



## Nickel City Sons AAA Hockey Club - Constitution

### Rules of Operation (Constitution)

#### SECTION 1: RULES OF OPERATION

These rules are intended to set out the current policies of the Club, which will be applicable to the Teams and its players. While they are intended to be comprehensive, the Rules and Policies are not exhaustive and the Club reserves the right, in its discretion to make such changes and additions from time to time as it deems appropriate. Notice of any changes and/or additions will be given to Team Officials and, when appropriate, directly to parents/guardians on a timely basis.



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### SECTION 2: THE CLUB

#### 2.1. The Club's Legal Status

The Nickel City Sons Hockey Club Inc. ("the Club") was incorporated as a non-share capital corporation by Letters Patent issued by the Province of Ontario on XXX, 2007 and operates under the Rules of Operation and the rules of the Northern Ontario Hockey Association ("the NOHA")

#### 2.2. Club Directors and Officials

The Club is governed by a Board of Directors, some of whom also act as Club Officials. Club Directors are primarily responsible for reviewing the general performance of the Club and its Teams. Club Directors have no direct responsibility for liaising or interacting with Team Officials and parents/guardians and do not deal directly with Team affairs. Club Officials, including the General Manager, are responsible for administering the day-to-day operations of the Club and its Teams and all other matters in any way relating to the NOHA, its members, other hockey organizations and governing bodies.

The Club will have a Board of Directors comprised of 11 positions. These 11 board members will consist of 3 management directors and 8 non-management directors.

Non-management directors will come from each of the following four areas: 1. Walden and Espanola, 2. Rayside Balfour and Onaping, 3. Valley East and Capreol, and 4. Nickel Centre and Coniston. These directors will be responsible for representing and liaising with the associations in their area. The area directors will be appointed to a 4 year term. The director does not have to sit on an area association board but, must be a candidate who is mutually acceptable by the sitting management directors as well as the 2-3 associations in each area.

The President will be appointed to a 4 year term. The other nine (10) directors will vote for a president every 4 years. The President must receive a minimum of 5 votes to assume the position. The 11 board positions (directors) are currently filled as follows:

Title	Individual	Director	
President	Jack MacLellan	Director	(management)
VP	Stewart Gordon	Director	(management)
VP	Richard Walker	Director	(management)
Area Manager	Marty Punkari	Director	(Walden, Espanola)
Area Manager	Troy Mallette	Director	(Onaping Falls, Rayside)
Area Manager	Steve Blinn	Director	(Valley East, Capreol)
Area Manager	Paul Lizotte	Director	(Nickel Center)
Area Manager	Jerry Young	Director	(Rayside Balfour)
Area Manager	Dave Berthelot	Director	(Onaping Falls)
Team Development	Bob Allen	Director	(All Areas)
Treasurer	Vic Baronette	Director	
Secretary	Amanda Berthelot		



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### 2.3. The Club's Teams

Unless otherwise determined by the Club or the NOHA, the Club will register and operate 4 teams, comprising the following:

Major Peewee – operating in the Northern Ontario "AAA" PeeWee Hockey League

Major Bantam - operating in the Northern Ontario Bantam Hockey League ("the NOBHL"), and

Midget - operating in the Great North Midget League ("the GNML")

Each team referred to in these Rules as the "Team". Under no circumstances will the Club be responsible for any obligations, financial or otherwise, incurred by a Team, unless such obligation is approved in writing and contained in a document signed by two authorized signing officers of the Club.

### 2.4. The Club's Responsibilities

Subject to the overriding authority of the NOHA, the Club has exclusive control over its Teams and Players registered with the organization for all periods sanctioned or mandated by the NOHA. In addition to the foregoing and to the other rights reserved below, the Club shall have primary responsibility for the following:

**Team Officials.** The Club appoints and, if necessary, replaces the Head Coach of each Team and approves the selection of other Team Officials. The Club monitors and evaluates the performance of all Team Officials.

**NOHA Registration.** The Club registers its players and Team Officials with the NOHA.

**Team Programs.** The Club develops programs of general application for its Teams.

**Tournaments.** The Club approves and processes tournament applications. If a conflict in scheduling between Teams arises, the final determination as to the application to be processed will be made by the President of the Club in his absolute discretion.

**Practice Ice.** The Club provides each team with 3 hours of practice ice each week on a regularly scheduled basis. This ice belongs to the Club and may not be sold or given away. If a Team has a scheduling conflict a Team Official will contact the President to arrange a trade with another Team.

**Equipment, Gear and Clothing.** The Club provides each team with Club home and away jerseys, home and away socks.

**Disciplinary Hearings.** The Club's Officials accompany the Team Officials and player(s) to any disciplinary hearing mandated by the NOHA. The Club reserves the right to exclude any person(s) from a disciplinary hearing as it considers appropriate in its absolute discretion.

**Club Name and Logo.** The Club approves all uses of its name and, where the Club owns its logo, authorizing its use on materials, equipment, gear, and clothing.

### 2.5. Fund Raising

The Club Officials will review and approve all Team fund raising plans before they are implemented. The Team is solely responsible for the consequences of any such activities including the content of



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any written material used to further those activities. All fund raising efforts shall be conducted in compliance with all provincial and municipal laws, by-laws, and regulations. Club sponsored fund raising events are mandatory participation by each Team.

### **2.6. Who can make decisions on behalf of the Club**

Unless specifically set out in these rules no decision, authorization or approval granted by a Club Official shall be binding on the Club, unless it is in writing and signed by the President and Vice President or other authorized signing officer of the Club.

### **2.7. Communication with Club Officials**

#### (1) General

All issues and communications relating to the ordinary course of Club management should be directed to the President, unless urgency or circumstance requires that another Club Official be contacted.

#### (2) Communication between the Club and Team Officials

Unless otherwise directed by circumstances or urgency, all requests, notices or other matters requiring interaction between the Club and a Team shall be communicated to or by the Teams Head Coach or Team Manager.



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### SECTION 3: THE TEAMS

#### 3.1. Team Officials

(1) Who are they

Each team will have the following officials:

- a Head Coach appointed by the Club
- at least two (2) Assistant Coaches appointed by the Head Coach subject to Club approval
- a Trainer appointed by the Head Coach subject to Club approval, and
- a Team Manager appointed by the Head Coach subject to Club approval
- General Manager appointed by club

(2) Criteria for Appointment

Each Team Official must be a person of good character and reputation and possess such credentials and qualifications as the Club, in its discretion, believes necessary to reflect the image and values of the Club both within the NOHA and the hockey community.

(3) Team Officials Responsibilities

Subject to the limitation of the team budget with all applicable rules, regulations and policies, including those stipulated herein or otherwise adopted by the Club from time to time, the officials of each team will be responsible for the content, scope, and implementation of any programs established for the Team as well as the conduct of the Players and Team Officials.

(4) Payments to Team Officials

Any person acting in his or her capacity as Team Official may receive payment for his or her services and, in addition, may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the performance of such services.

(5) Team Officials are not employees or agents of the Club

Although appointed or approved by the Club, neither the Head Coach nor any other Team Official is or should be construed to be an employee of the Club. The Club is not responsible for acts of theft or embezzlement by any Team Official, nor is it responsible for any other of a Team Official's actions or omissions of any nature or kind, whatsoever or howsoever caused.

Team Officials are not agents of the Club and therefore have no authority to speak for, incur obligations, financial or otherwise, grant any approvals or accede to any requests on behalf of the Club.

(6) Treatment of player when parent/guardian acts as Team Official

The Club expects its Team Officials to keep the best interests of the Team in mind at all times.

#### 3.2. Team Meetings



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The Head Coach will meet with the parents/guardians at least 3 times each season. The first meeting should be held prior to the commencement of the season and other meetings should be arranged to coincide with the distribution of the team's financial summaries. The purpose of the meetings will be to review matters of interest relating to the Team, including its financial affairs.

### **3.3. Team Rules**

Team rules will be provided by the Club. The Club will discuss these rules with Team Officials. In turn, Club Officials will discuss the Team Rules with the Team parents. They must be presented to the parents in writing.

### **3.4. Sponsorship**

Teams are encouraged to solicit support from corporate sponsors in order to reduce the financial burden on parents/guardians. As consideration, the Team may, at its own cost, grant the sponsors the right to place their names and/or logo on equipment, gear and clothing used by the Team to a maximum of two sponsors per item (providing the Club has not authorized the name or logo of its own corporate sponsor). To ensure consistency and quality, Club Officials must approve all sponsorship cresting.



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### SECTION 4: CLUB AND TEAM FINANCES

#### 4.1. Permitted Use of Club Funds

The Club is a non-share capital corporation and cannot have any shareholders who are entitled to profit from its operation. All monies earned by the Club must be used to meet its ongoing obligations or otherwise retained for the purpose(s) set out in its Letters Patent.

Any payments or distributions may not contravene applicable law(s) or the rules of the NOHA.

#### 4.2. Team Bank Accounts

Teams will maintain their own accounts. Two signatures will be required on all Team cheques.

The Club Manager will provide a Statement of Account on a regular basis, or at any time requested by a Team Official or Club Official. These statements must be distributed to the parents/guardians at least 3 times during the season, usually at a team meeting.

#### 4.3. Team Budgets

The Head Coach will provide the Club with a preliminary Team Budget prior to tryouts, for the Club's approval. This budget must include proposed Team revenues including sources, and an estimate of Team expenses. If the Team opts to pay its Team Officials in accordance with Section 3.1 (4) of these Rules, the preliminary budget must also indicate the amount paid to each Team Official, the source of funding and the basis on which such payments shall be made. This information is to be shared with the parent/guardian of every player prior to signing with the team. They will also, at that time, be provided with a copy of the Club Rules of Operation.

No material changes to the preliminary Team Budget shall be permitted without the prior approval of the Club.

#### 4.4. Disputes Over Team Finances

Any complaint by a parent/guardian arising out of a Team budget or financial summary must be referred to the Club for resolution. The decision of the Club will be binding on both parties.



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### SECTION 5: RULES RELATING TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

#### 5.1. Notices, Approvals, and Authorizations

Any notice given to or approval or authorization granted by a parent/guardian of a player shall be deemed for all purposes to have given or granted by all of the parents and/or guardians of such player.

#### 5.2. Payment of Fees

The parents/guardians responsible for each player shall make all payments required of such player on a timely basis in accordance with the rules prescribed for the Team. Failure to make such payments at the time or times prescribed may result in the suspension of the player until such payment is received by the Team and/or the Club.

A player Club Fee of \$100.00 is payable to the club upon signing the players card. Said fee is independent of other teams fees.

#### 5.3. Standard of Conduct

Parents/Guardians are expected to conduct themselves generally in a manner which best exemplifies the standards and values of the Club. This means that parents/guardians must demonstrate respect, courtesy and civility in all dealings related to their child's involvement in the Club's hockey program including dealings with the Club and any of its teams, other parents/guardians of players, opposing teams, game official and fans and spectators whether at home or away at tournaments. Provocative and inflammatory type of behaviour including profanity, threats, and verbal or physical confrontations will not be tolerated.

#### 5.4. Sanctions for Misconduct

The Club reserves the right to discipline any parent/guardian who violates this standard of behaviour or whose actions, in the opinion of the Club, denigrate, damage or bring into disrepute the image and reputation of the Club or its Club and Team Officials. Such discipline may consist of prohibiting such parent/guardian from attending team functions, practices, or games for such period as the Club, in its discretion, considers appropriate. Failure to abide by such sanctions may result in the suspension or release of the player for whom such parent or guardian is responsible.



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### SECTION 6: DRESS CODE

#### 6.1. Nature of Code

The dress code outlines the standard of dress to which the coaching staff and players are expected to adhere to while representing the Club in all league, playoff, tournament, or exhibition games. Dress codes set a positive image for the organization. Failure to adhere to proper dress code may result in a one game suspension. Continued dress code infractions, may result in removal from the Team.

#### 6.2. Coaches Dress Code

All coaches shall be dressed in Club jackets, dress pants, dress shoes or boots, dress shirt, and tie.

#### 6.3. Trainers Dress Code

All trainers shall be dressed in tracksuits with suitable boots or running shoes. The trainer shall also have his/her trainers kit available at all times while on the bench.

#### 6.4. Players Dress Code

All players shall be dressed in Club jackets, dress pants, dress shoes or boots, dress shirt, and tie.



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### SECTION 7: RULES RELATING TO PLAYERS

#### 7.1. Players Obligations

Players shall:

- (1) represent their team with dignity at all times.
- (2) show respect for the rules of the game, the game officials and their decisions.
- (3) demonstrate respect for their team mates and treat them fairly and equally.
- (4) demonstrate respect for their coaches, other Team officials, their opponents and the coaching staff of their opponents.

#### 7.2. Sanctions for Breaching Obligations

The Club, in its discretion, reserves the right to restrict the ice time, suspend or release any player who is found by the Club to have breached any of the foregoing obligations. Players only to be selected from District #2 any player selected from another District shall be approved by President or Vice Presidents of Club before signing of players card

#### 7.3. Player Injury

Neither the Club nor the Team is responsible for any injury suffered by a player, whether on or off the ice and however caused. The NOHA maintain insurance which may be applicable in certain events.

#### 7.4. Allocation of Ice Time

The Head Coach shall make all decisions regarding the amount of ice time afforded to a player having regard to the best interests of the Team.

#### 7.5. Playing and Practicing with Affiliated Teams

The following teams are affiliated with each other: Minor Peewee and Major Peewee, Minor Bantam and Major Bantam, Major Bantam and Midget.

Whenever practical, players should be made available to the Affiliated Team so long as it does not conflict with the players' primary responsibility to their own Team. Any Head Coach who does not allow a player to be called up may face disciplinary action.

#### 7.6. Releases

The Club's policy regarding releases for Minor Bantams to Midgets is that outright releases at the conclusion of the season are not granted. The Club Officials will, at their discretion, consider requests for releases on a case by case basis. The parties requesting releases are asked to put their reasons in writing and send them to the attention of the Club's President. If a suitable reason is found, a release will be granted on the first day of the NOHA tryouts.

#### 7.7. Players Refunds



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Any player who quits after November 1 of the hockey year shall not be reimbursed the players fees. Players who quit are given a release prior to November 1 of the hockey year shall be reimbursed on a pro-rata basis.

### **SECTION 8: DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

#### **8.1. Complaints against the Club**

Complaints against the Club are to be made in writing and mailed to the attention of the President, Nickel City Sons Hockey Club, 25 Falcon Street, Chelmsford, Ontario, P0M 1L0.

#### **8.2. Twenty Four (24) Hour Rule**

To avoid emotional or angry outbursts and behaviour at both games and practices, the "24 hour rule" is in force for all players, parents and guardians. This rule requires you to wait a period of 24 hours before making your concerns known to the appropriate party. If a player, parent/guardian has observed the 24 hour rule, he/she is to first put their complaint in writing and give it to the Team Manager. The Team Manager will then file a copy of the complaint with the Club President. The Club President will discuss the complaint with the appropriate party and if necessary a meeting will be held to resolve the complaint. The Club President's decision will be final.