

# VARSIITY ICE HOCKEY FEDERATIONBY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I

**Section I** - Name - Section VI Western New York Varsity Hockey Federation

**Section II** - Office

**Section III** – Emblem

## ARTICLE II

**Section I** - Purpose - To provide an interscholastic varsity ice hockey program that benefits both the student athlete and educational community.

## ARTICLE III

**Section I** - The Executive Board shall conduct the league affairs *and communicate recommendations to the General Membership.*

**Section II** - The executive Board *(7 people)* shall consist of Sectional Chairman, ~~Assistant Chairman, Secretary,~~ *Large School Representative, Small School Representative,* Financial Coordinator, Discipline and Rules Coordinator, Officials Liaison, ~~Past President~~ *Non-Public School Representative.*

**Section III** – *Beginning with the 2011-12 season,* individuals on the Executive Board shall serve a term of ~~two (2) years~~ *noted below* and shall be elected at the April meeting of the current school year. Nominations and election to office will be made by the ~~schools representative~~ General Membership (one vote per school) in the Federation.

<i>Large School Representative</i>	<i>expires 4/2013</i>
<i>Officials Liaison</i>	<i>expires 4/2013</i>
<i>Discipline &amp; Rules Coordinator</i>	<i>expires 4/2013</i>

<i>Small School Representative</i>	<i>expires 4/2012</i>
<i>Non-Public School Representative</i>	<i>expires 4/2012</i>
<i>Financial Coordinator</i>	<i>expires 4/2012</i>

<i>Sectional Chairperson</i>	<i>expires 4/2011</i>
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**Section IV** - A member of the Executive Board may resign by notifying the Sectional Chairman in writing. ~~All vacancies on the Executive Board shall be filled by election of the Federation membership.~~ *All Executive Committee positions that become vacant prior to a term expiring, will be filled by a vote of the General Membership.*

**Section V** - Executive Board meetings are called by the Sectional Chairperson five (5) times a year (September, November, January, April, June) or ~~when requested for~~ when necessary to deal with urgent ~~reasons~~ *matters.* ~~by a Quorum (2/3=4) of the Executive membership.~~ *Official business can only be conducted when a 2/3 quorum exists*

## ARTICLE IV

**Section I** - Membership is open to all high schools located in Section VI of New York State. *Expansion will be considered if the school expressing interest meets all standards set by the Expansion Committee.* ~~Members are permitted one (1) representative team from each school. By the 2010-2011 season, it is required that each school will enter their best team. Charter members of the Federation are Bishop Timon St. Jude, St. Josephs, St. Francis, Canisius, Williamsville East, Williamsville South, Williamsville North and Amherst. Charter schools cannot be removed from the Federation unless the resignation is voluntary.~~

**Section II** - Three (3) *General Membership meetings* of the Federation membership will be held each year; ~~one each during the months of~~ October, January, and June. The Sectional Chairman may call additional meetings when deemed necessary. For official business to take place ~~In order to conduct business a quorum~~ *must exist* of the Federation membership ~~must be present.~~

**Section III** - Quorum - A Quorum will be 3/4 of the Federation *General* membership. Any decision or act of the majority of the members present at any meeting, at which a Quorum is present, shall be considered an act of the full membership. In the case of a vote being affected by an absent member, the vote will be tabled until that member can be contacted.

**Section IV** - By-Laws cannot be changed without approval of 3/4 of the *General* membership.

**Section V** - Voting - Each team entered into the Federation shall be represented at Federation meetings by its Athletic Director, or his/her designee, who shall be entitled to cast one vote.

## ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

**Section I** - *The Executive Board (7 people) shall consist of a Sectional Chairperson, Large School Representative, Small School Representative, Financial Coordinator, Discipline & Rules Coordinator, Officials Liaison, Non-Public School Representative. Within the 7-member Executive Board a Secretary and Assitant Chairperson will be selected.* ~~The officers of the Federation shall be its seven (7) Executive Board members. The Sectional Chairman, Assistant Chairman, Financial Coordinator, Secretary, Officials Liaison, and Discipline and Rules Coordinator, must be a Section VI Federation Member/Athletic Director nominated and elected by the Federation membership. The Past President which is a non-voting position, can be non Federation member.~~

A. The Discipline/Rules Committee shall ~~also have a minimum~~ be made up of *at least* three (3) Athletic Directors elected by membership ~~to assist chairman.~~

B. The Discipline/Rules Committee will conduct all Discipline hearings.

## **ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

**Section I** – Sectional Chairperson - Will preside over all meetings of the Executive Board and general membership, and appoint all committees. Chairperson will represent the league at Sectional *and* state meetings. Is responsible for the overall operation of the league.

**Section II** – Assistant Chairman - In the absence of the President, shall perform the duties of the President and other duties as assigned by the Executive Board. Will oversee League scheduling and post-season play *sub-committees*.

**Section III** - Secretary - Will attend and keep minutes of all meetings. Shall further have charge of all documents and papers of the Federation except those relating to funds. Will chair expansion committee and will present all reports from *league coaches for all meetings*.

**Section IV** – Financial Coordinator - Shall collaborate with Section VI Treasurer to: a.) keep the funds and securities of the Federation. ~~Will be in charge of~~ b.) *assist in the collection* of all funds due the Federation *or Section* and make all deposits to the credit of the Federation at such bank or banks as the Executive Board may direct. They will make a financial report at each of the five (5) Executive meetings and three (3) Federation General Membership meetings per year. The Treasurer shall keep a complete and accurate account of monies taken in by the Federation and all disbursements made. Will oversee all game staging aspects of league and sectional games. *An annual internal audit of the books must be performed and approved by the Board of Directors by the annual April meeting.*

**Section VI** - Discipline and Rules Coordinator - Shall be responsible for conducting discipline hearings and rules interpretation hearings for Federation members as needed. Will make recommendations for new rule and discipline changes. Will interpret and make sure league, sectional, state, and NFHS Hockey Rules are adhered to. Will work closely with Statistician to make sure suspensions are adhered to.

**Section VII** - Officials Liaison - Will be responsible for the liaison's role with referees and minor officials. This person will ensure that the referees and minor officials association understand league, sectional, state, and NFHS Hockey rules. Will work closely with Discipline and Rules Coordinator to ensure that interpretations are consistent. Will work with assignors and coaches to make sure that all officials are fairly assigned and evaluated.

~~**Section VIII** – Past President – This is a non-voting position that will act as a resource to the Sectional Chairman and League membership. *Power to Act – The Federation Executive Committee and its officers, shall have the power to manage affairs of the Federation and to make recommendations to the General Membership.*~~

~~**Section IX** – Power to Act – The Federation officers, during periods between meetings, shall have the power to manage affairs of the Federation and to hand down decisions on matters concerning Federation Activities.~~

~~**Section XI** – An annual internal audit of the books must be performed and approved by the Board of Directors by the April meeting.~~

## **ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES**

Shall be appointed by the Sectional Chairman ~~from the membership~~.

## **ARTICLE VIII - RULES**

Current rules governing New York State Public High School Athletic Association and The National Federation of High Schools shall be followed.

## **ARTICLE IX - ADMISSION**

There will be an admission charge for all Federation games *unless there is a reason supported by the Financial Coordinator*. The amount shall be determined by the Federation membership. All gate receipts for Federation play will be turned in to Financial Coordinator.

## **ARTICLE X - DUES**

Each team will be assessed league costs for officials, off-ice officials, adequate security, common proctors, game ice time, and other costs related to league game activities. This assessment will be called a season fee and will be payable 1/2 by Nov. 30, 1/2 by January 30.

## **ARTICLE XI - NEW MEMBERS**

New members will make application to the Federation by the January Executive meeting. Applying schools must be interviewed by the *Federation Expansion Committee*, the Executive Committee, and approved for Federation membership.

## **Playing Rules**

### **Commitment Rule**

~~Prior to January 1, a player who participates in a practice or game for a team other than his Federation high school team, at the same time as a scheduled Federation high school league game, is in violation of the commitment rule, and shall be suspended from the next league game of his team;~~

~~From January 1 on, a player who participates in a practice or game for a team other than his Federation high school team, at the same time as a scheduled high school practice or game (non-league or league), is in violation of the commitment rule, and shall be suspended from the next league game.~~

~~All rostered players shall be required to practice and attend games during the suspension period. A second occurrence of the commitment rule shall result in a two-game suspension to be enforced at the next two league contests. Upon a third violation by the same player, a suspension for the remainder of the Federation regular season and playoffs is incurred. *Players must be rostered and in attendance at 80% of all regular season Federation league games in order to be eligible for playoffs.*~~

### **Rosters**

~~Team rosters shall be unlimited in size, but all players listed shall be required to honor the commitment rule. All players must be rostered with the Federation at the start of the season in order to be eligible to participate. Any additions or deletions must be registered with the Sectional Chair and League Statistician prior to any participation. *Each Federation team may fill up to 26 roster slots. Teams may not add a player to the list unless a season-ending injury is suffered by a player on the 26-player roster*~~

### **8th Graders**

~~Eighth graders are not permitted to play Ice Hockey. All players must be in at least the ninth grade to be eligible.~~

### **Eligibility of Middle Schoolers**

~~Middle Schoolers are not able to play in the Federation league.~~

### **Emergency Goalkeeper**

~~Each team may designate an emergency goalkeeper at the start of the season, to be approved by the Executive Committee of the Federation. This player must appear on the original roster, and be properly designated. The emergency goalkeeper must abide by NYSPHSAA rules, but shall be exempt from the commitment rule.~~

### **8 Goal Rule**

~~In the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play there will be an eight goal rule with a running clock anytime there is a 8-goal difference or anytime there is a 6-goal difference in the 3<sup>rd</sup> period. If a team goes ahead by eight goals, from that point the clock will be a running clock for the rest of the game or until the score goes below an eight goal difference. The running clock will be started at the beginning of play after the eighth goal is scored.~~

### **Start Dates**

~~All Federation Members will follow the Section approved start date each season.~~