



ESSEX KENT GIRLS INTERLOCK HOCKEY LEAGUE

Est. 2000

ESSEX-KENT LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES AND GUIDELINES

CONSTITUTION

1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1.1. This organization shall be called the Essex-Kent Girl's Interlock Hockey League [EKGIHL]
- 1.2. The EKGIHL organization shall operate under OWSA sanctioning and subject to its Constitution, By-laws, policies and Code of Conduct.
- 1.3. The Executive Committee will consist of a President and one representative from each centre or their alternate.
- 1.4. Voting members shall compose of one (1) voting member per participating centre, and each member shall vote on all issues - no proxy votes. In the absence of the centre's representative, the centre must send an alternate who will have one vote for their centre. A centre that does not send a representative to a meeting will be subject to a \$50 fine. Implementation of this fine may be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 1.5. Elected positions will consist of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Master Scheduler. These positions will hold a one (1) year term and will be elected by the Executive Committee. These positions will be elected at a yearly meeting to be held between May 1 and June 15.
- 1.6. A quorum for the general and Executive meeting shall be 50% of the eligible voting members plus the League President.
- 1.7. The League President shall attend all meetings.
- 1.8. The League President shall have the authority to cast a vote in the event of a tie at an executive meeting.
- 1.9. The Vice President shall act on behalf of the President on all league matters in his/her absence.
- 1.10. In the event that executive decisions need to be made on a case-by-case basis, between scheduled executive meetings [such as individual centres making requests or motions], the League President shall initiate a meeting or meetings of the Executive Committee. Quorum is subject to item 1.6. These meetings could be conducted via telephone, email, "Teams" or "Zoom". The president must attempt to contact all centres. Minutes and results of these meetings must be recorded by the secretary and presented with the minutes tabled for approval at the next scheduled executive meeting.
- 1.11. The President may form ad hoc committees at any time as deemed necessary throughout the season.

- 1.12. Structure and guidelines for forming a “Liaison” committee to deal with protests are detailed in Rule 12 of the EKGiHL Rules.
- 1.13. The EKGiHL reserves the right to change Rules and Guidelines of Operation at any time throughout the season on a “case by case” basis as deemed necessary.

RULES AND GUIDELINES OF OPERATION

Note: New Rule Changes for 2025 are in **RED**.

2. HOUSE LEAGUE GAME PLAY

2.1. League Divisions are per O.W.H.A. guidelines.

2.2. GAME SHEETS: OWHA electronic game sheets must be used **The only exception will be if RAMP is down and not available.**

2.2.1. Coaches must indicate all players and bench staff that are participating in the game on the electronic gamesheet.

2.2.2. Pickup (PU) players must be added electronically to the roster

2.3 All teams must have an approved roster to play any game under EKGiHL.

2.4. GAME TIME & LENGTH

2.4.1. Home teams will determine the length of the game and curfew as per home ice centre. This information *should* be included on the electronic gamesheet prior to the start of the game, including curfew time. All games must be scheduled with a minimum of three (3) ten minute “stop time” periods with curfew as per home ice centre. No “Run time” will be allowed during any part of the game. The minimum ice time scheduled must be at least 50 minutes.

2.4.2. If a game is stopped short of completion from the original schedule, a game will be considered complete after 20 minutes of stop time. [e.g. A game that is stopped after 2 periods of 10 minutes are played would constitute a completed game].

2.4.3. Should a games’ start time be delayed due to lack of referees as outlined in section 6.2, teams are required to stay until such time as rule 2.3.2 above can no longer be fulfilled.

2.4.4. There will be no time outs in regular season or playoff games, except Day of Champions.

2.5. COURTESY RULE

2.5.1. There shall be no more than a five (5) - goal spread posted on the scoreboard during any game in this league.

2.6. GATE FEES: There will be NO gate fees for any EKGiHL games.

3. REGISTRATION

- 3.1. A registration fee will be assessed at the beginning of each season to offset league expenses with an amount agreed upon by the Executive Committee at the start of each season.
- 3.2. When a registration fee is assessed, it must be paid by the November Executive meeting of the current year. Cheques are to be made payable to "Essex Kent Girls Interlock Hockey League". Teams that do not pay on time will be assessed a late fee of \$10 per month.

4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1. Players must play in their respective age division, as per OWHA and CHA guidelines. The Executive Committee, prior to the first Scheduling Meeting, must approve exceptions to this rule.
- 4.2. No overage players will be allowed in any division of this league, unless approved by OWHA.
- 4.3. Players added to a team's roster after November 30th will not be eligible to play in league games, unless approved by the EKGHL executive (regular season or playoff).
- 4.4. For individual games, teams may "pick up" a maximum of 3 **players** from the lower division. (For example, a U13 team may pick up any player from the U11 age group, not laterally from U13.). **Any coach using a pick up player must make a request to the pick up player's coach and the players coach must give consent in RAMP for the player to be eligible. Goaltenders can move laterally. Goaltenders are included as one of the three pick up players.** The teams' list of players on the game sheet **cannot exceed the number of players on their roster with the use of pick-up players**. Pick-up players must be added on the electronic game sheet as per Game Sheet rules (Rule 2.2). **(See OWHA rule Sec 7 Pick Up Players A-D).**
 - 4.4.1 **In the U13, U15 and U22 divisions the executive board may authorize the movement of a goaltender for emergency situations only, identified as being in a situation in which the team would have no rostered goalie available to play with all rostered players present but without an available goaltender. The executive board will approve the use of a laterally moving goaltender allowing the team to exceed their roster by 1. This rule ONLY applies if there is no open roster spot. If an open roster spot exists, see rule 4.4. The team in question must get approval to do this from all teams in their division prior to having the emergency goaltender pick up approved. Please note: this rule will be reviewed each season after the first half for the U9 and U11 divisions.**
- 4.5. There will be no lateral movement of players, with the exception of goalies, for any reason during regular season, playoffs and Day of Champions for league play. No player may play for more than one team in her centre or any other centre within the same division for league play.
- 4.6. Players must be **rostered by November 15** eligible for playoffs. Exceptions may be made pending Executive Committee approval. **FDP players must play 50% of regular season games to be eligible for playoffs.**

- 4.7. Team rosters will be sent to the President and distributed to each centre by email prior to participating in any EKG IHL games and updated final rosters must be received by November 15 for players to be eligible for the playoffs. The Executive Committee must approve any amendments to the rosters after November 15. Any games played without approved rosters will be automatic forfeits until rosters are submitted. Games can be rescheduled if they have not been played as rosters have not been completed. Games not being played will be recorded as a forfeit. If both teams do not have approved rosters and games cannot be rescheduled, the game will be considered incomplete and no result recorded..
- 4.8. Girls who are rostered to a representative team as their "Base Team" in either OWHA or "predominately boy's" hockey will not be allowed to play in the Essex Kent Girl's Interlock Hockey League. [This does not include players only on Affiliated Player Lists]

5. **SCHEDULING**

- 5.1. The Executive Committee will set a date and time for the Regular Season and Playoff Season Scheduling Meeting(s).
- 5.2. It is the responsibility of each Centre Convenor to ensure that there is a representative for each team at these scheduling meetings. No representative will be allowed to schedule for more than one team at these meetings.
- 5.3. Teams are to attend the scheduling meeting knowing their ice times. Calendars and forms for scheduling will be distributed to each Centre Convenor prior to the scheduling meeting. Each team is to have a minimum of five home ice times to schedule games on for both regular season and playoffs.
- 5.4. The Executive members are to be at the scheduling meeting as advisors only and to assist where required.
- 5.5. Final standings need to be assessed before the Day of Champions. Therefore, whenever possible, no playoff games will be scheduled or re-scheduled any time during the week of the Day of Champions. No game will be scheduled during this time without the approval from the Executive.

6. **REFEREES AND/OR BENCH STAFF**

- 6.1. According to the OHF 2018-19 Handbook, the following regulations apply to Game Officials:

Reg. I1 "All on-ice officials certified as CHOP Level II must be 16 years of age. It is recommended that all on-ice officials must be at least two (2) years older than the age division for which they are officiating. Minimum CHOP level requirements to officiate sanctioned games will be at the discretion of the appropriate OHF Member Partner."

- 6.2. Two referees are to be scheduled for all EKGHL games. In the event of unforeseen circumstances that only one referee is available, the game may proceed as scheduled. If no referees show up, no official game will take place. In the case a game is delayed [i.e. waiting for ice officials], teams must remain as long as possible to try and fulfill rule 2.3 in the interest of completing a game. The game will be considered a “No Show” game and subject to the part of rule 9.4 that states, “The game will be recorded as “forfeit”, two points and a score of 2 will be recorded for the opposing team. The only exception to the rule is if it is determined that the arbiter was given the proper information and failed to have on ice officials in place.
- 6.3. You must have a female trainer on your bench. If you do not have a female trainer, you may use a male trainer, however if there is an injury on the ice, the female trainer from the other team and the male trainer from your team will both attend to the injured player on the ice. If there is only one (1) carded trainer for both teams, the team without the trainer must ask for permission from the opposing team to utilize their trainer. Refer to OWHA guidelines.

7. ILLEGAL PLAYERS/TEAM OFFICIALS

- 7.1. Teams have the right to inquire about the use of illegal players and / or team officials. Teams must make their inquiry in writing to the Centre Convenor within 48 hours of the incident. The Centre Convenor will notify the offending Centre Convenor and the League President within 24 hours who will together investigate the incident and report back to the inquiring centre within 48 hours. If an illegal player and or team official were used, within 24 hours, the President will notify the offending team in writing and the game will result in a forfeit. In addition, the coach of the offending team will be suspended for 1 game and the illegal player will also be suspended for 1 game. If required, suspensions will be carried into the next season in order to be fulfilled.

8. MAJOR PENALTIES AND SUSPENSIONS

Adhere to the OWHA Handbook with respect to minimum suspensions and the reporting process.
Note: all “Major” penalties are subject to suspensions.

- 8.1. When a suspension has been issued, the OWHA through stats@owha.on.ca and the EKGHL president must be notified within 24 hours of the infraction by the coach or a team official.
- 8.2. Teams must record the games served of the suspended player on the electronic game sheet (if possible). Stats@owha.on.ca and EKGHL president must be informed as each game is served.
- 8.3. If a player is suspended for two games or less, she can still practice, but cannot play. Exhibition games do not count as games served for suspensions. Players cannot referee if they are suspended. High school hockey is separate from OWHA hockey with respect to suspensions. Please refer to the OWHA handbook as rules regarding suspensions may change from year to year.
- 8.4. Where a player receives two (2) or more major penalties or suspensions in one season, it will be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to review such cases. In such cases, the Executive Committee has the right to request an interview with the suspended player. Three (3) executive members (not to include the executive member of the players centre) will conduct this interview.

9. **GAME CHANGES & CANCELLATIONS**

- 9.1. At least 72 hours' notice must be given for any cancellations (except weather conditions. *see rule 9.5). If a team gives less than 72 hours' notice, it will be considered a "No Show" game and subject to conditions listed in rule 9.4 of these EKGHL rules. Teams shall not use player absentees as reason for last minute game cancellations. Teams should know well in advance if game times are a problem. If they have problems getting a team, they should utilize the "pick up" player rules.
- 9.2. If games need to be cancelled and rescheduled, the home team will attempt to offer 2 ice slots for rescheduling. The visiting centre may offer ice and the two teams may come to a mutual agreement on the reschedule. Game changes must be confirmed and sent into the Stats Person & President within one week. Games cannot be left as "to be determined." Problems in reaching an agreement within a week may be brought to the executive board for analysis.
- 9.3. A "Game Change Form" must be completed, and all teams must be contacted as described on the game change form (by telephone and email). Options of rescheduling times will be recorded on the Game Change Form. Respective Coaches and Division Statistician must all be notified as soon as they are rescheduled.
- 9.4. If a team does not show up for a scheduled game, the offending team will incur the costs of referees and timekeepers not to exceed \$100. In addition to incurring these costs, the offending team will also forfeit the game. The game will be recorded as "forfeit", two points and a score of 2 will be recorded for the opposing team. The game sheet will not be destroyed but "forfeit" will be written on the sheet for the visiting team and a score will be entered as 2 to 0 for the home team. There is an "Invoice for No Show Game" form that must be completed to recoup costs.
- 9.5. Games can only be cancelled without 72 hours' notice if inclement weather conditions dictate. Weather conditions will be considered "inclement" when local weather authorities identify the conditions as "Severe Weather Warnings" or "Advisories", or when local police identify roads as dangerous to travel. [i.e. road closures] The EKGHL President will check "Environment Canada," "The Weather Network," and "Ontario Highway Conditions" to identify timing of such Advisories. The President will appoint 3 members representing all Essex-Kent playing areas and contact these people to help make the decision to cancel or not. Teams will still have the option of cancelling if they are not comfortable driving, however, the "No Show" Rules would apply.
- 9.6. The Executive board reserves the right to make alternate rulings on a case-by-case basis.

10. **STANDINGS**

- 10.1. The Executive Committee may appoint statisticians at the beginning of every season for each division.
- 10.2. It is the responsibility of the Statisticians to ensure all league regular season and playoff games have been inputted on the league website.

11. TOURNAMENTS

- 11.1. It is recommended that House League tournaments organized by EKG IHL members include the following restriction:

The use of OWHA and/or OMHA travel (Rep) players will be prohibited.

12. PROTEST POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

- 12.1. Written protest must be submitted within 72 hours to local convenor and president.
- 12.2. President must then submit the protest to convenor of “offending” association.
- 12.3. A written rebuttal must be then submitted in the next 72 hours and also submitted to President and to the convenor of the protesting party.
- 12.4. Both the protest and rebuttal must contain contact information.
- 12.5. Convenors of the two sides may resolve issue internally with respect to EKG IHL rules.
- 12.6. If the issue is not resolved, the president will set up liaison committee.
- 12.7. The Liaison committee will be made up of executive representatives from 3 other centres, not in a conflict of interest with the two parties.
- 12.8. This committee will meet to review the issue at the earliest convenience of all centres involved.
- 12.9. A decision by the Liaison Committee must be given to all parties involved, in writing within 48 hours of the meeting.
- 12.10. All rulings by the Liaison Committee are final and not subject to appeal.

13. CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES AND HARDWARE

13.1. EKG IHL Champions will be allotted ample opportunity to display their winning trophy in their community. However, it is imperative that these championship trophies and other EKG IHL property are to be returned to the EKG IHL in a timely manner.

EKG IHL will inform an association by November 1st of each season which trophies or hardware that must be returned.

Failure to return the trophies or hardware by the January scheduling meeting will result in a \$50 fine to the association.

Failure to return the trophies or hardware by March 1st will result in a \$200 fine to the association.