is committed to establishing and maintaining the highest standard of

officiating possible.

b) The NBBHA is also committed to the "Rookie Officiating Program", the purpose of which shall be to help expand and develop the talents of long-time ball hockey players and to maintain their involvement in the sport. Individuals interested in enrolling in the program should contact the NBBHA Board of Directors.

25/ ARENA DAMAGE

If arena damage can be attributed to an NBBHA team, its players or its fans, such team shall be

assessed the expenses and the NBBHA Disciplinary committee shall review the incident for further possible disciplinary action.

26/ INSURANCE

As a member of the New Brunswick Ball Hockey Association, each team is covered with limited

dental and medical insurance. Should an injury of this nature occur, the team must contact the League Executive or NBBHA immediately so that the proper forms can be sent to the injured player, completed and then sent to the CBHA office (a copy should also be sent to NBBHA). Member leagues are covered by a $3 Million dollar liability policy. Proof of insurance certificates, are available from the CBHA office.

If an injury occurs before the team or player addition registration form has been submitted to the NBBHA office, the league president is responsible for attaching a copy of that injured player's registration form to the accident or dental claim form.

27/ TAMPERING

If an NBBHA league can prove solicitation on the part of another NBBHA league to a team, then the accused league may face expulsion from the NBBHA.

Any team wishing to move from one NBBHA league to another NBBHA league must obtain a written release from the league to which they are registered. Failure to obtain a release may result in a one year suspension.

Any team soliciting a player who is signed by another NBBHA team (before he becomes a free agent) may face a one year suspension from the NBBHA.

28/ ALCOHOL

If an individual or team is consuming alcohol in an arena or arena parking lot, they may be

suspended or banned from the facility.

29/ BALL HOCKEY RULE BOOK

All other rules and conduct of play, not enumerated herein, shall be found in the official  **Canadian**

**Ball Hockey Rule Book**, as amended from time to time.

30/ SUGGESTIONS

The NBBHA Board of Directors are committed to operating the best ball hockey association possible and welcomes all suggestions, opinions and observations from players and teams alike.

Viewpoints should be submitted in writing to the NBBHA office.