

Metro Referee's Association Constitution

Date: Amended August 2024

1. This organization shall be known as the METRO REFEREES ASSOCIATION (MRA).
2. The members of the Metro Referee's Association (MRA) shall abide by these rules and regulations, who will also abide by the rules and regulations of Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador (HNL) as well as Hockey Canada (HC).
3. The executive shall consist of five elected members (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Assignor) and the Past President of MRA, which is a non-voting position subject to clause 4 herein. It shall consist of as many directors as the executive sees fit to appoint. The executive may at any of its meetings, appoint sub-committees from the members to carry out any duties or to conduct such business as the executive shall deem expedient for the proper handling of the affairs of the association. The positions of assignor and treasurer will be provided with a maximum honorarium of \$3000 and an additional \$20ten dollars a month being given to the assignor for his/her cellular phone bill for the duration of the hockey season, the position of treasure will be provided with a maximum honorarium of \$1500. Whereas, the positions of President, Vice-President and Secretary shall be compensated by,President(\$500) and Vice-president and secretary(\$250) at the discretion of the executive, or by having their Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador Registration covered by the MRA. The Past President is not entitled to any compensation.

4. Responsibilities of the executive members shall be as follows:

President: Attend and chair all meetings and is responsible for the overall operating of the association.

Vice-President: Attend all meetings, replace the President when he/she is unavailable and any other duties he/she may be assigned.

Treasurer: Attend all meetings, keep account of all monetary transactions, present the financial statement at the Annual General Meeting and any other duties that may be assigned to him/her.

Secretary: Attend all meetings, take minutes at all meetings, keep records of all correspondence and registrations and any other duties that may be assigned to him/her.

Assignor: Attend all meetings and to assign games that the Association is responsible for.

Past President: This position will be held by the last President of Metro to hold that office prior to the current president. They shall attend all meetings and ensure continuity during executive transitions and organizational change, support the President in his/her role, and provide continuity to the organization by providing historical context for issues. The Past President will not vote on any issues before the executive unless, there are not enough executive members present to form a quorum or unless there is a conflict preventing an executive member from voting, in which cases the Past President shall cast a vote.

Directors: The directors shall assist the Executive in the running of the affairs of the association and perform any and all such duties as assigned to them by the Executive.

5. There shall be an Annual General Meeting for the election of officers held, no later than, prior to the beginning of the upcoming hockey season. Officers elected shall serve for one year or until such time as their successors are duly elected.

6. The main objective of the association will be to supply competent and Hockey Canada sanctioned officials for hockey leagues on the Avalon Peninsula of Newfoundland and Labrador. The leagues must be sanctioned by the governing body of Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador. The leagues requesting officials must be approved by the executive of the Metro Referees Association in consultation with the membership of the Association.

7. The dress code of officials for the Metro Referees Association shall be in compliance with rules set forth by our executive in consultation with Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador (HNL).

8. This association shall also be governed by the Rules and Regulations of the Metro Referees Association.

9. All members are required to attend a Referee Clinic and must maintain a minimum of a level 3 (theory) certification in order to be considered a member in good standing. Admitting of officials below level 3 will be at discretion and by way of unanimous agreement of the executive. Progression through the level system is both encouraged and expected as part of membership with the Metro Referees Association.

10. Any amendments to be made to the constitution shall be changed at the Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting shall consist of fifty percent (50 %) plus one of the association's members for these changes.

11. Executive meetings must consist of the majority of the Executive (3 members for a quorum) with one being either the President or the Vice-President.

12. a) Nominations for officers shall be from the floor at the Annual General Meeting. Nominees need not be present at the meeting; however, their written consent must be presented to the election chairperson.

b) Voting shall be carried out by secret ballot with the nominee receiving the majority of the votes cast being declared elected.

c) Should more than one ballot become necessary, the name receiving the fewer votes shall be removed before the next ballot is taken.

d) Any member of the association not standing for election may be appointed election chairperson to conduct the election. He shall be assisted by two scrutineers to be appointed by the members.

e) Only active members shall be permitted to run for office or vote in the election.

f) In the event of a vacancy occurring on the executive of the Association, such vacancy shall be filled by an election to be held at the general meeting of the association not later than thirty (30) days of the occurrence of the vacancy. In the event that all positions are not filled, one member may hold two positions on the executive.

g) Executive members shall be elected in the following order President, Assignor Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

13. All written correspondence must be approved by the executive.

14. "Approved" here within this constitution shall mean the majority of the executive.

15. All members of the executive shall have one vote, except in the case of a tie in which case the President may have the deciding vote at their discretion.

16. Fees for the registration in the association shall be set by the executive.

17. Any matter not covered herein shall be dealt with by the executive and their decision shall be final.

18. Michael Dinn Award

1. All members in good standing can submit nominations to the nominating committee;

2. Nominations should be based on the following criteria:

a) rule knowledge;

b) the nominee should be a quality official at the level they work (it doesn't have to be a guy working Sr. Hockey. If they work only High School then they should be a good High School hockey official)

c) Commitment to Metro; and

d) Commitment to mentoring younger officials in both minor associations and Metro.

3. The nominating committee shall consist of the executive of the association;

4. All members in good standing are eligible for the award except for the current executive and the previous year's winner;

5. The nominating committee will select between 3 & 5 officials from the nominations received or based on their own nominations;

6. All members in good standing will have 1 vote to choose among the nominees selected by the nominating committee.

Rules and Regulations

1. These rules and regulations become part of the Constitution in accordance with article eight (8) of the Constitution.

2. The members of the Metro Referee's Association (MRA) shall abide by these rules and regulations, who will also abide by the rules and regulations of Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador (HNL) as Hockey Canada (HC). Failure to abide by these rules and regulations may result in actions being taken by the executive, up to and including dismissal from the MRA.

3. A member of the association must conduct himself/herself in such a manner so that he/she will be respected around the arena. The use of abusive language and mischievous doings around the arena by an official shall be dealt with by the executive and may result in either suspension or dismissal from the (MRA).

4. Member's involvement in regular season games of a particular league shall be one of the deciding factors in the scheduling of that league's playoff games.

5. Where possible a member of this association partaking in a hockey league/division shall not officiate in that league/division.

6. No official shall indulge in any alcoholic beverages before (at least 12 hours) or during an assigned game. Any official suspected or caught using illegal substances will be investigated by the executive and may be disciplined. Smoking is prohibited in the referees' room.

7. The Referee's dressing room is off limits during the game to everyone except those assigned to work the game. If you are in attendance at the game to which you not assigned, you may make a brief visit to the room before the start of the game but do not interfere with the officials getting ready for the game. When a supervisor is in attendance, please wait until the supervision is completed before you re-enter the dressing room.

8. Any official late or missing scheduled games shall be disciplined up to and including dismissal. Any "probationary official" missing a single game shall be dismissed from the MRA immediately. The "probationary official" may apply in writing to be re-instated into the MRA the following season. For the purposes of this document a "probationary official" refers to any official that has completed less than 30 games assigned by the Metro Referees Association. If an official is dismissed from the MRA and is re-instated, he or she will be considered a "probationary official" until they complete 30 more MRA assigned games. The executive of the Metro Referees Association may re-instate a "probationary official" earlier than the following season only if the motion receives unanimous support from the five voting members of the executive.

9. For members in good standing who miss a game, a fine of double the game fee will apply. In addition, this official will not receive Metro assignments for a duration to be determined by the executive. For officials missing a second game in one season, the fine will be double the missed game fee plus \$20.00. In addition, this official will not receive Metro assignments for a duration to be determined by the executive. Each decision will be determined on the basis of its own merit. The decisions made by the executive will be considered final.

10. Officials completing metro assignments are expected to be at the arena at least 30 minutes prior to game time. If an official has not arrived at the arena 20 minutes before the start of a game, the other officials assigned to the game are expected to contact a member of the executive so that a replacement can be found.

11. Executive meetings shall be held at least every two months and general meetings shall be held at least three times a year. All members are strongly encouraged must attend the preseason MRA Rules and Regulations meeting held once a year.

12. Complaints shall not be considered official unless put in writing to the President of the executive.

13. The telephone list is to be kept confidential and is for your use only. Some officials do not want their home and cell phone numbers passed around, so please respect their privacy.

14. In the event that all 3 officials fail to show up for a schedule game. The ice time charge will be deducted evenly from the officials who were scheduled for that game. Their MRA accounts will be debited accordingly.

15. To cover operating expenses, fees for MRA members will be determined by the executive at the beginning of each year.

16. Official's accounts must maintain a \$100 balance until the end of the season. Extenuating circumstances may apply.

17. Game sheets must be made available to the Treasurer of the Metro Referees Association within two weeks after the next scheduled meeting. In cases where no meeting is scheduled, game sheets are to be made available within one month of the date of the game. A \$5.00 fine will be charged to the referee of the game for any missing game sheets. Members are responsible to ensure their pay/deductions account is accurate. The Treasure will ask all members to check their accounts before payment; any errors should be reported within 5 days.

18. Assignments

- a. All assigning will be done by the assignor.
- b. A copy of all assignments will be available to all members of the association.
- c. Changes to the scheduled assignments must be approved by the President and the Assignor and copied to the Treasurer.
- d. The Referee officials assigned for each game are responsible for contacting each other linesman on the day of the game. Failure to do so will result in a fine of \$20.00 for each official.
- e. Failure to abide by these rules and regulations will result in the suspension of the official or game loss.

19. All fines are outlined in Schedule 'A' of this document

20. 5 supervisions must be done every year by MRA officials. Minor games may be used for supervisions and games can be stacked (multiply supervisions per game).

Schedule 'A'
Fines

Action	Fine
Late for MRA meeting	\$5.00
Missed MRA meeting (without proper notification)	\$10.00 + removal from current schedule
Late for assigned game	\$15.00
Dress code violations	\$10.00
Missed assigned game (first offence)	Double game fee + suspension
Missed assigned game (second offence)	Double game fee + suspension +\$20.00
Game sheet fines	\$5.00
Failure by officials to contact each other on or before game day resulting in a missed assignment	\$20.00
Failure of a referee or linesperson who are at the arena who do not contact an executive member when another official who is on the same game, is more than 10 minutes late without prior warning or does not show up at game	\$20.00
Reply all violation (first offence)	\$5.00
Reply all violation (second offence)	\$10.00
Reply all violation (third offence)	Game fee for assigned game
Missed Supervision (per supervision)	\$10.00

* Any official late for an assigned game shall be dealt with by the executive. Decisions will be final.

** Repeated violations may result in an official not being assigned games from Metro and/or further fines to be determined by the executive.

