

PART I: ARTICLES

ARTICLE ONE

NAME

1. This Organization shall be known as Hockey Northwestern Ontario. Hockey Northwestern Ontario shall hereinafter be referred to as the Branch.

ARTICLE TWO

AUTHORITY

1. This Branch has full and complete jurisdiction over all amateur hockey in that part of Northwestern Ontario from the 85th meridian to the Manitoba border.
2. This Branch is a member of Hockey Canada, which it hereby recognizes as the governing body for amateur hockey in Canada.
3. This Branch, as a member of Hockey Canada, is allied with the International Ice Hockey Federation.

ARTICLE THREE

OBJECTS

1. To foster, encourage and improve the sport of amateur hockey throughout the jurisdiction allotted to this Branch by Hockey Canada and to adjudicate on all questions arising from and pertaining to amateur hockey.
2. To maintain a uniform test of amateur standing and uniform playing rules for amateur hockey as established by Hockey Canada.
3. To conduct suitable schedules or contests of amateur hockey.
4. To promote and encourage a standardized progression or step by step approach to teaching the fundamentals of hockey, otherwise known as the Hockey Canada Initiation Program Curriculum.

ARTICLE FOUR

MEMBERS

1. This Branch is composed of Directors, amateur hockey teams, Leagues and Associations.
2. Membership in amateur hockey teams, Leagues and Associations shall be restricted to individuals of recognized amateur standing.
3. A team, League or Association must be composed of at least three (3) individuals who have signing authority and assume responsibility as members, exclusive of playing members.
4. Membership by amateur teams, Leagues or Associations and their constituent members or players is purely voluntary. Application for and acceptance of membership entails that each member, as a condition precedent to membership in Hockey Northwestern Ontario (HNO), shall adopt By-Laws, Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies of Hockey Northwestern Ontario, and Hockey Canada.

ARTICLE FIVE

ADMISSION OR RESIGNATION

1. An amateur hockey team, League or Association may at any time be admitted to membership in this Branch or withdraw there from upon compliance with the By-Laws of this Branch.

ARTICLE SIX

DEFINITION OF AN AMATEUR

1. Subject to the provisions hereinafter contained for the re-instatement of professional hockey players:
 - a) An amateur hockey player is one who either has not engaged or is not engaged in organized professional hockey or if he was so engaged has been re-instated.
 - b) Amateur hockey players may, however, take part in professional games as provided for in the Hockey Canada Constitution.
2. Professionals may regain amateur status upon compliance with the Hockey Canada Constitution.

ARTICLE SEVEN

AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES

1. Amendments or alterations can be made to the Articles of this Constitution at any meeting of the Members by a two-thirds majority of those voting. The Executive Director shall communicate such proposed amendments or alterations to each Team, League or Association President ten (10) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Notice of Motions may only be submitted by the Board of Directors, Teams, Leagues and Associations.

ARTICLE EIGHT

CHANGES IN BY-LAWS OR REGULATIONS

1. This Branch at any meeting of the members, with a two-thirds majority of those voting, may adopt, amend, revise or repeal By-Laws for the governance of this Branch.
2. This Branch at any meeting of the members, with a simple majority, may adopt, amend, revise or repeal Regulations for the governance of this Branch.
3. The Board of Directors at any Board of Director's Meeting, with a two-thirds majority, may adopt, amend, revise and repeal By-Laws or Regulations for the governance of this Branch. Any amendments made under this paragraph must be brought forward to the next Annual General meeting.
4. Amendments or alterations can be made to the By-Laws or Regulations only after specific notice, in writing, to the Branch Office, 15 days prior to any Special or Board of Director's meeting, and 45 days prior to the Annual General meeting. The Executive Director shall communicate such amendments or revisions of the By-Laws or Regulations to each Member of the Branch within ten (10) days of their adoption.
5. Notice of Motions which would have a negative effect on the new budget will not take effect until after the next year's Annual General meeting.