

Wheelchair Hockey League (Michigan)
Constitution & By-Laws

ARTICLE 1 **NAME**

The name of this association shall be "Wheelchair Hockey League" and may be referred to as "WCHL".

ARTICLE II **PURPOSE**

- A. The promotion and development of wheelchair floor hockey through teaching the game.
- B. To provide a competitive sports league and atmosphere for persons with physical disabilities.

ARTICLE III **OFFICE**

We currently do not have an office. All league associated issues and documents can be sent to:
2479 Alexandra Ave., Windsor, Ontario, N9E 2J4, Canada.

ARTICLE IV **NON-PROFIT**

The WCHL is a registered non-profit organization with 501C3 Tax Exempt Status.

ARTICLE V **MEMBERSHIP**

All Board Members, Volunteers, Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Referees, Players, Parents or guardians shall be considered members of this association as long as they are in good standing.

ARTICLE VI **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors shall consist of One Commissioner, Two Deputy Commissioners and Two Board Members. These positions will be filled by a vote by the players. All board members shall have one vote per issue requiring a vote. In case of tie votes, The Commissioner has the final say on all issues.

In the event of the loss of, resignation or impeachment of a board member, all current board members will be promoted one tier according to the amount of votes in the previous election. The highest voted nominee that did not make the board will be added as a board member to make the voting number 5.

This is a temporary solution until the results pending from an immediate re-election are tallied and board members are decided.

Current Order of Seniority

Commissioner – Chris Lemieux

1st Deputy – Jason Drapinski (Would go up to Commissioner)

2nd Deputy – Marty Witberg (Would go up to 1st Deputy)

1st Board Member – Mary Stack (Would go up to 2nd Deputy)

2nd Board Member – Matthew "Mo" Gerhardt (Would go up to 1st Board Member)

Highest non-elected nominee – Matt Schwarck (Would go up to 2nd Board Member)

ARTICLE VII **MEETINGS**

The Board of Directors shall call meetings when they deem necessary. When deemed necessary, the entire membership will be invited to attend an open Board Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII **ELECTION**

Elections are to be held every two years in August (retro-active from 2007). All board positions may have an unlimited term length, as long as they are re-elected into their position every two years.

Only current and active WCHL players may take part in the voting process.

To run for a board position a player must be a member of the WCHL for one full year and be in good standing.

ARTICLE IX **OFFICERS**

The officers of the Association shall include the, Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner(s), board member(s), Treasurer, Referee(s) who are either the Principals of the Wheelchair Hockey League or Officers appointed to fill necessary positions.

Duties of the Officers:

Responsibility for all league operations.

Responsibility for the day-to-day operations.

Preside at all meetings.

Maintaining a direct communication with all players, parents and volunteers of the WCHL.

The WCHL Executive Board shall have the option to elect an Auxiliary Board Member if deemed necessary by the board. This person will assist the board, but will have no official vote on league issues. This member can be anyone involved with the Wheelchair Hockey League including players, family members, or volunteers. Once elected to the position the recipient may accept or decline the position. The responsibilities of the Auxiliary Board Member are assigned by the WCHL Executive Board. These responsibilities may include tasks such as signing paperwork, running errands, representing the league etc.

ARTICLE X **BINDING CONTRACTS**

The Principal Officers of the Wheelchair Hockey League are the only and sole parties authorized to bind the WCHL to any written contracts and or obligations.

ARTICLE XI **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership requirements shall be completed when a Wheelchair Hockey League registration form is completed and turned in with their \$35 fee. Player, Parents or Guardian are not considered members in good standing until this form and payment is complete. To maintain membership in good standing all required payments shall have been executed through the legal banking system.

ARTICLE XII **PARTICIPATION BY OTHERS**

The Wheelchair Hockey League welcomes all interested parties to volunteer their expertise and time to achieve the goal of developing and improving the skills of players in this association and / or helping the league as a whole to grow and improve.

ARTICLE XIII **EMPLOYEES**

The Wheelchair Hockey League does not have any paid employees.

ARTICLE XIV **DISPUTES & HEARINGS**

The Principal Officers of the Wheelchair Hockey League shall be the committee to deal with all Disputes, Problems, and Grievances etc. arising under the policies of this league and booster club.

ARTICLE XV **FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year end shall end on the 31st day of July in each year unless otherwise determine by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XVI **AMENDMENTS**

The Board of Directors may amend the provisions of this constitution anytime by a simple majority vote.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I **PLAYERS**

A participant in the Wheelchair Hockey League who has registered, is current on their dues, and is willing to abide by the rules and regulations of the WCHL shall be considered a player.

1. Conduct

All players participating in the WCHL shall conduct themselves in a proper manner at all times. They shall be subject to the authority and discipline of their respective captains, all referees and members of the Board of Directors. All players, family and friends must abide by the rules of hockey as it pertains to good sportsmanship, image and the rules and regulations established to govern the WCHL.

2. Dues

All players will be assessed seasonal dues, which are to be used in meeting the financial obligations of the WCHL as determined by the Commissioner and approved by the Board of Directors. Failure to pay in accordance with the terms prescribed by the Board of Directors shall result in a player being denied further participation until such time as payment is made.

The Wheelchair Hockey League reserves the right to use whatever means are necessary to collect a debt owed including but not limited to legal process and/or restraining participation in any WCHL sanctioned activities.

3. Roster

A player on a roster is committing to play for a team in the WCHL and will hereby be required to maintain good attendance and sportsmanship. Failure to abide by the rules will result in a removal from a WCHL team for a term decided by the Board of Directors.

4. Attendance

Participation in all scheduled activities of your team is an obligation assumed by each player when joining the league. The captain of the team shall determine if participation in the activities of the team is mandatory. As stated in the rulebook, the Wheelchair Hockey League has the right to remove a player from a team if they have three or more unexplained absences.

5. Player Selection

The WCHL Roster Committee will select all players. The criterion for selection is solely the responsibility of the Roster Committee.

ARTICLE II **SANCTIONED STATE & NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

The WCHL Board of Directors will determine if the Wheelchair Hockey League travel teams will participate in any sanctioned floor hockey tournaments.

ARTICLE III **CAPTAINS & COACHES**

All Captains and Coaches shall be selected by a team vote. Coaches are optional depending on the vote of a specific team. The Board of Directors shall have the right to suspend, change or terminate any Coach or Captain for any reason by a majority vote.

ARTICLE III **SCORE SHEETS**

A copy of the game sheet shall be forwarded to the statistician within 72 hours of completion so that accurate stats can be viewed on the web site.

ARTICLE IV **DECORUM**

At all times, members of the Wheelchair Hockey League shall conduct themselves in a manner representative of well-behaved athletes. The player shall conduct themselves as they would in any other situation that will not bring disgrace to their team-mates, their team, their Captain or Coaches or the Wheelchair Hockey League. The Board of Directors will deal with any violation of this Article IV.

ARTICLE V **SPONSORSHIP FUNDS**

No outside check books or accounts, for league or booster club funds, are allowed while the teams, players, coaches or volunteers are members of the Wheelchair Hockey League. If it is determined that there is a violation of this mandate, an immediate dismissal of all involved parties will take place. The terminated parties may request a meeting with the Board of Directors to present information why they should not be terminated. That committee has the right to overturn the termination and re-instate the parties involved. The decision of the Board of Directors is final and supercedes all other recognized bodies in the appeal process. All fundraising monies earned by a player, team or volunteer shall be turned over to the Wheelchair Hockey League. Use of league or booster club money for personal use can result in legal action by the Wheelchair Hockey League. This money shall stay with the league until such time that the league dissolves and an even allocation of funds after all expenses are paid shall be refunded to all currently rostered players.

ARTICLE VI **LIABILITIES**

No Player, Volunteer, Coach, Assistant Coach or association member can incur any liability on behalf of the Wheelchair Hockey League or it's entities. No appointed Directors or Officers can incur any liability on behalf of the Wheelchair Hockey League or it's entities. This shall include but not limited to equipment, clothing, games etc.

ARTICLE VII **AMENDMENTS**

The Board of Directors may amend the provisions of this constitution anytime by a simple majority vote.