

Golden Eagle's Senior Hockey League

-By-Laws-

(Amended Apr 2001 / Sept 2010 & Apr 2012; Apr 2013; April 2015, April 2016)

Article I

Membership

Section1. MEMBERSHIP- The members will be the permanent players and the subs that meet the eligibility requirements and are current with all fees due. Each member will be entitled to one (1) vote at the Annual Membership Meeting and Banquet held at the end of each season. By-Laws changes will be voted upon at this time, or by a committee appointed by the membership at this meeting. No other changes shall be instituted by any other committee or individual.

Section2. CREDENTIALS- Players shall have attained the age of fifty (50) on or before April 1st of the hockey season application is made for membership. (Example: For 2009/2010 season, player must be 50 on or before Apr. 1, 2010) All players shall remain eligible for the draft as long as their membership has not lapsed. All players shall provide credentials to prove age and residency to the satisfaction of the board.

Section3. ELIGIBILITY- Any player drafted shall remain eligible from year to year as long as the current registration fee is paid for the year. Eligibility lapses whenever registration fees are not paid. To become eligible again the player must pay all outstanding fees owed the league.

- Under special exemption by the board, players in good standing, who sustain an injury or other justifiable reason that prevents them from signing up (Registering) for an entire season may remain eligible for the next season. A fee of \$75 will be required to hold membership and keep the player in good standing. This payment qualifies the player to enter the following years draft as a returning player and must be drafted except in cases where no vacancy is present. The player will not be drafted in the current year draft.

Section4. RESIDENCY- All players must live in either St. Clair County or Sanilac County. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved by the Board.

Section5. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS- A player who willfully fails to comply with the eligibility rules will be permanently suspended from the league. Any team using an ineligible player will forfeit all games in which the ineligible player participated.

Section6. REGISTRATION FEE-A fee as determined by the Board, shall be required from each player during a registration period of not less than seven (7) days. Anyone not drafted will become a substitute player and Subs will have their registration fee pro-rated on a per game basis. U.S.A. Hockey registration must be paid for the current season for all regulars and subs. Proof of USA Hockey registration must be presented to the League officers prior to start of regular season play.

- A. Registration fees shall be paid before a player is eligible to play in a regular season game. Registration fee shall be \$150. Goalies ~~shall not be charged to play.~~
- B. The balance of the league fee will be determined by the League Treasurer based upon the calculation of expected expenditures.
- C. The remainder of the league player fees are due ~~before the 5th game of the season.~~ the 1st week of November after the completion of our annual Tournament.
- D. Players not paid in full by ~~their teams 5th game~~ the deadline, are ineligible to play, unless special arrangements are made to the league treasurer.
- E. Games that are played with an ineligible player are subject to forfeit upon board review.
- F. In cases where a season ending injury occurs in the first 5 scheduled weeks, the affected player shall be charged a total of \$75 with any payments above that amount refunded to the affected player. This applies to injuries only and will be approved by the League Officers. ~~Other significant events or injuries that arise, that limit a player's participation will be reviewed on an individual basis by the board to determine an equitable player fee. Decisions of the board are final.~~
- G. The League will make an effort to send a Minimum of \$200 to the family of a deceased Current League Member. This is in addition to flowers that may also be sent.
- H. The League will also make an effort to send an appropriate gift (amount to be determined by the League Officers) to the family of deceased retired members. It is understood that the league may not always be informed of every death of retired members.
- I. Women who wish to play may sign up and enter the league in the same manner as men.

Section 7. TEAM ROSTER- At the first game, Team representatives will provide the League Secretary with jersey numbers for each player.

Section 8. TEAM REPRESENTATIVES- Each team will have a team representative who will have voting powers on the board of directors.

Section 9. PROFESSIONALS - No player having achieved professional hockey status will be allowed to play in the league without Board approval. Ex-pros that were previously approved cannot be protected for the following year's draft.

Section 10. AWARDS- Any regular player shall be eligible for end of season individual awards. All roster members having competed in one (1) or more regular season or playoff games, being a regular or a team sub, shall be eligible to receive team awards. (Not League Subs)

- A. Team awards shall be presented to the regular season champion or co-champions. (Sponsor and Individual)
- B. Team awards shall be presented to the playoff champion. (Sponsor and Individual)

ARTICLE II OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section1. OFFICERS- League officers will be elected by the membership at the annual meeting. Officers shall consist of:

- President- the President will in general, supervise and control all of the business affairs of the league. He will also preside over all meetings held by the league. He will be responsible for securing ice time, referees, score keepers, MAHA registrations, team sweaters and socks, the player draft and awards banquet.
- Vice President- the Vice President in the absence of the President will perform the duties of the President. He will also oversee and co-ordinate sponsorship of league teams.
- Secretary- the Secretary will keep minutes of all league meetings. He will also serve as league statistician and public relations director. Subs games will be kept as a matter of record to determine subs fees at the end of the season. He will create league schedules, standings. Individual scoring may be recorded and published by the League Secretary.
- Treasurer- the Treasurer will be responsible for all monetary transactions of the league. Records will be kept and available to the Board of Directors at any time and to the membership at the annual meeting.
- The Board will insure that all players meet the League's eligibility requirements. When asked for credentials, a player must present proof of eligibility within 24 hours or will be held off the ice until such proof is presented.

Section2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS- the Board of Directors shall consist of the League Officers and one (1) team representative from each team. Each team shall have one (1) vote on all matters before the Board. In the absence of the team representative, a team may appoint a temporary representative whom will have voting authority of said team. Any team member may sit in on any Board of Directors meeting as an observer only; however, it is no duty of the Board to publicize these meetings beyond team representatives.

ARTICLE III SPONSORS

Section1. SPONSORS- Team sponsors will be approved by the Board prior to being invited to sponsor.

Section2. SPONSOR'S FEES- Sponsor's fees will be determined by the Board. Fees are intended to replace jerseys which are retained by the League; however, all monies collected will be deposited into the general fund of the league. Jerseys are to be replaced on a rotating basis.

Section3. JERSEYS- New jerseys purchased will be of color approved in advance by the Board. All efforts shall be made to have jersey colors that are dissimilar.

ARTICLE IV DRAFT

Section1. DRAFT- Prior to the beginning of each season, The Board will conduct a player draft to fill the rosters of each team. The draft will be conducted as follows:

- A. All league regular players from the previous season who maintained their eligibility must be chosen
- B. Each team will be allowed one (1) Goalie to be taken from the general draft or protected from the previous year.
- C. Each team will choose one (1) player in each round. The teams will choose in reverse order from the previous year's standings (6-5-4-3-2-1). [See "E" paragraph below.](#)
- D. New players will be rated by a consensus of the Board just prior to the draft.
 - New players can only be drafted after all eligible substitutes are drafted.
- E. Each team will protect two (2) players from the previous year's team or player(s) approved by the board or membership. These players will be chosen before the draft, typically at the league awards banquet meeting and will become the first draft choices of each team. The draft will begin in the third round and will continue until each team's regular roster of eleven (11) players is full. [The first 4 rounds \(3,4,5 & 6\) of the draft will have the teams picking players in the reverse order of previous years standing. The 7th through the 11th and final round, will snake. The last pick of the draft will be by the team that had the 1st overall pick.](#)

- F. At the Draft, the Board will decide if Substitutes will be drafted or simply put into a sub pool. If a sub draft is decided upon, it will begin immediately following the regular draft. Each team will choose substitutes from the eligible substitute list choosing in reverse order from the previous year's standing (6-5-4-3-2-1) If a sub pool is decided upon, all non drafted players from the regular 11 round draft will enter a sub pool and the players will be called upon to substitute for all league teams on an as needed basis. Efforts to balance out the games equally between all substitutes will be made. (see Art. VI Section 8)
- G. New teams will be staffed with 2 players recruited by the Board before the draft begins. These two (2) players will be selected from the pool of the unprotected registrants. The position that new teams will draft will be determined at the draft and before drafting begins.
- H. Upon completion of the draft, Player Representatives will receive player phone numbers and contact information from the League officers. Player representatives shall contact each player drafted to their respective teams.
- I. The number of players registered for each season will determine the number of teams to compete that season. Guidelines for the number of teams will be as follows: *(Note this is only a guideline. The Board will determine the number of teams based upon ice availability, player registrations and other information)*
 - a. 4 teams 52 players registered
 - b. 5 teams 60 players registered
 - c. 6 teams 78 players registered
 - d. 7 teams 82 players registered
 - e. 8 teams 104 players registered

Section2. SUBSTITUTES- All substitute players having played half (½) of the regular season games and playoff games combined shall be eligible for the regular draft, however, if not enough vacancies occur in the league, those players chosen first to fill those predetermined vacancies shall become regular players. All other eligible substitutes from the previous year must be chosen in the sub draft. Any substitutes who play in ½ of the regular season games and playoff games combined and remain active in the league, will remain eligible for league membership.

Section3. PROTECTION- No substitute player may be protected. Underage goalies may not be protected.

Section4. TRADES- Trades may be made any time after the draft prior to the start of play of the 3rd game of the teams involved. Each team and each player involved must approve the trade. A representative of each of the teams in the league will meet to approve or disapprove the trade before the 4th game of either team involved. The trade must be approved by a majority of the teams in the league.

ARTICLE V LEAGUE SCHEDULING

Section1. STANDINGS The scoring system will be based on two (2) points for win and one (1) point for a tie and zero (0) points for a loss. Season standings will be published in a timely manner. The team that compiles the most points will be league champion. In the event of a tie, all teams tied for first place will be declared co-champions and presented end of season awards for such. Deciding final standing for playoffs and the following season draft, in the event of a tie for any spot in the standing will be as follows:

1. Team with the most wins.
2. Head to head competition
3. Most goals scored against other team(s) that were tied.
4. Fewest penalty minutes for the season
5. Coin toss

Section2. REGULAR SEASON GAMES-Regular season games will consist of one of the following options which shall be decided upon at the draft. **In all games, there will be a 2 minute warm up after the Zamboni doors close.**

1. Three (3) periods of ten (10) minute stop time or
2. Two (2) periods of seventeen (17) minutes. Teams will not change ends.

Tie games will not necessitate overtime in the regular season.

Section3. PLAYOFF GAMES-Playoff games will consist of one of the following options which shall be decided upon at the draft. **In all games, there will be a 2 minute warm up after the Zamboni doors close.**

1. Three (3) periods of ten (10) minute stop time or
2. Two (2) periods of seventeen (17) minutes. Teams will not change ends.

Tie games will necessitate playing one (1) overtime time period of **Three (3) minutes Running Time** until such time as a goal is scored (Sudden Death). Teams will play **3 on 3** in Overtime. ~~Shootouts will be used if no winner is decided in the 5 minute overtime period. Three players per team are selected to shoot and will continue with additional players until a winner is decided. Subs must shoot after all regulars have shot.~~ **If other games are scheduled after league curfew, the board may decide to call playoff games ties and fore-go the overtime and shoot-outs.**

Section4. PLAYOFF FORMAT- Playoff format will be determined by the Board each year.

1. If round robin format is used, Overtime losses will earn 1 point.
2. If double elimination is used Points are not awarded.

Tie breaker for round robin format to determine two finalists, shall be:

1. Head to Head
2. Team with most Playoff wins
3. Most goals scored against teams that were tied in standings.
4. Fewest Team penalty minutes in all playoff games.
5. Coin Toss

ARTICLE VI PLAYING RULES

Section1. U.S.A. hockey rules will prevail except for rules specifically designed for the league.

- **Blue line icing is to be used instead of Centerline. This is interpreted as: Icing will be called when a defensive team player shoots the puck from within the defensive zone blue line.**

Section2. Strict NO BODY CHECKING rule will be enforced.

Section3. Any major penalty resulting in a game misconduct will result in a one (1) game suspension and must be reviewed by the Board. Additional game suspensions shall be considered. A second major penalty resulting in a game misconduct by the same player in the same year will also be reviewed by the Board

- Game misconducts for substitute players will result in that substitute suspended for the next scheduled date of games.
- Game misconducts in the final regular season games will have suspensions to be in affect for the next scheduled playoff games.
- Suspensions will carry over to the next season if suspended games are not fulfilled in that same season (regular or playoff).

Section4. REFEREES- The league will provide two (2) referees who will have complete control of the game. Any team which feels it is being treated unfairly may notify the Board for a review of the referee's actions.

Section5. EQUIPMENT- Each player is required to wear suitable equipment. HELMETS ARE REQUIRED. Face masks are optional. Shoulder pads are optional. Shin pads, elbow pads, hockey gloves and hip and tail bone protection are required.

Section6. SUBSTITUTE GOALIE- A substitute goalie, when required, must be from within the league or approved by the Board.

Section7. SLAP SHOTS- **Full Slap shots are allowed. ~~Slap shots are allowed, however during the windup the player may only raise his stick waist high. Players may not raise his stick higher than the waist on the follow through for any reason. An illegal shot will cause stoppage in play and will result in a faceoff as though icing.~~**

Section 8. Protocol for calling sub players. If a Sub Pool is utilized by the league, the following procedure shall be followed.

- The Board will publish a list rating the substitutes into color coded groups to be used to replace absent players.
- The tem rep will call a substitute player for those absent. Only team reps should call for substitutes.

- Efforts will be made to attempt to replace an absent player with a substitute of similar skill and ability using the color coded list of substitutes. (This may not always be possible)
- Additional efforts will be made to try and balance out substitute games between all eligible substitute players.
- Substitute players from regular team rosters may be allowed in emergency situations. Approval by both teams must be obtained however.
- Note: If team reps are found to be purposely not requesting substitutes for known absent players the Board will take action against that team up to and including suspensions for responsible team reps.

ARTICLE VII ADMENDMENTS

Section1. These by-laws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new By-Laws may be adopted by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members at the Annual League Meeting regardless of attendance or any other meeting at which a quorum (simple majority) of members exists.

Also refer to ARTICLE I, Section 1. The membership, in either the annual League Meeting or such a meeting where a quorum is present may authorize, with a 2/3 majority vote, a committee to make By-Laws changes. No other changes shall be instituted by any other committee or individual.

Revised: March 31, 2016
League meeting

Changes from the 2015 league meeting are shown in Purple
Changes from 2016 league meeting in Red