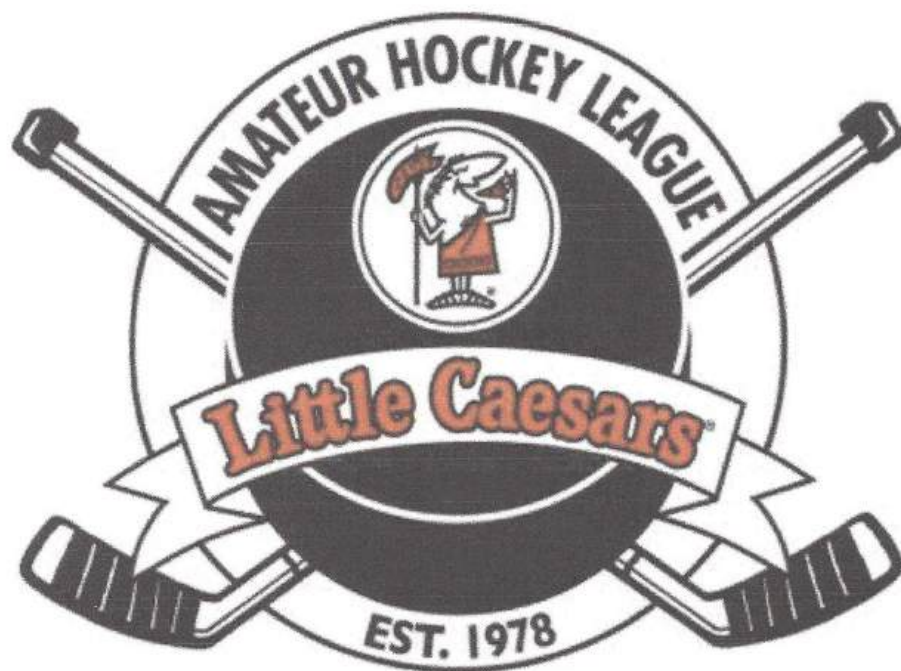




Bylaws of Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League

(A Michigan Non-Profit Corporation)

Revised July 2024

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ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The corporation shall be known as the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League, also called the LCAHL or the Corporation. The LCAHL is a non-profit corporation.

ARTICLE 2 - OFFICES

The principal office of the LCAHL shall be at 2211 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI, 48201. The Board of Directors (also referred to as Board) may determine, from time to time, other or different offices in or outside the state of Michigan.

ARTICLE 3 - PURPOSE

The purpose of the LCAHL is to provide a positive and rewarding experience for amateur youth hockey players in the Metro Detroit area and surrounding regions. The LCAHL shall emphasize, among other areas, the following:

- Youth development and leadership.
- Excellence in coaching.
- The promotion of competition, fair play and sportsmanship.
- The high standards, reputation and goodwill of the LCAHL, as well as those of its sponsors, teams and players

The LCAHL shall also solicit, receive and administer funds to support youth hockey; receive contributions and gifts and to hold, administer and dispose of them for the accomplishment of the foregoing purposes; and to engage in all lawful activities as may be necessary, incidental or helpful to the achievement of the foregoing purposes.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERS

Section 4.1 Eligibility for Membership

To become a member of the LCAHL, a hockey team must:

- a) Qualify for membership in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) or any recognized organized governing body of hockey within the State of which the team claims residency.
- b) Be in good standing within your State's governing body of hockey. This includes eligibility for your State tournament, of which an approved roster meeting the requirements to participate must be valid at all times.
- c) Provide the LCAHL with a link to its certified roster for all players and staff at or prior to its first League game.
- d) Pay annual registration fees and dues as determined by the LCAHL Board of Directors.

Section 4.2 Transferability and Voting

Membership is non-transferable and, unless directed by the Board, members shall have no vote.

Section 4.3 League Requirements

- a) An LCAHL division consists of four (4) or more teams in the same age and division classifications playing a regular schedule of games.

- b) The LCAHL Fall Season shall run from September 1 through March 31. Postseason (Spring/Summer) LCAHL play shall begin April 1 through August 31.
- c) A player is obligated to his/her regular season team until all fees and/or obligations are paid as advised by their local hockey organization.
- d) The commitment date for teams to sign up for the LCAHL shall be defined by the seasonal league calendar.
- e) LCAHL will file a copy of its bylaws to the MAHA President by August 1 of each year, or as outlined by each year's MAHA calendar detailing when bylaws must be filed.

ARTICLE 5 - SPONSORSHIP

The official sponsor of the LCAHL shall be Little Caesar Enterprises, Inc. The Board may determine additional LCAHL sponsors.

ARTICLE 6 - FINANCING

Section 6.1 General

The operation and conduct of the LCAHL shall be financed by regular membership fees, voluntary sponsor contributions and incidental receipts.

Section 6.2 Payment of Fees

Registration fees and dues shall be paid on a team basis. Any team not paid in full by October 31 will be subject to a 10% late fee and may be referred to the league discipline committee for suspension until fees are paid or expulsion from the league. The non-paying team will be referred to their Association and governing body for further discipline.

ARTICLE 7 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 7.1 Functions

All rights, powers, duties and responsibilities relative to the management and control of the LCAHL, its property, actives and affairs are vested in the Board of Directors.

Section 7.2 Initial Board

The initial Board of Directors shall be determined by the incorporator.

Section 7.3 Number, Eligibility and Term of Office

The number of Directors shall be no fewer than three (3), with the number to be determined initially by the incorporator and thereafter by the Board. Each Director shall hold office until their death, resignation or removal. The Board of Directors shall have the option of appointing additional Directors.

Section 7.4 Removal and Filling of Vacancies

Any Director may resign from their position at any time by providing a written notice to the LCAHL. The resignation will be effective upon receipt of the notice or at a later time designated in the notice. Any Director

may be removed with or without cause by the remaining Directors on the Board. A vacancy on the Board may be filled with a person selected by the remaining Directors of the Board.

Section 7.5 Meetings

The Board may set the time and place for regular meetings of the Board. The Board shall meet at least once per year. The date of the annual meeting of the Board shall be set by the Board. Special meetings may be called by a majority of the Board or upon the request of the President. Meetings may be held at any place or places.

Section 7.6 Notice of Meetings

No notice is required for a regular meeting of the Board. Notice shall be given to each Director at least three (3) but not more than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting of the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the Board shall be held pursuant to the written notice of the time, place and purpose thereof, either delivered personally or sent by telephone, fax, email or mail to each director not less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no notice need be given to any person who submits a signed waiver of notice before or after a meeting, or who attends a meeting without protesting any lack of notice.

Section 7.7 Participation in Meeting via Telephone

A Director may participate in a meeting by telephone or any similar communicative manner in which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this section constitutes presence in person at the meeting.

Section 7.8 Quorum and Voting

A majority of the Directors then in office constitutes a quorum for the transaction of any business at any meeting of the Board. Actions voted on by a majority of Directors present at a meeting where a quorum is present shall constitute authorized actions of the Board.

Section 7.9 Written Consent

Any action required or permitted to be taken pursuant to authorization of the Board may be taken without a meeting if, before or after the action, all Directors consent to the action in writing. Written consents shall be filed with the minutes of the Board's proceeding.

ARTICLE 8 - OFFICERS

Section 8.1 Officers

The Board shall appoint LCAHL officers, including a President, Secretary and Treasurer, for such term as directed by the Board. The Board may create additional offices and appoint officers to those offices as it deems advisable. All officers shall have the authority and shall perform such duties as advised by the Board.

Section 8.2 Tenure in Office

Each officer shall hold office for the term appointed and until a successor is appointed and qualified. An officer may resign at any time providing written notice to the LCAHL. The resignation will be effective upon receipt of the notice or at a later time designated in the notice.

Section 8.3 Removal

An officer appointed by the Board may be removed with or without cause via a majority vote by the Board. The removal shall be without prejudice to the person's contract rights, if any. Appointment to an office does not of itself create contract rights. A vacancy in any office for any reason may be filled by the Board.

Section 8.4 President

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the LCAHL. The President shall preside at all Board meetings, exercise general supervision of the LCAHL's affairs and perform such other duties and functions as may be assigned to the President by the Board. The President may also attend or have a designate attend any or all meetings of the Executive Committee.

Section 8.5 Secretary

The Secretary shall:

- a) Keep minutes of Board meetings.
- b) Be responsible for providing the notice to each Director.
- c) Be the custodian of LCAHL records.
- d) Keep a register of the names and addresses of each officer, Director and member of all committees, including the Executive Committee.
- e) Perform all duties relevant to the office and other duties assigned by the President or the Board.

Section 8.6 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall perform duties relevant to the office which may include keeping accurate books and records of LCAHL receipts and disbursements; completing all required corporate filings; and provide an LCAHL financial report at each Board or Executive Committee meeting. Only the Board may open an LCAHL savings, checking or other bank account. Bank statements must be sent to the LCAHL office, attention David Agius or his designate. Any check, savings or other bank withdrawal shall require the signature of Davis Agius or his designate.

ARTICLE 9 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 9.1 Function

There shall be established an Executive Committee, whose duty shall be to assist the Board in the day-to-day management of the LCAHL. The Executive Committee shall provide advice and assistant on such matters as it relates to organizing teams, collecting dues, scheduling games, rules and any other such ordinary and routine matters. The President of the LCAHL and/or the Board shall have final authority on all matters relating the LCAHL.

Section 9.2 Initial Executive Committee Members

The Board shall appoint the initial Executive Committee members. They may include a Commissioner, who shall chair the Executive Committee in addition to the LCAHL Treasurer and Secretary, as well as representatives of Little Caesars Enterprises, Inc., a marketing liaison, additional LCAHL volunteers and/or officer(s) of the LCAHL are all subject to holding positions within the committee.

ARTICLE 10 - ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES

In addition to the Executive Committee, the Board may designate additional standing Committees with such duties and powers as the Board may provide in order to carry out the purposes of the LCAHL. These committees may include a Discipline Committee; Public Relations and Marketing Committee; Protest Committee; Fundraising Committee; Sportsmanship and Rules Committee; and Playoff Committee

ARTICLE 11 - INSURANCE

The Board may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who was or is a Director, Officer, Employee, Committee Member or agent of the LCAHL. Such insurance may protect against any liability

asserted against the person and incurred by him or her in any such capacity or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the LCAHL would have power to indemnify such liability under this article of the laws of the state of Michigan.

ARTICLE 12 - OMISSION OF LIABILITY AND EXONERATION FROM PERSONAL LIABILITY

No member team shall be individually or collectively liable for any act or omission of the LCAHL. The LCAHL and its Officers, Directors and Committee members assume no responsibility for injury or damage to players.

ARTICLE 13 - INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS

Section 13.1 Claims Brought by Third Parties

The LCAHL shall indemnify any person who was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party to, any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding. This includes any civil, administrative or investigative proceeding, whether formal or informal (other than any action by or in the right of the Corporation). Such indemnification shall apply only to a person who was or is a Director, officer or committee member of the LCAHL, or at the request of the LCAHL who was or is serving at the request of the LCAHL as a Director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, whether for profit or not for profit. The person shall be indemnified and held harmless against expenses (including attorney fees), judgments, penalties, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, if the person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the LCAHL. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order or settlement shall not by itself create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the LCAHL.

Section 13.2 Claims Brought by or in the Right of the LCAHL

Subject to all of the provisions in this article, the LCAHL shall indemnify any person who was or is a party to, or is threatened to be made a party to, any threatened, pending or completed action to suit by or in the right of the LCAHL to procure a judgment in its favor because:

- a) The person was or is a Director, officer or committee member of the LCAHL, or
- b) The person was or is serving at the request of the LCAHL as a Director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, whether or not for profit. The person shall be indemnified and held harmless against expenses (including actual and reasonable attorney fees) and amounts paid in settlement incurred by the person in connection with such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the LCAHL. However, indemnification shall not be made for any claim, issue or matter in which the person has been found liable to the LCAHL unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought has determined on application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all circumstances of the case, the person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification for the expenses that the court considers proper.

Section 13.3 Expenses of Successful Defense

To the extent that a person has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in Sections 13.1 or 13.1 of this article, or in defense of any claim, issue, or matter in the action, suit or proceeding, the person shall be indemnified against expenses (including actual and reasonable attorney fees) incurred in connection with the action and in any proceeding brought to enforce the mandatory indemnification provided by this article.

Section 13.4 Contract Right; Limitation on Indemnity

The right to indemnification conferred in this article shall be a contract right and shall apply to services of a Director or Officer or Executive Committee Member as an employee or agent of the LCAHL as well as in such person's capacity as a Director, Officer or Executive Committee Member. Except as provided in Section 13.4 of this article, the LCAHL shall have no obligations under this article to indemnify any person in connection with any proceeding, or part thereof, initiated by such person without authorization by the Board.

Section 13.5 Determination That Indemnification Is Proper

Any indemnification under Sections 13.1 or 13.1 of this article (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the LCAHL only as authorized in this specific case. The LCAHL must determine that indemnification of the person is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Sections 13.1 or 13.2, whichever is applicable. Such determination shall be made in any of the following ways:

- a) By a majority vote of a quorum of the Board consisting of Directors who were not parties to such action, suit or proceeding.
- b) If the quorum described in clause (a) above is not obtainable, then by a Committee of Directors who are not parties to the action. The Committee shall not consist of not fewer than two disinterested Directors.
- c) By independent legal counsel in a written opinion.

Section 13.6 Proportionate Indemnity

If a person is entitled to indemnification under sections 13.1 or 13.2 of the article for a portion of expenses, including attorney fees, judgments, penalties, fines and amounts paid in settlement, but not for the total amount, the LCAHL shall indemnify the person for the portion of the expenses, judgments, penalties, fines or amounts paid in settlement for which the person is entitled to be indemnified.

Section 13.7 Expense Advance

Expenses incurred in defending a civil action, suit or proceeding described in Sections 13.1 or 13.2 of this article may be paid by the LCAHL in advance of the final disposition of the action, suit or proceeding, on receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the person involved to repay the expenses, if it is ultimately determined that the person is not entitled to be indemnified by the LCAHL.

Section 13.8 Nonexclusively of Rights

The indemnification or advancement of expenses provided under this article is not exclusive of other rights to which a person seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under a contractual arrangement with the LCAHL. However, the total amount of expenses advanced or indemnified from all sources combined shall not exceed the amount of actual expenses incurred by the person seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses.

Section 13.9 Indemnification of Employees and Agents of the LCAHL

The LCAHL may, to the extent authorized from time to time by the Board, grant rights to indemnification and to the advancement of expenses to any employee or agent of the LCAHL to the fullest extent of the provisions of this article with respect to the indemnification and advancement of expenses of the Directors and officers of the LCAHL.

Section 13.10 Former Directors, Officers and Executive Committee Members

The indemnification provided in this article continues for a person who has ceased to be a Director, officer or Executive Committee Member shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of that person.

Section 13.11 Changes in Michigan Law

If there are any changes in the Michigan statutory provisions applicable to the corporation and relating to the subject matter of this article, then the indemnification to which any person shall be entitled shall be determined by such changed provisions, but only to the extent that any such change permits the corporation to provide broader indemnification rights than such provisions permitted to the corporation to provide before any such change.

ARTICLE 14 - COMPENSATION

Salary or compensation for services and reimbursement for actual, reasonable and necessary expenses incurred on behalf of the LCAHL is subject to Board review and approval.

ARTICLE 15 - FISCAL YEAR

Section 15.1 Fiscal Year

The LCAHL fiscal year shall end on June 30.

ARTICLE 16 - AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

Section 16.1 Amendments

The Board of Directors may amend or repeal these Bylaws or adopt new Bylaws by vote of a majority of the Directors.

Section 16.2 Rules and Regulations

The Board may adopt additional rules and regulations, general or specific, for the conduct of their meetings, and additional rules and regulations, general or specific, for the conduct of the affairs of the LCAHL provided, however, that no such additional rule or regulation shall be inconsistent with or in contravention of any provision of the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws.

ARTICLE 17 - REVERSION OF ASSETS

In the event of dissolution of the LCAHL, all LCAHL assets, real and personal, shall revert to Ilitch Charities, a non-profit organization, or such other non-profit organization as directed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 18 - GAME RULES

Section 18.1 Game Rules

All rules in Article 18 shall apply to both Travel and House teams except where these LCAHL Rules specifically state otherwise.

Section 18.2 LCAHL Games

LCAHL Games shall be played in accordance with USA Hockey and the State's organized hockey governing body rules except as modified by the LCAHL.

Section 18.3 Jerseys

Home teams are expected to wear white or light-colored jerseys. Visiting teams are expected to wear dark colored jerseys. Teams can agree to wear jerseys opposite this expectation or can wear jerseys opposite this

expectation when a team has only one set of jerseys.

Section 18.4 Game Time

Both teams are to take the ice at the scheduled game time. If a team has not shown up at the rink within 10 min of scheduled game time and has not contacted the opposing team of a travel/traffic issue, the game shall be suspended and referred to your Division Director for considerations on how to handle rescheduling of the game. If they show up late and both teams agree to play the game (documented on the scoresheet), no future protest will be considered.

Section 18.5 Warm-Ups

Both teams are to be given an equal and reasonable warm-up period, regardless of whether they choose to use the time to warm-up, beginning at the scheduled game time as defined in Sections 18.5 and 18.6. Both teams shall be given an equal time to warm up on the ice prior to the scheduled game time.

Section 18.6 Period Lengths

The Home team shall recommend the lengths of periods consistent with the following parameters:

- a) All games will have a minimum of 10-minute, stop time periods and a maximum of 15 minutes.
- b) The length of the game should be documented on the electronic or paper score sheet prior to the start of the game and should be acknowledged and agreed to by the visiting team prior to the start of the game.
- c) Once the game starts, the length of the first period is assumed to be the period length for the remainder of the game.

Section 18.7 Timeouts

Timeouts are not allowed in LCAHL League Play.

Section 18.8 Running Clock

If the goal differential between the two teams is equal to or greater than seven (7) goals at the end of the second period or at any time in the third period, running time shall commence for the remainder of the game. The game shall return to regular timing for the remainder of the game if the goal differential is reduced to two goals.

Section 18.9 Overtime

Overtime periods are not allowed in regular season League Play. Games tied at the end of regulation time end in a tie. Overtime periods are not allowed in the first round of league playoffs. The rules for league playoff championship weekend will be published separately.

Section 18.10 Game Points

Teams will receive two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero (0) points for a loss.

Section 18.11 Game Misconducts, Match Penalties and Suspensions

- a) A Team Official must email the report and provide a copy of the game's official score sheet to its Divisional Director, when a match penalty or suspension is assessed during an LCAHL Game to any player or Team Official.
- b) Any player or Team Official who receives three (3) game misconducts during the season may be required to appear before the Discipline Committee.
- c) Any team that has a player or Team Official serving a game misconduct, match penalty or suspension must note it clearly on the electronic or paper score sheet for the game in which the game misconduct, match penalty or suspension is being served. Failure to appropriately mark the game served may result in the determination the suspension was not properly served and will need to be served again.
- d) All LCAHL game misconducts, match penalties and suspensions must be served in accordance with USA Hockey, USA Affiliate or League Affiliate rules. The offender serves the next previously scheduled game. Any game added to the team's schedule following the date the game misconduct was assessed does not fulfill serving the game misconduct. Violation of this rule is grounds for dismissal from the League.
- e) A Team Official of the team assessed the penalty is responsible for having the Scorekeeper document any game misconduct, match penalty or suspension being served in the appropriate section of the score sheet.

Section 18.12 Home Games

It is the responsibility of the Home team to provide and obey the following:

- a) A scorekeeper.
- b) A game puck.
- c) An electronic or paper score sheet with all the appropriate information correctly documented.
- d) Adequate locker room facilities.
- e) **Once the puck is dropped and the game begins, the game shall be played to conclusion in accordance with USA Hockey or the State's organized hockey governing body's rules.**
- f) The Home Team is responsible to ensure the game is properly uploaded into Game Sheet within 48 hours of the scheduled game. The Division Director and/or League Scheduler must be notified of any game not played as scheduled so the correct time can be updated in GameSheet. If you are in the process of agreeing on a new date, the original game will be changed to a date of March 31 to indicate it is being rescheduled.

Section 18.13 Arrangement of Officials

It is the responsibility of the Home team to arrange for officials certified by USA Hockey and/or the State's organized hockey governing body.

- a) No LCAHL team shall allow a family member or coach in the same division to officiate a game without the written consent of a Team Official from the opposing team in the appropriate section of the score sheet prior to the start of the game.
- b) If only one official is present prior to the start of the game, Team Officials from both teams must agree and be documented in the appropriate section of the score sheet to play the game.
- c) Games must be rescheduled if no officials are present, or Team Officials do not agree to proceed with a single official. If a game must be rescheduled for no officials, then the home team will absorb the

expenses (ice rental, game officials and scorekeeper) associated with the rescheduled game to be played on the visiting team's home ice. If the game is rescheduled because the teams did not agree to proceed with one official, the expenses of the game will be split evenly between the two teams for the rescheduled game played on the visiting team's home ice. Teams should follow the rescheduling procedures stated in Article 20 below.

ARTICLE 19 - SCORING PROCEDURES

Section 19.1 Scoring Games

- a) Currently MAHA is suggesting use of the electronic scoring system Game Sheet to score all games.
- b) LCAHL supports MAHA in this initiative and requires all teams to use Game Sheet to score all LCAHL regular season and playoff games. The home team is responsible to provide the necessary hardware (ipad) to score the game real time or they can choose to use a paper score sheet at the game and then enter the information into Game Sheet within 48 hours of the game being completed.
- c) LCAHL will work with MAHA to provide each team with logon credentials for all league seasons.
- d) A .pdf version of the approved league scoresheet can be found on our league website at www.lcahl.org and can be printed for use at the game if the home team chooses or as a backup if there are hardware/software issues.
- e) All teams are responsible to enter their roster in Game Sheet before their first league game and update it if changes occur and ensure that it is current and accurate at all times including player numbers.

Section 19.2 End of Game Responsibilities

- a) After the game has been played the Home team must verify that all information is correct and that the game is updated to completed status and is properly uploaded into Game Sheet. Games not uploaded will remain on the ipad it was scored on and can only be accessed from that original unit.
- b) The Visiting team is responsible to verify the information uploaded is accurate. Any discrepancies in the score should be reported in writing to the Division Director and League Scheduler with 48 hours of the game being uploaded. Only the League Scheduler can make changes to uploaded games.
- c) Special attention should be given to penalty data. If penalties that include a suspension (game misconducts and match penalties) are entered in error, they need to be corrected. Once the game is marked complete by the game officials, the only person who can authorize a change to the scoresheet is the District Referee in Chief. Games not corrected could result in the player having to sit out the suspension.

ARTICLE 20 - RESCHEDULED AND CANCELED GAMES

Section 20.1 Weather Conditions

LCAHL leaves the determination to cancel any LCAHL game due to weather conditions up to the participants. Every reasonable attempt should be made to play scheduled games; however, the League does not require a team to compete when inclement weather could threaten the safety of players, coaches and family members traveling to and from games.

- a) Games should be canceled if the arena or roads are closed due to weather and rescheduled on a mutually agreed upon date. The Home team must monitor its home arena's status and notify the Divisional Director and one Visiting team official of the closure and cancellation.
- b) Any game cancellations due to weather must be rescheduled and played by the League Play Deadline. The game shall be played in the originally scheduled arena unless otherwise agreed upon by both teams. Notification of the rescheduled game shall be given to the Divisional Director.

Section 20.2 Ice Pulled/Arena Equipment Failure

The Home team must notify the Divisional Director and a Visiting team official of the situation when the arena or its local association notifies the Home team of a change in the ice schedule that prevents a previously scheduled game from being played. Teams must provide notice within 48 hours of learning the revised schedule change, within at least 24 hours before the scheduled game, or immediately at the scheduled game. If the League determines that a team canceled a game under false pretenses or delays contacting the appropriate team representative, the rescheduled game will be played on the visiting team's ice and the originally scheduled home team will pay all expenses of the game including ice, game officials and scorekeeper.

Section 20.3 No-Show Officials

If a game is canceled due to the Home team's failure to provide referees for a scheduled LCAHL game, the Home team must reschedule the game to be played before the League Play Deadline. Games must be rescheduled if no officials are present, or Team Officials do not agree to proceed with a single official. If a game must be rescheduled for no officials, then the home team will absorb the expenses (ice rental, game officials and scorekeeper) associated with the rescheduled game to be played on the visiting team's home ice. If the game is rescheduled because the teams did not agree to proceed with one official, the expenses of the game will be split evenly between the two teams for the rescheduled game played on the visiting team's home ice.

Section 20.4 No-Show Teams

Unless otherwise mutually agreed upon, any team that fails to show for a scheduled LCAHL Game for any reason will reschedule the game with the non-offending team at the home ice of the non-offending team. The rescheduled game must be played before the League Play Deadline. Both teams must notify the Divisional Director of the missed game and the date, time and area of the rescheduled game. The offending team shall bear the cost of all ice, referees and scorekeeper in connection with the rescheduled game.

Section 20.5 Rescheduling Process

Scheduled games may need to be changed for any of the reasons outlined in Article 20 or to accommodate either team if agreeable to both teams.

- a) Teams rescheduling a game must first contact a representative of the opposing team to arrange for a mutually agreeable, date, time, and arena. **Please note the league does not consider head coach or goalie unavailability to be sufficient reason to reschedule a game. Each team needs to prepare to have an assistant coach handle head coaching duties and prepare for another player to be able to play in place of the regular goaltender.**
- b) Once a time and arena have been agreed upon, the Home team should send an email to the Divisional Director, copying an official from the visiting team, and advise him/her of the new date, time, and arena of the game. The Visiting team will be required to confirm this change by replying to the email.
- c) Once the Divisional Director receives appropriate notification from both teams, the Divisional Director will update the schedule in Game Sheet..
- d) Teams are not required to reschedule games once they have been scheduled. LCAHL encourages teams to be as accommodating as possible; however, no game shall be changed unless both teams agree to the proposed change.
- e) Game changes as the result of weather, equipment failure, or other extenuating circumstances, and a date, time, and arena may be decided by the Divisional Director or the Board in the event that teams cannot agree to a date, time, and arena.
- f) Any rescheduled game must be rescheduled to be played by the League Play Deadline.. Failure to complete your regular season schedule will result in your team being ineligible to compete in the league playoffs and your head coach will be suspended from coaching in the LCAHL for a period of one year.

Section 20.6 Forfeits

Teams may not voluntarily forfeit a game for any reason. Any team that is advised by another team that they will be forfeiting a game must immediately report this information to the Divisional Director. The matter will be immediately referred to the Operations Board for determination on how the situation will be handled. Based on the review, one or both head coaches may be referred to the Discipline Committee and subject to suspension.

Section 20.7 Game Cancellations

A game may be cancelled for extenuating circumstances. Only the Board has the authority to approve a cancellation. The Board will review all circumstances surrounding the situation and make its best efforts to reschedule the game prior to approving a cancellation. Any team not completing their LCAHL schedule shall be ineligible to participate in playoffs without the approval of the Board.

Section 20.8 Refusal to Compete/Not Completing Regular season or Playoff schedule

A team that refuses to compete in any scheduled LCAHL Game, or as directed by LCAHL, will be considered an immediate drop from the League and all league activities, functions, schedules, standings and trophy eligibilities. Any team and its Team Officials refusing to compete, shall be suspended indefinitely from future participation in the League and referred to the appropriate hockey governing bodies.

ARTICLE 21 - CURFEW ARENAS

Section 21.1 Curfew Arenas

Many ice arenas in the league have strict enforcement of the ice times allotted to their teams. LCAHL games played at curfew rinks must be documented on the scoresheet prior to the start of that game.

Section 21.2 Home Team Responsibilities

The Home team is responsible for:

- a) Notifying the Visiting team if any curfew limitations are being enforced by the ice rink.
- b) Noting on the score sheet that the game is a curfew game.
- c) Verifying after the game is complete that the scorekeeper filled in the start and end time on the score sheet.

Section 21.3 Visiting Team Responsibilities

The Visiting team is responsible for verifying that the score sheet is marked to document that the game is a curfew game.

Section 21.4 Curfew Regulations

Once a curfew game is declared it must remain a curfew game. However, if a game is interrupted due to extenuating circumstances (broken glass/rink failure), the opposing teams may mutually agree to waive the curfew. Such waiver shall be documented on the score sheet in the Game Notes .

ARTICLE 22 - DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Section 22.1 Discipline Committee

The Discipline Committee will address issues that relate only to compliance with League rules and guidelines. The League shall be made aware of disciplinary issues in a detailed writing through the following means:

- a) The Divisional Director will function as the primary channel for the communication of disciplinary issues to the League.
- b) Other League officials (such as, but not limited to, the Board) can also refer issues to the Discipline Committee.
- c) Disciplinary actions initiated by someone other than a League Official shall first be reviewed by the Divisional Director of the affected age classification. Only Team Officials can initiate disciplinary action against another team.

Section 22.2 Discipline Committee Volunteers

A Discipline Committee shall be comprised of at the League Commissioner, the League Scheduler and the Travel Director.

Section 22.3 Meetings

Meetings in connection with disciplinary proceedings shall be held as required by the League.

Section 22.4 Process for Discipline

If the League is advised of a disciplinary issue, a meeting of the Discipline Committee will be called no later than 14 days after receiving notification, but preferably as soon as practically possible.

Section 22.5 Discipline Committee Review

The LCAHL Divisional Director or Board shall have 48 hours to notify the Discipline Committee Chair upon becoming aware of a disciplinary issue.

- a) Once an issue has been deemed to require action by the Discipline Committee, the Discipline Committee Chair will hold a meeting within 14 days to review the situation. Team members, game officials, and any other person or persons with knowledge of the issue may be asked to give information or be present at the meeting. Such individuals will be notified immediately once the meeting has been scheduled.
- b) Within 24 hours of the meeting, the Discipline Committee shall reach a determination of any disciplinary action that should result based upon its investigation, and promptly notify the party under review of its decision. The Discipline Committee shall, at its discretion, notify other interested parties to the investigation.

Section 22.6 Appeals

The disciplined party must notify the LCAHL League Commissioner in writing within 48 hours of receipt of the Discipline Committee's decision of its intention to appeal the decision. The LCAHL League Commissioner shall consult with the Board within 10 days of receipt of the appeal. Sections 22.4 and 22.5 define the process for the appeal generally with the League Commissioner acting similarly as the Divisional Director and the Board acting similarly to the Discipline Committee. The decision of the Board is final.

ARTICLE 23 - PROTESTS

Section 23.1 Protest Committee

A Protest Committee shall be comprised of at least three (3) LCAHL volunteers to be determined at the start of each season. The Board will appoint a Protest Committee Chair. At least one of the three volunteers shall be a member of the LCAHL Board and shall be present at all Protest Committee meetings.

Section 23.2 Protests

Protests may be filed only in connection with incidents that occur during the playing of an LCAHL Game. Only the violation of league rules as stated in these LCAHL Bylaws may be protested. The on-ice calls of an official cannot be protested.

Section 23.3 Process for Filing and Hearing a Protest at the Game

- a) A protesting Team Official: Must verbally advise the opposing coach and the game officials at the next stoppage of play of his intention to protest an event; must cause the scorekeeper to note the nature of the protest in the appropriate section of the score sheet (e.g. in the "Notes" section) by the conclusion of the game
- b) The game may continue to its conclusion with the protest noted.
- c) In the event the referee does not allow the protest to be noted on the score sheet prior to the conclusion of the game, it is acceptable to verbally note the protest at the stoppage of play and document the protest at the end of the game.

Section 23.4 Process for Filing and Hearing a Protest After the Game

After the game, a protesting Team Official must:

- a) Advise the Divisional Director by telephone within 24 hours of the intent to file the protest.
- b) Present the protest within 48 hours of the incident in a written letter of protest with a legible copy of the score sheet by mail or email to the Divisional Director .
- c) The letter of protest required by Section 23.4 (b) shall specifically cite the number of at least one LCAHL rule that the protesting team asserts has been violated and the action or actions alleged to violate any specifically cited rule.

Section 23.5 Review

The Protest Committee will review the information presented and either uphold or deny the protest. Team Officials and anyone else involved may be asked to give information and/or be present at the meeting.

Section 23.6 Protest Committee Chair

- a) The Protest Committee Chair will review the protest to determine if it meets the criteria of a League protest. If the protest involves a League rule and proper notice was given, the Protest Committee Chair will convene a meeting within 14 days.
- b) The Protest Committee Chair shall notify the teams involved in the protest of the outcome within 24 hours of the meeting.
- c) The Protest Committee Chair shall keep a record of the outcome until the end of the following season.

Section 23.7 Protest Upheld/Denied

- a) If a protest is upheld, the Protest Committee will determine the fair and equitable solution based on the circumstances of the protest.
- b) If a protest is denied, the original game stands.

Section 23.8 Appeals

To appeal the outcome of a protest, either team must notify the LCAHL League Commissioner in writing within 48 hours of receipt of the Protest Committee decision. The LCAHL League Commissioner will hold a hearing of the Board within 10 days of receipt of the appeal. The protest review process described in Section 23.5 will be followed for the appeal, with the Board acting similarly to the Protest Committee. The decision of the Board is final.

ARTICLE 24 - RULES APPLICABLE TO HOUSE TEAMS

Section 24.1 Participation

The League believes strongly that House teams should promote equal participation for all players on their Roster for all LCAHL Games. Issues with game participation should be pursued through that team's local association.

Section 24.2 Team Placement

LCAHL will attempt to align teams geographically.

Section 24.3 Challenges

Challenges to any House team's qualifications must be directed to the rostering officials within their respective USA Hockey Affiliate or State's hockey governing body.

ARTICLE 25 - BOUNDARIES

Section 25.1 League Boundaries

LCAHL shall define League Boundaries, which shall be used as criteria for participation in the League. The LCAHL website will publish the boundaries for a given season. Boundaries may be adjusted by LCAHL from year to year during off-season planning activities.

Section 25.2 Home Arena

If a team's home arena is within these League Boundaries when a team registers for a season, the team's application is automatically approved.

Section 25.3 Outside League Boundaries

If the applying team's home arena is outside of the League Boundaries, the applying team may:

- a) Secure the use of ice within the League Boundaries on which to play home games. The applying team will then be considered in compliance with the League Boundaries.
- b) Apply to the LCAHL for an exemption in accordance with Section 25.4.
- c) Register with LCAHL and conditional upon a sufficient number of teams registering in the applying team's

local area a separate division would be created. This option is intended for teams outside of the League. Boundaries that would like to be a part of LCAHL.

Section 25.4 Exemptions

Exemptions will be considered individually based on the following criteria:

- a) The number of teams from the local association to which the team belongs that have applied to the LCAHL.
- b) Prior experience between the applying team and the LCAHL.
- c) The geographic effect of travel distances of teams aligned within the same division of a Competitive Level as used in Article 26.
- d) The best interests of LCAHL.

ARTICLE 26 - COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS

Section 26.1 Competitive Divisions

At all times, Team Officials shall demonstrate decorum and respect for the process undergone by the Divisional Directors when creating the divisional alignments. Candid and honest assessments are an invaluable part of the process but should be provided in a respectful tone and manner. Failure to adhere to this requirement will be referred to the Discipline Committee and may result in the most severe of penalties.

Section 26.2 Alignment Decisions

- a) All alignment decisions for Competitive Divisions shall be solely at the discretion of the Divisional Directors with the guidance of the Operations Board, as approved by LCAHL. Appeals of an alignment decision may be made in accordance with Section 26.10.
- b) Divisional Directors have great discretion to align the teams within their respective divisions, but all alignments are subject to review and approval of the Board.
- c) All Travel Divisions will be aligned for league play by level of competition.

Section 26.3 Considerations for Alignment of Competitive Divisions

- a) The primary considerations for alignment of teams shall be prior year results, the number of returning players, results of the Spring Gauntlet tournament and Fall results completed and submitted before the alignments are final.
- b) Divisional Directors shall retain discretion regarding the timing of completion of alignment determinations and shall be under no obligation to delay such determinations until completion of any preseason scrimmages.
- c) Secondary consideration may be given to other information presented to the League, but no consideration will be given to any games played during the Spring other than the Gauntlet tournament series.

Section 26.4 League Play Competitive Levels

There will be two (2) Competitive Levels for League play.

- a) Yzerman - This Competitive Level is the highest level of competition. Preference for placement in Yzerman level will be given to teams that played in the Yzerman level the previous year and greater than 50 percent of their players and at least one returning coach from the prior season return to play with the team in upcoming season.
- b) Howe - This Competitive Level is the next most competitive after Yzerman and is for established or new

teams that desire a high level of competition. There may be several competitive levels within Howe.

Section 26.5 Divisions

Each Competitive Level will be assigned one or more divisions. The divisions will be split up by the league schedule with the emphasis on having the best situation for all teams collectively regarding competitive balance and geographic balance. The scheduler has the final call on all divisions. The scheduler will also determine the format for league play (i.e., home and home, round robin, etc.)

Section 26.6 Competitive Play

Divisional Directors shall place teams in the Yzerman and Howe divisions in accordance with the best interest of competitive play in each respective age classification.

Section 26.7 Competitive Level/Age Classification

The number or percentage of teams placed in a Competitive Level of one age classification shall not define the number or percentage of teams placed in a Competitive Level in another age classification.

Section 26.8 Registration/Consideration

Each team's coaching staff will be relied upon during the registration process to provide a recommendation for alignment in a Competitive Level based on a credible assessment of its team. The recommendation will be given consideration, but such consideration does not obligate the Divisional Director to follow the recommendation.

Section 26.9 Divisional Directors

A Divisional Director will not consider any information submitted by someone other than a Team Official within a respective Division. However, the Divisional Director may solicit information from any individual, which the Divisional Director believes will assist in determining an appropriate alignment. Under no circumstance, however, shall a team attempt to assert pressure on a Divisional Director through threats, anger, volume of submissions or any other inappropriate tactic, and such tactics shall be referred to the Discipline Committee and subject to punishment of one or both of the offending team and any or all of its Team Officials.

Section 26.10 Appeals

A team may only appeal its placement in the alignment initially published on the LCAHL website. Such appeal shall be submitted to the Divisional Director and shall be made within the time limit specified on the LCAHL website. The Board shall hear and respond to the appeal in a timely manner, but no later than the date as published on the LCAHL website. All Board decisions shall be final, and no further appeal shall be available.

ARTICLE 27 - DIVISIONAL DIRECTORS

Section 27.1 Divisional Directors

All Travel and House Divisions will be assigned a respective Divisional Director. Divisional Directors shall assist teams within the guidelines shown here and escalate matters to the appropriate LCAHL League Official as needed.

Section 27.2 Divisional Director Responsibilities

Divisional Directors are the primary liaison between teams in their Divisions and LCAHL and should be the first

source of contact for all issues related to their respective Divisions. A Divisional Director's responsibilities for their respective Division, include, but are not limited to the following:

- a) Communicating LCAHL information to teams in their division.
- b) Ensuring all teams in their division are completing data entry as required in Game Sheet.
- c) Managing the alignment and scheduling processes.
- d) Responding to any issues within their division.
- e) Ensuring that the LCAHL League Commissioner and the Board are apprised as necessary of information regarding their division.
- f) Acting in the best interest of the League, Players, Coaches and families at all times.
- g) Be present at LCAHL meetings and the second round and beyond of Playoff games for their divisions.

ARTICLE 28 - DIVISION WINNERS AND PLAYOFFS

Section 28.1 Division Winners

The LCAHL will declare all division winners at the completion of League Play as published on the LCAHL website. Division Winners shall receive awards which will be distributed to the team representatives as published on the LCAHL website.

Section 28.2 League Play Deadline

If a team does not complete its League Play by the League Play Deadline, the results of games played after the League Play Deadline (if approved by the league) will count toward division standings but will not count or be considered when seeding teams for the playoffs.

Section 28.3 Tiebreakers - Division Champs Following League Play

- a) Standings - The team with the most points occurred in total league play.
- b) Most points acquired in head-to-head play between the tied teams.
- c) If b. does not break the tie, a co-champion will be awarded.

Section 28.4 Playoffs

The Playoffs are not mandatory for any team. If a team does not choose to participate, a Team Official should contact the Divisional Director by Dec 31 of the league season. The team will be removed from the Playoffs, but the team's standings for League Play will remain intact.

Section 28.5 Playoff Divisions

An alignment process, similar to the initial season alignment process, will take place for the playoffs. The object is to realign teams based on their regular season results with the goal of providing an increased level of competition. A similar appeal process will be followed with the deadlines communicated to all teams.

Section 28.6 First Round of Playoffs

The following shall govern the first round of the Playoffs:

- a) The format of the Playoffs for each division will be determined by the League Scheduler and published on the LCAHL website. The goal is to have all teams play four games (2 home and 2 away)

- b) Teams will schedule this round based on the information published on the LCAHL website in a manner similar to scheduling league play.
- c) The Home team will schedule the game on its home ice, arrange for referees and pay for the ice and referees.
- d) No overtimes allowed. Games shall end in a tie.
- e) Game scores must be entered into Game Sheet by the home team in compliance with the rules established under Article 19.
- f) First round games are to be completed by the date published on the LCAHL website.

Section 28.7 Second Round of Playoffs (Championship Weekend)

- a) Second round games may include quarterfinal, semifinal, and championship games. Advancement of teams after first round play will be determined by LCAHL. The League shall contact the teams advancing to this round and post the schedule on the LCAHL website.
- b) If an advancing team cannot play the next round game, it must notify the League through its Divisional Director as soon as it becomes aware of the situation. The League will determine the appropriate course of action to rectify the team's inability to participate.
- c) If a team does not notify the League that it will not be at the next game, all game costs will be assessed to the no-show team. The Coach may be suspended from further participation in the League for the remainder of the season or later. If the game costs are not paid, the Team Officials and team will be ineligible for further participation within the League.
- d) Second round games shall be scheduled by the League at various arenas. Game and referee costs shall be funded through LCAHL.

Section 28.8 Substitute Goalies

Teams may only seek the use of a substitute goaltender in situations where the team's normal goaltender becomes incapacitated by injury. **Illness or inability to attend is not sufficient reason to seek a substitute goaltender.** Teams seeking a substitute goaltender must submit the necessary paperwork to their District officials and have it approved before the substitute player may play. If a substitute goaltender is approved, the team needs to make the Division Director aware of the situation in writing prior to the player participating in a playoff game. Failure to inform the league could result in the player being declared ineligible and the game results reviewed.

ARTICLE 29 - RULES APPLICABLE TO PLAYOFFS

Section 29.1 Playoff Rules

In addition to USA Hockey or any hockey governing body playing rules, the rules of this Section shall be applicable to playoff games. All regular season rules apply to all first-round games.

Section 29.2 Period Lengths

All divisions shall play three stop time period games with a minimum of 10-minute and maximum of 15-minute periods. First round games can end in a tie, no overtime periods can be played.

Section 29.3 Curfew Clock

In the first-round games played on team's home ice, curfew clock rules are in effect.

Section 29.4 Timeouts

No timeouts are allowed in any playoff games.

Section 29.5 Game Misconducts, Match Penalties and Suspensions

Game misconduct, match penalties and suspensions received in a Playoff game must be served in the next scheduled USA Hockey or State hockey governing body's game. The requirements of Sections 18.15 (d) and 18.15 (e) apply to this Section.

ARTICLE 30 – CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND (SINGLE ELIMINATION)**Section 30.1 Overtime Format**

Second round playoff games cannot end in a tie. If a game is tied after regulation, the following format will apply:

- a) One 5-minute, stop time, 3-on-3 sudden victory overtime period will be played.
- b) If the game is still tied after the overtime played in Section 30.1 (b), a 3-player shootout will occur. The visiting team will always shoot first in the shootout. All players are eligible for the shootout, including players serving minor or major penalties, but not players serving misconducts or game misconducts. All eligible players must participate in the shootout before a player can shoot a second time. The Coach is not required to list his shooters prior to the game. If tied after the 3-player shootout, the shootout will continue with 1-player rounds, with both teams getting to shoot, until a winner is determined.

Section 30.2 Penalties in Overtime

If non-coincidental penalties are called in overtime, resulting in a team being reduced below an on-ice strength of 3 players, players will be added to the team on the power play. At the first stoppage of play after the penalty expires, the on-ice strength will be adjusted so that the proper number of players are on the ice.

Example for overtime playing 3-on-3: Team A receives one minor penalty. Play resumes with Team B on a 4-on-3 power play. Before the first penalty expires, Team A receives another minor penalty. Play resumes with Team B on a 5-on-3 power play. When the first penalty expires, Team A would release this player from the penalty box and play would continue 5-on-4 until the next stoppage of play or until the second penalty expires, whereas play would continue 5-on-5 until the next stoppage of play. If a whistle occurs before the second penalty expires, play will resume 4-on-3. If the whistle occurs after the second penalty expires, play will resume at the original set-up of 3-on-3.