



HNB Elite Hockey Commission

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS
AND REGULATIONS

As Amended June 2025

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1. ARTICLE I - NAME

- 1.1. The organization shall be known as the **"HNB Elite Hockey Commission"** hereinafter referred to as the "EHC".

2. ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

- 2.1. The Elite Hockey Development Model system operates within Hockey New Brunswick and provides for the development of the elite athlete reflecting a “New Brunswick Made Development Model”. Every player that enters this system is a “Project”. Our mission is to take that player to the highest level of personal development as possible in the game of hockey.

3. ARTICLE III - AUTHORITY

- 3.1. The Commission, operating with the approval and under the authority and jurisdiction of Hockey New Brunswick (HNB), Hockey Canada (HC) and the NB Minor Hockey Council, (NBMHC) shall be responsible for the Administration of all Leagues that operate under the HNB Elite Hockey Commission within the Province of N.B.
- 3.2. The Commission will register with Hockey New Brunswick, as approved by the NB Minor Hockey Council, each year at the HNB Annual General Meeting, and shall provide a copy of this Constitution, as amended from time to time, as required by HNB and the NB Minor Hockey Council.
- 3.3.
 - 3.3.1. To interpret all the provisions of the EHC Operation Manual, policies, procedures, rules and regulations. The EHC Executive Committee shall render decisions on the EHC Operation Manual, policies, procedures, rules and regulations; and all such interpretations and decisions rendered by the EHC Executive Committee may be subject to the HNB appeal process.
 - 3.3.2. To fine, suspend, or expel a club or club executive, team or team executive, parent, guardian, family member or a player for notorious and continued foul play, or unfair, unsportsmanlike or ungentlemanly conduct, individually or collectively, on the ice, or off, or in any arena where a hockey game is being played, or at any meeting or gathering in the interest of the game; for failure to pay assessments, or for any persistent infringement of the laws or the game or the rules of the EHC, or rulings of the EHC Executive Committee

4. ARTICLE IV – BOUNDARIES

4.1. The Commission, under the authority of HNB and the NB Minor Hockey Council shall implement and govern the operations of the Elite Hockey Commission, throughout the Province of New Brunswick.

4.2. Notwithstanding the generality of 4.1 above, the Commission shall administer the Elite Hockey Development Model through 4 distinct areas, known as Elite Draw Zone Areas (EDZAs).

4.3. The 4 Elite Draw Zone Areas shall have boundaries established as follows:

4.3.1. The West Draw Zone Area for all Divisions of play with exception of U18 Major shall be comprised of the geographic area identified by Hockey New Brunswick as Regions 1, 2 and 3.

4.3.2. The South Draw Zone area for all Divisions of play shall be comprised of the geographic area identified by Hockey New Brunswick as Region 4.

4.3.3. The East Draw Zone Area for all Divisions of play, with exception of Male U18 Major shall be comprised of the geographic area identified by Hockey New Brunswick as Regions 5.

4.3.4. The North Draw Zone area for Divisions of play with exception of Male U18 Major shall be comprised of the geographic area identified by Hockey New Brunswick as regions 6,7, and 8.

4.4. Male U18 Major has separately defined boundaries, to ensure the continued operation of a U18 Major program in each of the 4 Draw Zones. The Boundaries for this division of play shall be defined as follows:

4.4.1. New Brunswick based team boundaries shall reflect the same boundaries as the Elite Draw Zone Areas, with the exception that the players within the geographic boundaries of Kent Centre Minor Hockey, Kedgwick Minor Hockey and St Quentin Minor Hockey will be part of the Northern Draw Zone Area

4.4.2. For Male Major U18.- Minor Hockey District 1 players not addressed above can declare to go to EDZA North or EDZA West. Minor Hockey District 7 players not addressed above can declare to go to EDZA North or EDZA East. Once declared that player stays in that zone for that playing season unless released by the zone team.

4.4.3. All players having played outside of their home residency zone will have to declare whether they intend to remain in the zone in which they played the past season or return to their home residence draw zone. Such declaration shall be made prior to June 1st of the current season.

4.4.4. For the Division of U13, players from Kedgwick and St. Quentin be allowed to choose Restigouche or Nord-Ouest. For players from Kent Center in the U13, U14 and U15 divisions they will be able to choose the North or East Draw Zone

Area. Once the area is chosen, the player must stay with that area for the duration the player is in that Division.

4.4.5. Once a player in the above situation has been rostered on a team, they shall be deemed property of that team for the duration of their U13 playing years or when the team releases said player.

4.5. Any League registered shall require the annual approval of the Commission to operate, and said League is to register with HNB. Approval for operation is to be provided by the Commission prior to the HNB Annual General Meeting. Any League approved by the Commission shall establish boundaries for their respective Divisions of Play. Divisions of play under the Elite Hockey Commission include: U13 AAA, U14 AAA, U15 AAA, and U18 Major.

4.6. Teams operating within the League approved by the Commission shall be located or based in communities as determined by the local EDZA Board of Directors.

4.7. Draw Zone Areas must be submitted to the Elite Hockey Commission prior to August 1 of the coming season for commission approval.

4.8. Subject to the approval of the Elite Hockey Chair and their respective EDZA chairs players may move outside of their zone.

5. ARTICLE V – AMENDMENTS

5.1. The Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations shall be amended at the Commission's annual general meeting.

5.2. Amendments require a two-third majority vote of the members present, to carry.

5.3. Only amendments submitted in writing to the Commission Chair fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the annual general meeting shall be considered. It shall be the duty of the Commission Chair to submit a copy of the proposed amendments on to each member of the Executive and to each voting member at least one (1) week prior to the date of the annual general meeting.

5.4. Amendments shall be submitted by Executive Commission members.

6. BY-LAW 1 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

6.1. The Elite Hockey (EHC) Commission shall consist of:

6.1.1. The four (4) Elite Draw Zone Area (EDZA) Chairs

- 6.1.2. The NBMHC Chair
- 6.1.3. The Commission Chair

6.2. The Commission Chair shall be appointed by the HNB President and approved by the HNB Board of Directors. Term shall be 2 years and the Commission Chair may be re-appointed.

7. BY-LAW 2 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DUTIES AND POWERS

7.1. This Executive Committee will:

- 7.1.1. Report to the HNB Board of Directors through the HNB Elite Hockey Commissioner.
- 7.1.2. Report administratively directly with the HNB Office through the leagues.
- 7.1.3. Have sole discretion over the operations of elite AAA hockey in New Brunswick.
- 7.1.4. Establish discipline and sanctions for any EDZA that is not following the guidelines set out by the Association.
- 7.1.5. Ensure consistency throughout the province in the administration and presentation of the Hockey Development Model.
- 7.1.6. Ensure philosophy of Hockey Development Model is strictly adhered to.

8. BY-LAW 3 – EDZA BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

8.1. Each EDZA will have an EDZA Chair and a Board of Directors consisting of:

- EDZA Chair - Voting Member
- U14 AAA Director – Voting Member
- U13 AAA Director – Voting Member
- Treasurer – Voting Member
- Minor Hockey Representative – Voting Member

8.1.1. Board members may participate in on-ice, off-ice, or administrative activities in a volunteer capacity.

8.1.2. Individuals operating 'For Profit' hockey organizations cannot hold voting positions on EDZA Boards

8.2. The Commission Chair shall appoint the four (4) EDZA Chairs – North and South in even HNB AGM's and East and West in odd HNB AGM's. Terms shall be two years and may be re-appointed.

- 8.3. Each EDZA Board will support the structure and teams for elite development hockey in their respective EDZA. The goal is to ensure that all Districts in the EDZA are fairly represented.

9. BY-LAW 4 – MEETINGS

- 9.1. The Commission's annual general meeting shall be held no later than the last weekend in May.
- 9.2. Voting members at the Association AGM shall be those Executive positions noted in By-Law 1.1. Each voting position may be represented by an alternate or designate with written notice of same to the Commission Chair 48 hours prior to the Annual General Meeting. In event of a tied vote the Commission Chair shall be entitled to a second vote. 50% plus one shall form a quorum at the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.3. Attendance at the Annual General Meeting will be limited to the Executive Commission Standing invitation shall be made to members of HNB Board of Directors through the Commission Chair and to HNB Minor Hockey Executive Council through the Minor Chair.

10. REGULATIONS – MISCELLANEOUS

- 10.1. Where any matter is not dealt with within the EHC Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations, but is dealt with within the HNB Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations, then provisions of the HNB Constitution, By-Law and Regulations shall apply.
- 10.2. Any matter not dealt within the HNB Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations and the NBMHC Operation Manual shall be dealt with at any EHC meeting by a majority vote of the members present, provided such matter is not in conflict with the Hockey Canada or HNB Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations and the NBMHC Operation Manual.
- 10.3. Sanctions to be applied against EDZA's, Leagues or teams operating within an EDZA will be at the discretion of the EHC Executive Committee.
- 10.4. Without limiting the generality of Regulation 102, sanctions are to be applied if EDZA's, Leagues or teams within the EDZA are considered to be operating outside of the accepted recommendations of the Elite Hockey Development Model.
- 10.5. Sanctions will be in the form of suspensions or removal of Leagues, teams or EDZA's from participating within the Elite Hockey Development programs including the provincial playoff format. Sanctions shall not be monetary.