



**LEAGUE OF EASTERN
ONTARIO**

RULES & BYLAWS
2023/2024

LEAGUE OF EASTERN ONTARIO
RULES & BYLAWS

The following Rules and Bylaws of the LEAGUE OF EASTERN ONTARIO, herein referred to as the LEO, shall be enforced within the current Minor Hockey Associations which collectively form the LEO consisting of Apsley, Bancroft, Brighton, Campbellford, Centre Hastings, Colborne, Douro, Ennismore, Havelock, Lakefield, Norwood, Otonabee, Tweed and Warkworth and herein referred to as Centre(s).

The rules governing the LEO will be that of Hockey Canada and the OMHA with the following additions.

Pre-Season Coaching Staff Briefing

- 1.0 Prior to the commencement of the regular season, all Centre Representatives must have a meeting with their Head Coaches (and other staff members if available) to ensure they are familiar with and acknowledge their understanding of these Rules and Bylaws as well as their Centre Executive. Centres must acknowledge that Centre Representative will be deemed the **SOLE** communicator for your centre. An Executive list must be provided for the league along with applicable team fees submitted in November. All centres must provide a list of jersey colours for each team registered in the league for distribution to other centres.

Declaration of Teams and Rosters

- 2.0 Each Centre Representative must declare their teams initially at the AUG meeting and finalize by the SEPT meeting. No LEO team is permitted to roster fewer than ten (10) players without prior approval of the LEO Board of Directors through open declaration at a LEO meeting.
- 2.1 Should a Centre schedule a team with Representative league, that team is NOT eligible to request to drop back into the LEO once that leagues' schedule has been officially released.

Overage Players and Eligibility

- 3.0 Centre's shall not roster an overage player in any division without first seeking League approval from the Board of Directors. The request shall be tabled at a League meeting or submitted to the League in writing. The request must accompany the name of player, date of birth, and details supporting the reason for the request.
The Board discourages MAJOR overage players from playing down in a lower division. Player safety within the division that the overage player is seeking approval shall be the main factor for determining eligibility.
If an overage player is granted approval, the Centre can then advise the OMHA that the request was League approved when requesting OMHA approval.
- 3.1 The league will conduct a monthly review of that player's eligibility to remain in the lower division. Continuing eligibility shall be subject to a review of the overage players skill development and the safety of all players in the division.
A Centre shall not offer to affiliate any player approved as an overage player.
The League will not approve any requests for an overage U18.

**LEAGUE OF EASTERN ONTARIO
RULES & BYLAWS**

Player Movement

- 4.0 An Affiliated Player currently enjoys playing an unlimited number of games in a higher category, whether from their rostered LEO team to a higher division LEO team, or from their rostered LEO team to their centre's REP team for the same age division. However, the league reminds players, parents and coaches that the player's FIRST commitment is to the original rostered team as per OMHA regulation 4.3, f), ii) governing local league hockey.
- 4.1 LEO games shall NOT be rescheduled to allow affiliated participation for those few players. A further reminder that all league games, whether regular season or playoffs, are the team's FIRST priority and come before any tournament or exhibition game participation.

Inclement Weather – Cancellation of Games

- 5.0 A game shall only be cancelled and rescheduled due to severe weather conditions when travelling poses a significant safety risk. Any coaching staff concerned about travelling must contact their own Centre Representative ONLY a minimum of two(2) hours in advance and not more than six(6) hours in advance of the scheduled starting time. Do not leave messages on answering machines. Emails are acceptable but a read receipt must be received to avoid game charges.
- 5.1 Games shall not be cancelled or rescheduled due to a lack of coaching staff, players, or otherwise unless approved by the LEO Board of Directors and deemed special circumstance (ie Christmas concert). A teams' inability to play the scheduled game for any other reason will result in the game being forfeited by the offending team. If a game is forfeited, the forfeiting Centre will be assessed the cost of the referees, timekeepers and ice.

*A **Mutual Centre Forfeit** is when two (2) Centres can't reschedule a game due to time constraints or lack of available ice. There will be NO points awarded in a mutual centre forfeit*

*A **Single Centre Forfeit** is when one (1) Centre has offered three non-conflicting (no games already scheduled) ice times and the other Centre doesn't accept. TWO (2) points will be awarded to the non-forfeiting Centre.*

In both circumstances, the LEO Executive shall be notified. The LEO Executive will then determine if the game shall be considered a mutual centre forfeit or a single centre forfeit. Once determined, the League Convenor will record the game accordingly on TheOneDB – either a cancelled game that was League approved as a mutual centre forfeit creating no score, or a 1-0 score for a single centre forfeit.

- 5.2 Centre Representatives ONLY will be responsible for rescheduling games and will then notify their team and the league of the new date and time. All games must be rescheduled within 15 days of cancellation and played within 30 days of the cancelled game, and always prior to schedule end.

Extent of Game Play

- 6.0 All LEO U11-U21 games shall consist of 15-15-15 stop time periods. A minimum of 10-15-15 with an optional flood is allowed under extenuating circumstances while complying with OMHA rules. All LEO U9 games shall consist of a minimum 10-10-10 stop time periods and a maximum of 10/10/15 stop time periods. All U11-U21 teams shall change ends each period. A buzzer will indicate the start of a 3 minute warm up after the zamboni door closes.

LEAGUE OF EASTERN ONTARIO
RULES & BYLAWS

- 6.1 No Centres will be designated as curfewed. **NO CURFEW TIME** will be noted on the game sheet. The end of the game will be decided by the end of stop time play, or the arena staff signifying the end of play to the coaching staff of both teams by bell, drop of gate or verbally. Playing time must be assigned accordingly instead to avoid liability issues.
- 6.2 Tied positions in the standings according to the official stats at the end of regular season and end of round robin schedule will be dealt with as listed below:
- 1) Total Points
 - 2) Points in games VS each other
 - 3) Total Wins
 - 4) Total Goals Against
 - 5) Total Goals For
 - 6) Least Penalty Minutes
 - 7) Flip of a Coin

Programming U9 and Below

- 7.0 For programs U9 and Below, refer to the current OMHA documents "U9 Player Pathway and U7 Player Pathway" which will provide the framework and guidelines for programs at these divisions.

Referees, Timekeepers and Game Sheets

- 8.0 A minimum of two carded referees as per O.M.H.A. rules are permitted to officiate league games, and referees shall be provided by the Referee-in-Chief of the home Centre. In circumstances where only one (1) referee arrives to officiate a game, both Centres shall wait a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes for the arrival of a second (2nd) referee. If the second (2nd) arrives within the allotted time, the game shall be played with adjustment of period length. If a second referee does not arrive, or NO referees at all, the game shall be rescheduled in accordance with Rule 5.3. Any Centre having three (3) incidents of failing to provide two (2) referees per game shall be required to provide a written explanation to the LEO Board of Directors and may be subject to further expenses /actions as determined by the league.
- 8.1 Centres are required to supply competent timekeepers that are minimum 12 years of age or older and capable of filling out a proper OMHA game sheet. Centre Reps are responsible for ensuring game sheets (GameSheets Inc/Ipad) are properly completed and will follow up as required with timekeepers and bench staff throughout the season. In all cases, the timekeeper must be the same age or older than the division they are timekeeping. All coaching staff that is on the bench shall sign all games sheets without exception and comply with the team rostered positions. All players shall be clearly recorded on the game sheet. Players absent and not dressed for the game, for reasons other than a suspension, shall be clearly recorded as such on the game sheet. All suspended players and/or coaching staff shall also be recorded in the applicable area on the sheet.
- In addition to the suspended players name and number, the total number of suspended games and which game is being served, shall also be clearly recorded (i.e. #15 John Doe – Serving Game 1 of 3)

**LEAGUE OF EASTERN ONTARIO
RULES & BYLAWS**

- 8.2 The only circumstance that would require Centre Representatives to assume responsibility of collecting home game sheets and recording statistical information on the official LEO website would be if the Game Sheet Inc online format doesn't work or isn't available.
- 8.3 Centre Representatives shall review home team game sheets for suspensions, proper recording of bench staff positions, and game ejections (GE) after a player receives 3 penalties.

Fair Play

- 9.0 The Centre Representative shall periodically monitor all division team play for fair line rotation, thereby ensuring each player receives fair ice time per game and over the course of all league sanctioned games, and discourage the use of power plays and penalty killing lines to maintain fairness to all caliber players.
- 9.1 Each Centre with more than one (1) team per Division shall ensure teams are equally balanced (skill wise) within **5 games** of the commencement of the regular season. Failure to do so can result in the league going through team stats and insisting on balancing the teams in question.
- 9.2 Any Centre declaring 2 teams in the same division cannot allow a transplanted team to be one of those 2 teams. The transplanted team must be integrated with players from the home Centre. A transplant team is any team where the majority of players (greater than 50%) played together in another association the previous season and have not played in the LEO centre of destination for 2 years.

Three Penalty Rule

- 10.0 Any player receiving any 3 minor penalties during any LEO game will be ejected from that Game (GE). Double minors count as one infraction.
- 10.1 If a referee fails to eject a player after 3 penalties in any LEO game, it then becomes the responsibility of the coach to eject his/her player.

Game Misconducts and Suspensions

- 11.0 The LEO will follow the mandatory OMHA suspension list
- 11.1 Coaching staff should notify their Centre Representative within 24 hours of anyone receiving a game misconduct in either a home or away game. Centre Representatives have the next 24 hours to report this information to the current OMHA LEO Convenor to verify the length of the suspension, forward a copy of the game sheet if asked, then notify the affected coaching staff of the length of suspension prior to their next scheduled game.

LEAGUE OF EASTERN ONTARIO
RULES & BYLAWS

Wrap Up Day & Playoff Format

- 12.0 A year-end tournament/jamboree style wrap-up will be done for U7-U9 if desired to be held the first weekend of March. Centres wishing to host shall make it known to the league and will be determined at the December meeting each season.
- 12.1 For U11-U21 divisions, a playoff format will be determined at the January meeting each season and will be based on the number of teams per age division. An elimination-style playoff format or round robin format leading to a Championship Series or to a Championship Tournament are all acceptable.
- 12.2 When the round robin format leading to a Championship Series is used, and there are an odd number of teams in any age division, the team to finish last overall at the completion of the Round Robin series shall be eliminated and ineligible to participate in a Championship Series. However, when a Championship Tournament follows a round robin, any odd number team to finish last at completion of the round robin will not be eliminated and instead be eligible to still participate in the Championship Tournament.

Championship Trophies & Presentations

- 13.0 Championship trophies will be awarded annually to all participating teams.
Each Centre is responsible for having one "League of Eastern Ontario" CHAMPIONS trophy and one "League of Eastern Ontario" FINALISTS trophy. These will be awarded to all division Champions & Finalists that participate in a Championship hosted by that Centre. These same trophies will be kept on display within that Centre and used to apply their team recipient shields year after year eg: 2022 U18 (A), U13 (D) etc.
Centres are responsible for purchasing, maintaining, and replacing broken or lost trophies.
- 13.1 Championship banners will be presented to the League Champion (A division) in the U9-U21 divisions for picture taking following the final game. LEO Reps shall be responsible for keeping banners and handing back into League at the AGM
- 13.2 Presentation of Championship trophies and banners shall be the responsibility of the host Centre LEO Rep

Playoff Rules

- 14.0 When a Championship Series Format is Used:
In ALL Round Robin games & Championship Series games, one 30 second time-out will be allowed. Championship series are a point series, so first team to obtain 4 points in a best 2 of 3 series wins the series. All Championship series games ending in a tie will result in a 10min 5 on 5 sudden victory over-time. If after one 10min OT the game remains tied, the game ends in a tie. However, if in a DECIDING game (Game 4 of a best 2 of 3 series) the game remains tied after one 10min OT, a second 10min OT will be played following the same above format until a winner of the series is determined.

**LEAGUE OF EASTERN ONTARIO
RULES & BYLAWS**

14.1 When a Championship Tournament Format is Used:

A Round Robin Series to reseal teams will be followed by a Championship Tournament.

In ALL Round Robin & Championship Tournament games, one 30 second time-out will be allowed.

Multiple host Centres will hold division Championship Tournament Weekends.

Scheduling Meetings

15.0 There shall be two scheduling meetings held each season to schedule U9-U21 division games.

A Regular Season Scheduling Meeting will be held prior to the start of each season to schedule season games for all divisions

A Play-off Scheduling Meeting will be held prior to the start of each Round Robin Series to schedule round robin games.

For all scheduling meetings the LEO requires the below:

- One Coach or Team Representative per team to schedule team games
- Centre Ice Scheduler shall be present to be available to provide more ice times if needed
- Each Coach to come with a Centre provided calendar that clearly marks team, and an ice time for each home game to be scheduled plus three (3) more
- travel time to be considered when offering ice times

Mission Statement

16.0 Teams/Centres are to be reminded of the Mission and Vision of the LEO. Not following may result in suspensions or removal.

“The organization shall promote, organize, supervise and govern minor hockey for children up to and including U21 Division among participating centres of the LEO while promoting fellowship, teaching respect for rules and authority, and helping children to become good citizens. The LEO will interest others, both as participants and members while promoting programs not necessarily for the best, but for the greatest number. The LEO will carry out competitions for championships in U9 and above and will work with neighbouring leagues to ensure adequate numbers per division.”

Special Notes

17.0 It is understood the LEO Board of Directors may make errors beyond their control from time to time.

17.1 Any forms required by OMHA involving a LEO team’s impact on programming MUST also be copied to the LEO Convenor

17.2 League fees will be determined at the August meeting each season.

***Find Important Dates on next page***

2023/24

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

AUG 21	LEAGUE MEETING Initial team declarations due
SEPT 18	LEAGUE MEETING Final team declarations due
SEPT 30	Deadline to make any changes to Final Team Declarations
OCT 2	League Fees Due \$30/U9-U18 team (U7/U8 NO FEE)
OCT 2	U11 & U15 REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULING MEETINGS
OCT 3	U13 & U18 REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULING MEETINGS
OCT 8	Submit team rosters to OMHA for approval prior to league games
OCT 13	U11-U18 SEASON STARTS
OCT 16	U7 CROSS ICE SCHEDULING MEETING
OCT 17	U8 & U9 HALF ICE SCHEDULING MEETINGS
OCT 27	U7-U9 SEASON STARTS
NOV 20	LEAGUE MEETING
DEC 18	LEAGUE MEETING (if needed)
DEC 24-JAN 1	CHRISTMAS BREAK
JAN 8	U9 FULL ICE SCHEDULING MEETING
JAN 14	U9 HALF ICE SEASON ENDS
JAN 15	U9 FULL ICE SEASON STARTS
JAN 22	LEAGUE MEETING (Round Robin Groupings U11 thru U18) Groupings TBD if RR used
JAN 27	REGULAR SEASON ENDS (U11 thru U18) TBD enter unrecorded scores to TheOneDB
JAN 28	SNOW DATE for weather related cancelled games
JAN 29	U11-U18 ROUND ROBIN PLAYOFF SCHEDULING MEETINGS TBD if RR used
FEB 2	U11-U18 ROUND ROBIN SERIES STARTS TBD if RR used
MAR 1	U7/U8 SEASONS END
MAR 2/3	U7/U8/WRAP-UP WEEKEND
MAR 10	U9 FULL ICE SEASON ENDS enter unrecorded scores to TheOneDB
MAR 10	U11-U18 ROUND ROBIN SERIES ENDS TBD if RR used enter unrecorded scores to TheOneDB
MAR 11-15	MARCH BREAK
MAR 23/24	U9-U18 CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND
MAR 30/31	U9-U18 CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND
APR 6	Deadline to Submit Proposed Rule Changes to League
MAY 6	LEO AGM

Dates subject to change each year