



Frequently Asked Questions

The following document contains relevant questions we receive every year. These questions (with their answers) are outlined in detail below:

Q: Where does the money for the registration fee go?

A: Your registration fee is split among many different facets of the MBHL's operation, which include administration (structure creation, statistical services, documentation, scheduling, web site hosting/development, etc.), game operation (i.e. rink rental), league and team equipment (multiple sets of sweaters, balls, scoresheets, etc...), and various activities and awards (tournament, trophies, championship winners, etc...).

Q: Who is the League Manager?

A: The League Manager is responsible for your particular league. He handles everything happening in your league.

Q: What should captains provide to their league manager?

A: Captains give the League Manager the following documents for the first game: a completed *Contract* for every player and the *Waiver and Release Form*. A *Team Scoresheet* must be filled out and given to the Timekeeper before the first game. These three documents are available for download on the web site.

Q: How many players are allowed on a team?

A: A maximum of **25** players (forward/defensemen) and 7 goalies are allowed per team.

Q: How are each team's league and division determined?

A: The MBHL does its best to build well-balanced leagues while taking the following into consideration: last year's performance, this year's roster, or in the case of a new team, its background and our impression of the team. Teams are split into divisions based on balance of power, geography, shirt color, rivalry creation, and scheduling preferences.

Q: What am I required to wear as a player in terms of team jersey?

A: MBHL is an organized league and as such requires each player of the team to wear a "sports jersey" which ideally is a full length hockey jersey. Over the years we have relaxed this rule to also allow other sports jerseys such as soccer jerseys or "sports style" t-shirts. Each jersey must have an imprinted number (no blank or taped numbers). Every jersey of the team must be the same primary color and style as the intent of our rules are that the team appear uniform, so you cannot have one player with a hockey jersey and another with a soccer jersey, or one player with a red jersey and another with an orange one. You can however, have two players with the same style jersey, same color, but one of them has a stripe or logo for example. If you have any doubt, check with the league before purchasing a set. Changing sweaters on the bench is not permitted. The league suggests that every captain bring extra sweaters to every game to avoid any issues.
Note: A 2-minute penalty will be assessed for wearing an illegal shirt. See Rule #4.

Q: Where can the stats be found?

A: Updated stats are generally posted on the web at www.mbhl.ca 48 hours after each game. These statistics should be checked for errors (in particular, games played and spelling of names). Any errors can be reported to a League Official (either in person or via email). Weekly team copies of statistics can be obtained from the League Manager.

Q: How long can my team stay in the dressing room?

A: Teams should not remain in the room for longer than **30 minutes** after the game. If a free room cannot be found, please see a League Manager.

Q: Does the MBHL provide locks for the dressing rooms?

A: No. Teams are required to bring their own locks.

Q: Later in the season I notice one of my players is missing a game played in the statistics, can I have this fixed?

A: For obvious reason to protect the fairness of playoff eligibility, we cannot simply take a captain's word for it and add games played. The player's name must appear on the game scoresheet to get credit (includes injured or suspended players in attendance). It is the captain's responsibility to review the game scoresheet to ensure that the timekeeper has written all of the teams' attending players.

Q: Who has to submit a contract?

A: Every player must submit a contract (every year) before he plays his first game of the season. He has to submit a contract for every team he plays for.

Q: Who are the referees?

A: The MBHL has a certified Federation of Referees run by **Richard Provost**. This is an established federation that also referees many ice hockey leagues and tournaments.

Q: Why are there off-night games in the schedule?

A: Unfortunately, with several arena and holiday constraints, off-night games must be played in order to complete the overall season.

Q: Does the goalie have to play in nets during the season in order to be eligible for the playoffs?

A: Any player playing the minimum number of games for a goalie can play in nets during the playoffs.

Q: How many timeouts are allowed in a game?

A: Each team is allowed **one timeout** for the entire game.

Q: How can I communicate with the League Organizers?

A: Go to the Contact us section of the web site and email the most appropriate contact for your question. The question or request will be evaluated thereafter and either answered or routed to the right source.

Q: What happens if the goalie doesn't show up?

A: A goalie with full equipment is required to start the game. You cannot start the game with 6 players. The minimum equipment required is: goalie pads, helmet, trapper, and jock. There are two possible solutions: (1) Borrow equipment from another team and put a player in nets or (2) Roster permitting, get a goalie who has not played in your league before (if there is one around).

Q: What happens in the event of a color conflict?

A: The *Visitors* will generally be provided with a set of shirts by the league to wear.

Q: Why are some penalties put up on the clock while others are not?

A: Penalties are only put up on the clock when they cause a power play situation. Since coincidental penalties are played 5 on 5, putting these penalties up on the clock would only create confusion for players and Referees. Timekeepers approximate two-minute stopped time penalties by using three minutes of running time; however, once the three minutes have expired, the players must wait for a stoppage in play in order to leave the penalty box (since their teams already have 5 players on the rink).

Q: How are suspensions decided?

A: The length of a suspension is decided by League Managers. Decisions are based on: (1) a discussion with the referees, the timekeeper, and witnesses when appropriate; (2) precedents set by previous suspensions; (3) in some severe cases, consultation with the League Organizers.

Note: Certain actions result in automatic minimum suspensions.

Q: Why is a suspension extended an extra game if the suspended player doesn't show up to serve it?

A: In order to discourage suspensions, the player must show up to the game to serve his suspension. Since this is difficult for some players (and we cannot make exceptions), players have the option of not showing up, but then they must serve an extra game.

Q: What if a player reaches the Penalty-Minute Limit in the last game of the regular season?

A: The player will be suspended for the first game of the Playoffs.

Q: Is a Captain responsible if his player breaks league or arena property?

A: **YES.** The team must pay for any damage the player has caused before it plays the next game or risk an automatic default.

Q: Who is in the MBHL's Hall of Fame?

A: Players who have contributed substantially to the MBHL through their skill level, attitude, and accomplishments merit entry into this prestigious club. Five players are selected for membership each year.

Q: Why is there no overtime during the regular season?

A: Rinks are booked for exactly 1 hour per game.

Q: Why do formats vary by league?

A: The formats depend on the level and type of league. For instance, some leagues are put together for teams that register after the registration deadline and therefore start later and have a more condensed playoff schedule. The more competitive leagues have the standard series format, except for the A-league where semis and finals are based on 2 wins out of 3.

Q: Where can I find information on the league structure and season and playoff formats?

A: Under documents on the web, there are two documents called League and Playoff Formats which contain all this information.

Q: The Web Site doesn't work?

A: Currently the web site is designed to support Internet Explorer so other browsers such as Firefox may experience difficulty on the site. We are working on a site re-design which we hope will support a greater range of browsers including mobile devices.