



**ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
2011 - 2012**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|------|
| INTERPRETATION RULES AND DEFINITIONS | IV) |
| BY-LAW 1 - THE LEAGUE | |
| 1.01 NAME | 1 |
| 1.02 PURPOSE..... | 1 |
| 1.03 AFFILIATION | 1 |
| 1.04 LEAGUE COMMITTEES..... | 1 |
| 1.05 DISCIPLINARY PREFECT..... | 1 |
| 1.06 ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE | 5 |
| 1.07 IMMUNITY OF OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS | 6 |
| BY-LAW 2 - CLUBS | |
| 2.01 RELATIONS WITH OTHER HOCKEY ORGANIZATIONS | 6 |
| 2.02 PENALTIES..... | 6 |
| 2.03 PAYMENT OF FINES | 6 |
| 2.04 DUES TO THE LEAGUE, OTHER THAN FINES | 7 |
| 2.05 COLOURS AND NAME OF THE TEAM | 7 |
| 2.06 PROTECTION OF THE OFFICIALS AND VISITING TEAM..... | 7 |
| 2.07 GAME TICKETS | 7 |
| 2.08 OFF-ICE OFFICIALS | 8 |
| 2.09 PERSONNEL AND EXECUTIVES OF THE CLUB | 8 |
| 2.10 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE HOME TEAM | 8 |
| 2.11 OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE HOME TEAM..... | 9 |
| 2.12 FREE PASSES..... | 9 |
| 2.13 COST OF A RELEASE..... | 9 |
| 2.14 TRADING PLAYERS | 10 |
| 2.15 TAMPERING..... | 11 |
| 2.16 PLAYERS' INITIATION | 12 |
| 2.17 PHYSICAL APPEARANCE - LOOKS | 12 |
| BY-LAW 3 - PLAYERS QUALIFICATION | |
| 3.01 REQUIREMENTS | 13 |
| 3.02 TWENTY YEAR-OLD PLAYERS | 15 |
| 3.03 WAIVED PLAYERS..... | 15 |
| 3.04 PROFESSIONAL 18 OR 19 YEAR-OLD PLAYERS RETURNING TO JUNIOR HOCKEY..... | 16 |
| 3.05 VIOLATIONS | 16 |
| 3.06 GIFT TO PLAYERS..... | 17 |
| 3.07 QMJHL STANDARD PLAYER CONTRACT..... | 17 |
| 3.08 COMPLAINTS, ENQUIRIES AND SANCTIONS..... | 18 |
| 3.09 STATUS OF A ROOKIE PLAYER | 19 |
| BY-LAW 4 - GAMES | |
| 4.01 FINES | 19 |
| 4.02 THE COACH OF A TEAM ELIMINATED SHALL NOT RETURN TO COMPETE | 19 |
| 4.03 TIME AT WHICH GAMES MAY START..... | 19 |
| 4.04 QUALIFIED PLAYERS IN UNIFORM..... | 20 |

| | | |
|------|--|----|
| 4.05 | ON-ICE PROMOTIONS AND SHOWS | 20 |
| 4.06 | REFUSAL OF A TEAM TO SHOW-UP AT A GAME OR PLAY ONCE ON PREMISES..... | 20 |
| 4.07 | CANCELLED GAMES..... | 21 |
| 4.08 | POSTPONED GAMES AND CHANGES MADE TO THE ORIGINAL SCHEDULE | 21 |
| 4.09 | RESCHEDULING OF A GAME | 21 |
| 4.10 | SUPERVISION OF THE TIME KEPT BY THE VISITING TEAM | 23 |
| 4.11 | TEAM STANDINGS | 23 |
| 4.12 | STANDINGS OF THE SCORERS AND GOALTENDERS | 23 |
| 4.13 | TIE IN THE STANDINGS | 23 |
| 4.14 | PLAYOFFS..... | 24 |
| 4.15 | PLAYOFF SCHEDULE..... | 24 |
| 4.16 | HOME ICE ADVANTAGE | 25 |
| 4.17 | BEGINNING OF THE PLAYOFFS..... | 25 |
| 4.18 | EXHIBITION GAMES..... | 25 |
| 4.19 | VIDEO..... | 25 |

BY-LAW 5 - WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM

| | | |
|------|--|----|
| 5.01 | WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM | 26 |
| 5.02 | PENALTIES FURTHER TO THE WITHDRAWING OF A TEAM FROM A GAME | 26 |

BY-LAW 6 - LISTS OF PLAYERS

| | | |
|------|--|----|
| 6.01 | ELIGIBILITY LIST | 26 |
| 6.02 | TOTAL NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON THE ELIGIBILITY LIST | 27 |
| 6.03 | PLAYERS AUTHORIZED TO BE REGISTERED ON THE ELIGIBILITY LIST..... | 27 |
| 6.04 | IDENTIFICATION OF PLAYERS REGISTERED ON THE ELIGIBILITY LIST | 27 |
| 6.05 | TRADING OF PLAYERS REGISTERED ON THE ELIGIBILITY LIST | 27 |
| 6.06 | REMOVAL OF A PLAYER FROM THE ELIGIBILITY LIST | 27 |
| 6.07 | PLAYERS WHO CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED AS AFFILIATED PLAYERS..... | 28 |
| 6.08 | RESTRICTIONS | 28 |
| 6.09 | FROZEN LISTS | 28 |

BY-LAW 7 - WAIVING

| | | |
|------|--|----|
| 7.01 | RELEASE AND CLAIM PERIODS | 28 |
| 7.02 | AFFILIATED 16, 17, 18 AND 19 YEAR-OLD PLAYERS..... | 28 |
| 7.03 | NINETEEN YEAR-OLD PLAYERS..... | 28 |
| 7.04 | TRADING BETWEEN TEAMS | 29 |
| 7.05 | WAIVING PROCEDURE | 29 |

BY-LAW 8 - SPECIAL SELECTION

| | | |
|------|---|----|
| 8.01 | SPECIAL SELECTION | 32 |
| 8.02 | PAYMENT..... | 32 |
| 8.03 | SELECTED PLAYER REFUSING TO SIGN A CONTRACT | 32 |

BY-LAW 9 - TRAINING CAMP AND HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT CAMP

| | | |
|------|--|----|
| 9.01 | OPENING OF TRAINING CAMP | 33 |
| 9.02 | PLAYERS QUALIFIED TO TAKE PART IN TRAINING CAMP | 33 |
| 9.03 | MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS AT TRAINING CAMP | 33 |
| 9.04 | TRANSMISSION OF TRAINING CAMP FORMS | 33 |
| 9.05 | ILLEGAL PARTICIPATION | 33 |
| 9.06 | REDUCTION OF THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS AT TRAINING CAMPS | 34 |
| 9.07 | QMJHL DEVELOPMENT CAMP | 34 |

BY-LAW 10 - ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT SESSION

| | | |
|-------|--|----|
| 10.01 | RIGHTS GRANTED..... | 34 |
| 10.02 | ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT SESSION..... | 34 |
| 10.03 | AUTHORITY AT THE ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT SESSION..... | 34 |
| 10.04 | DISPUTE | 34 |
| 10.05 | QUALIFYING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT SESSION..... | 34 |
| 10.06 | LIST OF PLAYERS..... | 35 |
| 10.07 | RESTRICTIONS | 35 |
| 10.08 | FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS | 36 |
| 10.09 | METHODS OF PAYMENT | 36 |
| 10.10 | MORTGAGED RELEASES | 36 |
| 10.11 | TRANSFER BETWEEN TEAMS OF THE LEAGUE | 36 |
| 10.12 | RELEASE OF SELECTED PLAYERS..... | 36 |
| 10.13 | PLAYERS PARTICIPATING IN A TRAINING CAMP | 36 |
| 10.14 | TAMPERING..... | 36 |
| 10.15 | PRIORITY OF SELECTION IN THE FIRST ROUND | 36 |
| 10.16 | SELECTION AND USE OF 16 YEAR-OLD PLAYERS | 37 |
| 10.17 | NUMBER OF ROUNDS..... | 37 |
| 10.18 | TRANSFER OF SELECTION RIGHTS..... | 38 |
| 10.19 | LOST TURN | 38 |
| 10.20 | IDENTIFICATION OF A SELECTED PLAYER | 38 |

BY-LAW 11 - TROPHIES AND ALL-STAR TEAMS

| | | |
|-------|--|----|
| 11.01 | PARTICULARITIES | 39 |
| 11.02 | APOLITICAL..... | 39 |
| 11.03 | ACCEPTATION, REFUSAL AND CARE OF TROPHIES..... | 39 |
| 11.04 | LEAGUE TROPHIES | 39 |
| 11.05 | TROPHIES ARE DEBATED ANNUALLY | 40 |
| 11.06 | CRITERIA FOR AWARDING THE TROPHIES..... | 40 |

**INTERPRETATION RULES
AND DEFINITIONS OF WORDS, EXPRESSIONS OR ABBREVIATIONS
FOUND IN THE REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS**

Amendments brought to the 2010-2011 regulations as carried at the meeting held on February 15th 2011.

When interpreting the regulations and By-Laws of the QMJHL, unless the context implies a different meaning, the words, expressions abbreviations and letters mean:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Administrative Centre: | The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League head office. |
| Age of the players: | Sixteen years old: a player who is currently 16 years of age or who will be 16 years old on or before December 31 st of the current year. Seventeen years old: a player who is currently 17 years of age or who will be 17 years old on or before December 31 st of the current year. |
| Board of Governors: | Board of Governors of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League Inc. |
| By-Laws: | By-Laws of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League Inc. |
| CHL: | Canadian Hockey League. |
| Club: | A hockey team member of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League Inc. |
| Commissioner: | Commissioner of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League |
| Commissioner's office: | The head office of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League Inc. |
| Constitution: | The 2001 general By-Laws of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League Inc., as well as all subsequent modifications duly ratified. |
| Corporation: | The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League Inc. |
| Exhibition game: | Any game played outside the regular schedule or the playoffs. |
| Game(s): | One or several Quebec Major Junior Hockey League regular season and playoff games. |
| HC: | Hockey Canada. |

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|-----------------------------|--|
| HQ: | Hockey Quebec. |
| Member: | Any person, association, partnership, trust or corporation (collectively, a "Person") that owns a franchise to operate a hockey team in the League in accordance with the conditions established by the Board of Governors. |
| NHL: | National Hockey League. |
| Organization: | A club. |
| Players residing in Quebec: | Players living with a parent or person having legal custody according to the laws of Quebec and whose domicile is located in the province of Quebec. |
| QMJHL or League: | Quebec Major Junior Hockey League Inc. |
| Registration certificate: | A player certificate issued by Hockey Canada. |
| Rule: | QMJHL Administrative Rules. |
| Season: | Period of time starting with the annual draft session of a given year and ending the day before the annual draft session of the following year, unless otherwise stated in the By-Laws. |
| Team: | The whole of the general managers, coaches, players, trainers and medical responder of a club. |
| Time: | Any time mentioned in the regulations or By-Laws refers to the Quebec Eastern time. |
| USAH: | USA hockey. |
| Verified: | Status given to a registration certificate and player contract once the administrative centre has compared the birth certificate, HC registration certificate or player contract submitted by a club (in case of a player) to that in file at the administrative centre for the same player as filed the previous year, and found consistent with the information in file. |

BY-LAW 1 THE LEAGUE

1.01 NAME

The League is known under the name “The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League” or the QMJHL, and its operation rests on the authority of the Representatives of the Members, the Board of Governors and the Commissioner.

1.02 PURPOSE

The purpose of the League is to promote hockey at the major junior level within the territory and limits described in the Constitution of the League.

1.03 AFFILIATION

The League is operated according to its constitution, regulations and By-Laws, as well as those of HC and the CHL, the whole without prejudice to the autonomy of the League with respect of its duties and powers conferred to the directors of the League by its By-Laws and as sanctioned by the Board of Governors.

1.04 LEAGUE COMMITTEES

The Commissioner can establish committees and grant them mandates with the powers which he deems appropriate. The Commissioner names the members of the committees and determines the length of their mandate. The Commissioner is a member *ex-officio* of each League committee and, at his discretion, can act as President of any committee. The Commissioner can dissolve at any time a committee which he established in virtue of this article.

1.05 DISCIPLINARY PREFECT

1.05.1 Mandate of the Prefect of discipline

The Commissioner appoints a Disciplinary Prefect who acts under his authority. The Disciplinary Prefect has all the disciplinary powers he was given by the Commissioner with regard to any event or any act occurring during a game governed according to the QMJHL playing rules. For the purposes of this article, a game is deemed to begin with the arrival of the visiting team at the rink and end when said team leaves the arena after the game. His mandate is to sanction reprehensible acts perpetrated either by a team’s player or staff member. The concerned reprehensible acts may be acts considered as dangerous, violent or intimidating to excess, outrageous language or any act that could result in undermining the League’s image.

Before taking a decision, the Disciplinary Prefect must consult with the Advisory Committee as stated in article 1.05.6.

The Commissioner is the spokesperson of the League when it is required that the decision of the Disciplinary Prefect be made public, including decisions made pursuant to Article 1.05.7.

1.05.2 The Evidence

The presumed acts must be sufficiently proven through the means put at the disposal of the Disciplinary Prefect. In a non-exhaustive and non-exclusive way, those means are the following:

- report submitted by and testimony of any officials for said game;
- viewing of the event's official video footage;
- viewing of any other available video footage;
- report by and testimony of the Game Supervisor or of a League Representative in attendance at the game;
- testimony of the player(s) involved;
- testimony of the General Manager or Head Coach of the teams involved;
- testimony of any other person called upon by one of the parties involved;
- the Disciplinary Prefect may record the testimony made during the hearing or during a telephone conversation with the witness. The Disciplinary Prefect must beforehand advise the witness that his testimony will be recorded.

1.05.3 Right to be heard

Before taking a disciplinary decision, the Disciplinary Prefect must give to the person concerned by an eventual disciplinary measure, as well as to the team representative, the opportunity to be heard and to justify themselves.

1.05.4 Interpretation of the act

The Disciplinary Prefect must take into consideration the circumstances of the act throughout the game (was the act accidental? provoked? intended? during a play? unwarrantedly violent? etc.). He must also take into account the past disciplinary history of the person subject to a sanction.

1.05.5 Jurisprudence

The Disciplinary Prefect must, if he believes it is appropriate, useful or necessary, establish comparisons with decisions taken previously in similar situations.

1.05.6 Role of the Advisory Committee

To establish and examine the evidence, to appreciate the act in the course of the game, and to make comparisons with decisions that were previously taken, the Disciplinary Prefect must consult the Advisory Committee set up by the Commissioner. The decision related to the sanction belongs to the Disciplinary Prefect.

The Advisory Committee is formed of three (3) members.

1.05.7 Disclosure in Media

The QMJHL Commissioner is responsible for giving penalties and/or imposing fines for any statement to the media which causes prejudice to the League. Furthermore, he is responsible for issuing disciplinary sanctions and fines for any statement and/or

action from a Team Owner, a Governor, a Member, a Coach or General-manager against the QMJHL.

1.05.8 Wording of the Decision

The decision of the Disciplinary Prefect must be justified and, as such, must include a description of the facts, a summary of the evidence and the grounds for his decision.

1.05.9 Reviewing decisions pronounced by the Disciplinary Prefect

A decision made by the Disciplinary Prefect that involves a suspension of less than six (6) games or a fine equal to or less than two thousand dollars (\$2000) is binding and cannot be appealed.

A decision made by the Disciplinary Prefect that involves a suspension equal to or higher than six (6) games or a fine higher than two thousand dollars (\$2000) may be submitted to an Independent Arbitrator for review in accordance with Article 1.05.9.

The request for review must be submitted to the Independent Arbitrator within three (3) days following the publication of the Prefect of Discipline's decision; the request must precisely expose why the decision is being contested and the requested amendments; it must be accompanied by a certified cheque or a bank draft in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) made out to «The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League inc.»; this sum is non-refundable. However, if the appeal is granted, the appealing club may ask for the reimbursement of the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) it paid.

A request for review made in accordance with this article does not suspend the execution of the decision.

1.05.10 The Independent Arbitrator

Nomination

The Independent Arbitrator is selected by the Board of Governors by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote within a list of persons recommended by the Commissioner. The duration of his mandate is two (2) years and is renewable through the same procedure.

Profile of the Independent Arbitrator

- the persons recommended should have no direct link with the QMJHL or any of its member teams, have good knowledge of Major Junior Hockey as well as the operations and policies of the QMJHL;
- they should have sufficient legal knowledge to allow them to apply rules of natural justice and, more specifically, the rules described in previous articles;
- they should offer sufficient availability to be able to act diligently in order to avoid, as much as possible, that the appellant lose his rights through the expiry of delays;
- they must have agreed to accept the methods of remuneration and reimbursement of expenses as determined by the League.

Substitute Independent Arbitrators

The Board of Governors also selects through a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote from the above-mentioned list one or two substitute Independent Arbitrators who could be called upon when the designated Independent Arbitrator is either absent or otherwise unable to act.

Power of Intervention

The revision of a decision made by the Disciplinary Prefect that includes a suspension equal to or higher than six (6) games or a fine higher than two thousand dollars (\$2000) can only be acted upon if one or another of the following conditions apply:

- the rules of natural justice and more specifically, the rules described in Article 1.05 have not been followed by the Disciplinary Prefect;
- the Disciplinary Prefect did not follow the regulatory provisions applicable to repeated or previous offenses (jurisprudence);
- the decision of the Disciplinary Prefect is unreasonable given the criteria stated in the regulations, existing tables and the policies of the League in matters of discipline.

The Independent Arbitrator has the authority to maintain, increase and / or lessen the sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Prefect.

Hearing

No evidence will be presented nor testimony be heard before the Arbitrator except in the following exceptional cases:

- the evidence was not available when the original hearing was conducted before the Disciplinary Prefect;
- with the permission of the Independent Arbitrator, with regards to a precise situation, a person may be heard again if his testimony may have a determining effect on the review of the Disciplinary Prefect's decision.

Any intervening party must table, in writing and prior to the hearing, a summary of the facts, the motives for a review and the remedy sought.

Procedure

The Independent Arbitrator determines the procedure to be used during the hearing of the Request for Revision.

Time Limits

The hearing of the Request for Review shall be held within ten (10) days of the tabling of the Request and the Arbitrator's decision shall be given within five (5) days of the hearing.

Binding Decision

The decision of the Independent Arbitrator is binding and cannot be appealed. The Commissioner has the responsibility of applying the decision.

1.06 ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE

The administrative centre of the League is under the responsibility of the Commissioner. All business must be carried out through the administrative centre where documents are kept. The officer in charge of the administrative centre ensures the distribution of information to the members of the League.

1.06.1 Central Scouting

The League shall make available to its members the services of a Central Scouting Department providing clubs with the means and facilities to identify, assess and attract the best possible prospects among the Canadian and American players active on the territories covered by the QMJHL as approved by the CHL.

The annual plan of operations of the Central Scouting is adopted during the month of August by the Commissioner, after consultation with the officials responsible for the scouting, and the General Manager of each team. The budget of the Central Scouting is determined by the Board of Governors.

The Director of the Central Scouting department is responsible, amongst other things, for updating the eligibility list of players for the entry draft which takes place each year in June. To that end, the first eligibility list is made available no later than April 1st. The list comprises the names of the players provided by each club between April 10 and April 20, and those provided by the Director of the Central Scouting Department and the names of the players who will have been withdrawn from the list of players protected against selection, in compliance with the provisions of item 10.06.

1.06.2 Personnel

The League must put the following personnel at the disposal of the members. Their functions are determined by the Commissioner:

- a) a Director of Academic Services;
- b) a Director in charge of the "Players Support Program"; and
- c) a Director in charge of the Anti-doping Program.

1.06.3 Legal Holidays

When an act must be performed at a specific date according to the By-Laws and that such date falls on a legal holiday, the act may legally be performed on the first business day immediately following the legal holiday. Saturdays and Sundays are legal holidays as well as any other generally recognized legal holiday.

1.07 IMMUNITY OF THE OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS

1.07.1 Directors of the League

No one from any team (owner, governor, director of the club, coach, therapists, trainer, equipment manager, player, executive, etc.) shall publicly criticize, make public accusations, hold tendentious remarks against the League, the Commissioner, any other person in authority at the League or against the referees, bearing on their competence, honesty or performance.

BY-LAW 2 CLUBS

2.01 RELATIONS WITH OTHER HOCKEY ORGANIZATIONS

Clubs wishing to deal with HC and its branches, the CHL, the NHL, USAH or any other organization which the League is affiliated to shall act through the Administrative Center.

2.02 PENALTIES

2.02.1 Clubs

Any club disobeying the By-Laws is guilty of contempt and is liable to penalties deemed appropriate by the Commissioner and imposed by him, except when otherwise stated in the By-Laws.

2.02.2 Individuals

Any individual related to a club not obeying the By-Laws is guilty of contempt and is liable to penalties (fines, suspensions or both at the same time) deemed appropriate by the Commissioner and imposed by him, except when otherwise stated in the By-Laws.

2.03 PAYMENT OF FINES

2.03.1 Delay

All fines due by the clubs are payable within 45 days following the billing date.

2.03.2 Penalties

If for any reason, the fine is not paid within the respected delay, the amount of the fine will automatically double. Furthermore, if the fine is applicable to the general manager, to his assistant or to any other member of the club's management team, the guilty party will not be permitted to transact with the administrative center as long as the doubled fine has not been paid. The responsibilities of the party at fault must be assumed by another individual designated by the club.

2.04 DUES TO THE LEAGUE, OTHER THAN FINES

2.04.1 Delay

- a) Any amount due to the League is payable within 45 days following the billing date.
- b) The amount due on game revenues is payable within 45 days following the billing date.
- c) The amounts due to the League in payment for the release of players shall be paid within 45 days following the billing date.

2.05 COLOURS AND NAME OF THE TEAM

Each club shall submit to the Commissioner the colours of its uniform and the name of the team. The same procedure shall be followed for any change brought to either.

2.06 PROTECTION OF THE OFFICIALS AND VISITING TEAM

2.06.1 Responsibility

Police officers must be present at all times during a game; they are assigned to the bench of the visiting team, to the penalty bench and to the game officials: referees and linesmen. Should no police officer be available, then security agents may be used as replacement.

2.06.2 Default and penalty

If established that the home team is not offering the required protection, the Commissioner, at the expense of the offending team, will do what needs to be done to ensure that an adequate protection is provided to the officials and the visiting team. Furthermore, the Commissioner shall impose a \$1,000 fine to the offending team for a first offence, and of \$2,000 for any subsequent one.

2.06.3 Additional action

If it is proven that a team is not receiving the required cooperation from the owners of the rink in meeting the requirements established in 2.06.2, the Commissioner may recommend to the Board of Governors that the team play at another rink.

2.07 GAME TICKETS

2.07.1 Regular season

The home club shall make everything possible to accommodate the visiting team in tickets provided the request is received within a reasonable delay. Tickets may be requested for the players' parents or fans travelling on a tour organized by the visiting team or by any dealer authorized by the team.

2.07.2 Playoffs

The home team shall provide the visiting team at least 200 tickets from the best available seats to the visiting team and 10 tickets to every other team of the League provided a request has made to the home team at least 48 hours before the beginning of the game. The clubs having requested the tickets shall pay for all the tickets.

2.08 OFF-ICE OFFICIALS

Upon request, each club shall communicate to the administrative centre, the names, addresses and telephone numbers of their off-ice officials, namely:

- a) the official scorer in charge of all the off-ice officials;
- b) the game timekeeper;
- c) the penalty timekeeper;
- d) the two goal judges and the two alternate goal judges.

2.09 PERSONNEL AND EXECUTIVES OF THE CLUB

Upon request, each club shall communicate to the administrative centre, the names, addresses and telephone numbers of its personnel, namely:

- a) all of the executives;
- b) each member of the personnel;
- c) the signing executives for the release of the players;
- d) the governor; and
- e) the executive and his assistant who will attend the meetings of the League.

2.10. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE HOME TEAM

2.10.1 Medical services

The home team is responsible for providing the visiting team with medical services or emergency services when required, namely:

- a) a doctor shall be on site for players, coaches or therapist who may need medical assistance; and
- b) an ambulance or any other appropriate means of transportation to the hospital for players, coaches, or therapist who may be sick or injured and require such transportation.

Any breach to this rule will result in a \$1000 fine upon the first infraction and of \$2000 for any subsequent infraction.

2.10.2 Cost for medical services

The cost for medical services resulting from the enforcement of 2.10.1 shall be paid by the team having received the services.

2.11 OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE HOME TEAM

The home team shall accommodate the visiting team should any of the following circumstances occur:

- a) **Equipment:** supply equipment when the visiting team has forgotten any equipment without which the presentation of the game or the safety of the players are jeopardized. Such an incident must be reported to the Commissioner.
- b) **Skates sharpening:** skates sharpening services should be offered should a player brake one of his skates after the game has begun and another pair of skates needs to be sharpened.
- c) **Assistant-trainer:** at the request of the visiting team, the home team shall provide the services of an assistant-trainer if required, at the expense of the visiting team.
- d) **Miscellaneous:** provide the visiting team with any accessory required should an emergency or unforeseen situation affecting the well being of the visiting team arise. Such an incident must be reported to the Commissioner.
- e) **Pucks:** the home team shall provide the visiting team with 50 to 60 pucks for the pre-game warm-up.
- f) **Towels and soft drinks:** the home team shall provide the visiting team with 40 clean towels and 30 unopened bottled of soft drinks.
- g) **Premises:** the home team shall provide the visiting team with two suitable rooms: one for the team and large enough to accommodate 22 players, and another one for the trainers, coaches and other members of the personnel of the team. The rooms must be made available at least two hours before the game. The premises shall be approved by the League.

2.12 FREE PASSES

The clubs shall advise the personnel of the rink that they must honour the free passes issued and approved by the CHL or the League to attend pre-season, regular or playoff games.

2.13 COST OF A RELEASE

The cost of the release of a player is determined by a protocol conducted with the organization, association, federation or league the player belongs to. If there no protocol in place, a written agreement must be reached between the teams involved.

2.14 TRADING PLAYERS

2.14.1 General restrictions

Teams can trade players in accordance with the conditions determined in the present article.

2.14.2 Trading Period

The League declares that there will be three trading periods during the season. The first is held at the annual draft. The second in August and the third is held after the last game scheduled during mid-season. No trading shall be made outside these three periods, except for 20 year old players and the European players and players not playing in the QMJHL on September 9 who may be traded at all times until the end of the third trading period. In the case of European players, the by-laws of the CHL apply in compliance to the article 3.01.1.1. In the case of players not playing in the QMJHL on September 9, they will not be able to integrate a team's line-up before the beginning of the 3rd trading period except by approbation of the Commissioner.

2.14.3 Forbidden considerations

No trade can be concluded for considerations other than the transfer of the player services or a draft pick.

Trades directly or indirectly including considerations other than the transfer of the services of one or several players and one or several draft picks will not be approved by the League and shall be considered null and void.

2.14.4 Conditional clauses

A trade between two teams must not include conditional clauses in regards to the transfer of the services of a player. It can include a conditional clause referring to a draft pick.

2.14.5 Non-limited rights

A trade cannot include a provision which limits the rights of the team acquiring the services of a player, in regards to their usage of the player's services.

2.14.6 Professional rights

The amounts paid by the NHL to teams having owned the rights to a player prior to his selection are divided proportionally between the clubs. The sum each club will receive depends on the amount of time the club owned said player's rights. These amounts are not transferable in the event of a trade.

2.14.7 Return to former team

A transferred or traded player cannot return, whether through a waiver, transfer or a trade to the team that last transferred or traded him. At the exception, a transferred or traded 16 year-old player can return by waiver or trade to his first team once he turns

19 years old or for a 17 year-old player once he turns 20 years old. For application purposes of the present article, in the case of a trade made during the annual session, a player is deemed to have the age of the following year and not the preceding year.

2.14.8 Free of any mortgage

When a player is traded or transferred to another team, the club that traded or transferred the services of the player shall pay all amounts due including that of the release of the player, unless otherwise agreed between the trading teams.

2.14.9 Wronged player

Any player who feels a trade is detrimental to his development shall personally inform the Commissioner who has the power to recommend that the services of the player be transferred or that he be traded. However, the player shall not return with any of the teams he was registered with earlier in the current season.

2.14.10 Confidentiality

When negotiations between two or more teams are in progress in view of a trade, the names of the concerned players shall remain confidential until the trade is concluded and approved by the League. The Commissioner shall impose any offender a minimum fine of \$2,000 and maximum \$10,000.

2.14.11 Declaration under oath

Once a trade is concluded, the duly authorized representatives of each team must complete and sign, under oath, the declaration form supplied by the League, and return it to the League immediately.

2.14.12 Sanctions

The Commissioner will apply the following sanctions, according to the gravity of the offense, in the case where a team is found acting contrary to the requirements:

- a) A fine reaching a maximum of \$100,000 payable directly to the League;
- b) The possible loss of a first round draft pick for the next two Annual Entry Draft sessions following the time when the offense was committed and brought to the attention of the Commissioner;
- c) The loss of game points.

2.14.13 Services of a player

A player whose services are traded is not permitted to leave his team, train or play with his new team prior to having received the written approval from the League.

2.15 TAMPERING

2.15.1 In the League, HC and its branches or USAH.

No team of the League or person associated to such a team shall:

- a) negotiate or attempt to negotiate with any player described in the following «aa» and «bb» sections;
- b) use such players during exhibition games, invite them at its training camp, accept and allow to participate in its training camp or on-ice training sessions:
 - «aa» a player whose name is registered on the eligibility list of another QMJHL team, unless a written permission has been given as per the following note;
 - «bb»" a player who is part of a team member of HQ or any HC branch or a team member of USAH, unless a written permission has been granted by an authorized person from the team owning the services of the player.

Any violation of this regulation will automatically result in the loss for that team of the right to ever register this player and have him on its lists, not even through trading, and shall be fined \$10,000.

Players whose names are registered on the eligibility list of a team immediately after the annual draft session are not concerned by this regulation as long as they are active with the team as of their registration.

Any violation to this regulation may be put in writing and the complaint must be filed within 10 days from the date at which the event took place, or after having acknowledged such violation.

2.15.2 Players from Ontario and the Western provinces

No players from Ontario, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, British-Columbia, the Northwest Territories and the U.S.A. states under the jurisdiction of the WHL or the OHL shall participate in on-ice training sessions and games of the QMJHL teams, unless these players have been granted permission to do so by an authorized person from the WHL or OHL depending on the circumstances and in compliance with the CHL By-Laws.

2.16 PLAYERS' INITIATION

The initiation of players, particularly new players, is prohibited if it undermines the dignity or the integrity of the individual. Any team staff member or any player organizing, authorizing or tolerating such a behaviour or event will be fined up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) and/or suspended according to the severity of the action. The fine is payable by the club.

2.17 PHYSICAL APPEARANCE - LOOKS

Out of respect for the guests and major partners of the League, no player, coach or any member of the personnel attached to the team shall modify his hairstyle, clothes and physical appearance in general, at any activity of the League in any way

considered unacceptable by the Commissioner. Any offending team will be fined \$1,000.

BY-LAW 3 PLAYERS QUALIFICATION

3.01 REQUIREMENTS

3.01.1 Requirements for players to be qualified to play in the QMJHL

In order to be qualified to play in the QMJHL, each player shall:

- a) be 21 years of age or under as at December 31 of the current year;
- b) have been released from the club he was registered with the previous year;
- c) when applicable and required, have been transferred in compliance with the rules of HC on transfers;
- d) have signed HC's major junior registration certificate of the Quebec Branch;
- e) have filed an original and recent birth certificate;
- f) not have been suspended by the Commissioner, HC and its branches, USAH or the CHL; and
- g) have all due fines paid by the club.

Furthermore:

- h) have his QMJHL standard player contract and registration certificate approved by the Commissioner;
- i) be registered on the eligibility list of the team according to section 6.03; and
- j) this By-Law shall not affect the rules governing the qualification of the players.

3.01.1.1 European players

The QMJHL shall follow the regulations of the CHL regarding the European players, same as the OHL and WHL.

3.01.2 Required qualification for affiliated players to play in the QMJHL

The affiliated player must:

- a) be under the age of 20 as at December 31st;
- b) have signed an affiliated player's certificate;

- c) not currently be under a suspension ordered by the Commissioner, HC and its branches, USAH;
- d) ensure that all fines imposed upon him have been paid by the team;
- e) have an affiliated player contract approved by the Commissioner;
- f) be registered on the team's eligibility list in compliance with rule 6.03
- g) have signed a HC and its branches, USAH certificate with a team from a division or category lower than major junior, duly affiliated or registered with HC and its branches, USAH for the current year; certificates from "gentlemen Leagues" or semi-professional leagues are not recognized as a valid registration;
- h) comply with the regulations regarding affiliated players;
- i) have the original registration certificate approved by the registrar of HC and its branches, or USAH, and;
- j) this By-Law shall not affect the rules governing the qualification of players.

3.01.2.1 Loss and recovery of qualification

A player who is qualified to play hockey in the League shall lose his qualification if he decides to leave the team and take part in the activities of a hockey club that is not a member of HC and its branches, or USAH. He shall be able to qualify again by following the procedure established herein.

3.01.3 Recall of affiliated players

- a) A team can recall as many affiliated players as wanted. However, no more than six of them may play in a game.
- b) Affiliated and qualified goaltenders can take part in a game provided they are included in the authorized group of six players as mentioned in a), in compliance with HC rules regarding the recall of affiliated players.
- c) Each team can use 19 affiliated player certificates that may be signed before the date set jointly by the Board of Governors and HC and its branches or USAH. However, the teams shall not be allowed to simultaneously use more than 15 affiliated player certificates.

3.01.4 Qualification certificates

- a) Each club may simultaneously use 45 major junior registration certificates for eligible players to sign.
- b) A maximum of 25 players including at least two goaltenders shall be signed on such certificate.

- c) Qualification certificates may be signed by eligible players no later than midnight on February 10th.

3.02 TWENTY YEAR-OLD PLAYERS

- a) Each team of the League can register and play with three 20 year-old players or players who will have turned 20 by December 31st of the current year, as long as their names were registered on the eligibility list of the team on February 10th of the previous season, except for one of those player whose name could not have been inscribed on that admissibility list.
- b) No 20 year-old player shall be traded or transferred to another team of the League as of the date set by the League.
- c) Twenty year-old players shall sign major junior registration certificates. Twenty year-old players shall not be used as affiliated players even though said players have been waived.
- d) A twenty year-old player shall not replace another one under a suspension as long as the suspension is not expired, even though said player has been released by his club.
- e) A 20 year-old playing hockey in a professional organization or elsewhere may not play in the QMJHL. However, any player discussed herein may qualify by signing a major junior registration certificate with a team before noon on January 10th and shall participate in at least one regular game of the League within 10 days following his registration with the team; also, he shall not be permitted to play after in another League.
- f) Should a club sign a major junior certificate with a fourth 20 year-old player on February 10th, this team shall release one of its three 20 year-old players signed major junior. Subsequently, a special draft session shall be held in order to enable this 20 year-old player to play with another QMJHL team. The special selection order shall be determined by reversing the order of the teams general standings as at February 9th.
- g) All 20 year-old player who wants to evolve with a QMJHL team must obtain his release from the team which he was registered this year and must obtain his transfer (if necessary) as mentioned in the HC regulations for the transfers, before January 10th at noon.

3.03 WAIVED PLAYERS

A player who has been waived by his club cannot participate in the games played by his team until his name has been legally reinstated on the eligibility list of his team.

3.04 PROFESSIONAL 18 OR 19 YEAR-OLD PLAYERS RETURNING TO JUNIOR HOCKEY

Any 18 or 19 year-old playing in the NHL or any European player evolving in minor professional leagues may return and play in the QMJHL in compliance with this By-Law, and is qualified to play with the team he is registered with.

Should the player return before January 10th, he shall sign a HC certificate and his name shall be registered on the January 10th list delivered to the League, which shall have no more than 25 players, including a minimum of two goaltenders.

If the player returns to the League after noon on January 10th, he will not have to sign the HC certificate and his name will be added to the January 10th list as an additional player. In order to qualify, this player shall sign the required documents of the League.

Players subject to this section can return to play in the League before the date set by the NHL but no later than the day before the start of the QMJHL playoffs.

3.05 VIOLATIONS

Upon violation of the rules on the qualification of the players, the following sanctions shall be imposed:

- a) If a team plays with a non-qualified player, whether because of his age or because his name is not on the eligibility list of the club, the win or tied game as well as the corresponding points in the standings shall be deducted and given to the opponent (maximum of two points).
- b) If a team plays with a player who is not qualified because of an automatic suspension or a suspension imposed in writing by the League, the win or tied game as well as the corresponding points in the standings shall be deducted and given to the opponent (maximum of two points) per game.
- c) If a team plays with a player registered under false information, the Commissioner may take disciplinary measures against the offending team. However, if this error is detected while the game is in progress, the player registered under false information shall be removed from the game and not be replaced by another eligible player. Please refer to section 5 of the rules governing the game of ice hockey on errors in the player's name or number.
- d) If a team plays with a player who is not considered qualified by the Commissioner, the win or tied game as well as the corresponding points in the standings shall be deducted and given to the opponent (maximum of two points) per game.
- e) If the team plays with a player while said player is in the process of being waived, the win or tied game as well as the corresponding points in the standings shall be deducted and given to the opponent (maximum of two points) per game.

Note 1: As soon as the name of a player has been registered on the roster of a game, he shall be considered, for legal purposes, as having taken part in the game.

Note 2: The previous sections do not apply to a goaltender who did not play during a game.

- f) In all cases, including that of the goaltender who did not take part in the play during the game, the club shall be imposed a \$500 fine for the first offence and of \$1,000 for each subsequent ones.

3.06 GIFT TO PLAYERS

No team of this League has the right to give directly, indirectly or in any manner whatsoever one or several gifts to its players or to players of other teams of the League. No team shall use intermediary to do so during any hockey game of the League, whether at a pre-season, regular or playoff game. This restriction shall apply 24 hours before and 24 hours after the official time set for the beginning of a game.

A \$2,000 fine shall automatically be imposed to any offending club.

Notwithstanding the above mentioned rules, each club can give to its deserving players one or more gifts not exceeding \$100 in value per player, for a maximum of two players, as part of a scholarship, namely to the offensive and defensive players of the month.

3.07 QMJHL STANDARD PLAYER CONTRACT

3.07.1 Contract sanctioned by the League

The League standard player contract is the only one endorsed by the League and each player duly registered with a club member of the League shall sign such a contract. This contract shall be filled and signed in four copies following the prescribed form. All copies shall be sent at the League for the Commissioner's approval. The League shall keep two copies and return the two others to the club.

3.07.2 Right of the player to receive a copy

The player has the right to receive a copy of his signed and approved contract and his team shall give him one of the two copies returned by the League.

3.07.3 Authorized compensations

The only compensations a club may pay a player are the following:

- a) the authorized remuneration;
- b) the room and board fees;
- c) school transportation fees, in accordance with the school policy;

- d) school fees books and supplies, in accordance with the school policy ; and
- e) training camp and transportation fees (return) between the player's home and the rink, to attend the training camp.

3.07.4 Remuneration

The remuneration is the weekly amount indicated in the League's standard player contract. Payments start with the first game of the regular season and end with the last game of the regular season or with the last playoff game. The weekly remuneration allowed, aside the room and board is as follows:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| a) | players who are 16 and 17 years old | \$35 per week; |
| b) | 18 year-old players | \$50 per week; |
| c) | 19 year-old players | \$60 per week; |

3.07.5 School and other transportation fees

The club must reimburse the player for transportation expenses incurred from his home to the rink so the player can participate in team games and practices, provided that the distance cannot be walked.

3.07.6 Training camp fees

The club must reimburse the player his actual expenses incurred to participate in the team training camp except in the case where a player asks to participate in the training camp at his own expense.

3.08 COMPLAINTS, ENQUIRIES AND SANCTIONS

3.08.1 Penalty for not complying with By-Laws 3.07.4 and 3.07.5

Any club not complying with By-Laws 3.07.4 and 3.07.5 shall be imposed any sanction deemed reasonable by the Commissioner, in addition to any disciplinary action he may decide to take.

3.08.2 Inquiry following a complaint stating that a team did not comply with By-Laws 2.15.1, 3.07.4 and 3.07.5

Any club accusing another of not complying with By-Laws 2.15.1, 3.07.4 and 3.07.5 shall do so in writing to the Commissioner and include all written evidence supporting the accusation, along with a cheque in the amount of \$1000 made payable to the League.

If the complaint proves to be well-founded, the cheque will be reimbursed to the complaining club. If the Commissioner feels the information is credible and believes that By-Laws 2.15.1, 3.07.4 or 3.07.5 were indeed infringed, he may conduct an inquiry and impose a fine to the faulty team.

3.08.3 Conduct of the inquiry

Upon receipt of the written complaint, evidence and cheque, the Commissioner shall immediately conduct an inquiry and notify the accused club by sending the organization a copy of the complaint which has been filed. The organization which is accused shall fully cooperate to the inquiry; otherwise, it will automatically be declared guilty and fined.

3.08.4 If the accused club is declared guilty

If the Commissioner's inquiry proves that the complaint is well-founded, the Commissioner will impose any sanction he deems reasonable in addition to any disciplinary measures which are considered to be necessary.

3.08.5 If the accused club is found not guilty

If the Commissioner's inquiry proves that the complaint is not well-founded, the accusing club shall automatically be fined \$1000 which will then be deposited into the Education Fund.

3.09 STATUS OF A ROOKIE PLAYER

In order to be considered a rookie for a season, the player cannot have played more than twenty (20) junior major games (CHL) in the previous years. A goaltender must not have played more than ten (10) junior major games (CHL) to be considered as a rookie. Nineteen (19) and twenty (20) year old players cannot, under any circumstance, be considered as rookies.

**BY-LAW 4
GAMES****4.01 FINES**

The fines imposed further to the violation of the rules of the game are stated in the playing rule book.

4.02 THE COACH OF A TEAM ELIMINATED SHALL NOT RETURN TO COMPETE

The coach of a team eliminated in playoffs may not act as coach of another team of the League before the playoffs are over.

4.03 TIME AT WHICH GAMES MAY START**4.03.1 Time constraint**

No game shall start before 2:00 pm nor after 7:35 pm (local time), unless there is no other option, the whole being approved by the Commissioner.

4.03.2 Consecutive games

A game shall not start before 4:00 pm if the visiting club has played the day before; nevertheless, if the facility in which the visiting club plays the following day is less than 300 kilometres away from the previous location, then the game can begin at 3 pm. However, should the two clubs agree to begin the game at an earlier time, then they may do so.

4.04 QUALIFIED PLAYERS IN UNIFORM

4.04.1 Maximum number of players

Twenty players per team including at least two goaltenders duly qualified and registered on the roster can be in uniform, sit on the bench and play in the game.

4.04.2 Minimum number of players

A team shall have at least 15 players in uniform at the beginning of the game, two of them being goaltenders. To dress less than 15 players at the beginning of a game, the team must first obtain the authorization from the League.

4.04.3 Penalty

A club whose team is not complying with 4.04.2 shall be fined an amount of \$10 000.

4.05 ON-ICE PROMOTIONS AND SHOWS

No club shall organize a promotion or a show on the ice that could delay the game or would require the participation of players without first obtaining the authorization from the Commissioner. The Commissioner will not grant more than four authorizations to a team during a regular calendar month and no more than three during each playoff series.

Any club organizing a special event, promotion, award evening or any other event without the Commissioner's authorization shall automatically be imposed a \$200 fine.

The request shall be made at the League at least 48 hours (2 business days) before the start of the game, by providing all the necessary information and time it will take to hold the promotion, show or event.

The form must be completed and send via email to the Coordinator of the administrative services.

4.06 REFUSAL OF A TEAM TO SHOW-UP AT A GAME OR PLAY ONCE ON PREMISES

If a team refuses or neglects to show-up and play a game as scheduled or rescheduled as per the Commissioner's decision, or if a team refuses to play a game once on premises or refuses to finish a game in progress, the team shall automatically lose the game, be imposed a \$10,000 fine and pay the amounts claimed by the other team. The claim needs first to be filed with the Board of

Governors for approval. Furthermore, the incident shall be submitted to the League for further disciplinary actions, which could include expulsion.

4.07 CANCELLED GAMES

4.07.1 Game cancelled by the home team

Due to major reasons or unforeseen circumstances, should the home team not be able to show-up for a game as scheduled or officially rescheduled, then, the General Manager of the team shall immediately inform the Commissioner of the situation. It is up to the Commissioner to postpone the game if he deems the reasons sufficient, and he shall inform the visiting team of his decision.

4.07.2 Game cancelled by the visiting team

Due to major reasons or unforeseen circumstances, should the visiting team not be able to show-up for a game as scheduled or officially rescheduled, then, the General Manager of the team shall immediately inform the Commissioner of the situation. It is up to the Commissioner to postpone the game if he deems the reasons sufficient, and he shall inform the home team of his decision.

4.07.3 Game cancelled because of a strike or any other major reason

Should a home team be unable to present or complete a regular game due to a strike, power failure, fire or any other major reason of which the Commissioner has been informed while the visiting team is on premises or on its way, then the home team shall reimburse the visiting club all related expenses incurred.

The Commissioner shall be informed of the circumstances as soon as they occur. Should the home team dispute the amount claimed by the visiting club, then the League Hockey Committee shall verify and determine the amount to be paid. If the claim is not paid by the club within 30 days, the amount shall be paid by the League to the visiting club and deducted from any due by the League to the club at fault.

4.08 POSTPONED GAMES AND CHANGES MADE TO THE ORIGINAL SCHEDULE

The Commissioner is the sole person who may decide to postpone a game or to change the original schedule.

4.09 RESCHEDULING OF A GAME

Within seven days of the postponement of a game (the given delay starts at the original time set for the game), the home club confers with the visiting team and submits to the Commissioner two possible dates on which the game could be rescheduled. The game must be played within 15 days following the original date, unless impossible for reasons found acceptable by the Commissioner. If at fault for not having complied with this rule, a team is liable to a maximum \$500 fine.

If the rescheduled game is a game which could not be completed because of one of the reasons enumerated in article 4.07.3, the following applies:

- In all cases, the score, at the time of the interruption will remain the same, all statistics will remain in the players' file;
- In the case where less than (20) minutes were played in the game, it will be entirely replayed;
- In the case where (20) minutes or more were played, the game will continue and be clocked with the remaining time before the original game was interrupted;
- Each team may choose a new lineup for the continuation of the postponed game;
- If there were penalties being served at the time of the interruption, they will be served by the same players, or by replacement players, if the original players are not in the lineup;
- Players who were expelled from the game at the time of the interruption will remain so and may not be replaced in the lineup;
- A team may waive its participation in a rescheduled game with the Commissioner's consent, this withdrawal from the game will automatically be considered as a victory for the opposing team;
- The Commissioner may, if major circumstances require it, cancel a rescheduled game and declare a victory for the team which was leading the game at the time of the interruption; or he may give each team one (1) point if the teams were tied at the time of the interruption;
- In the case where a player was suspended during a game which was rescheduled, the following conditions apply:
 - If the game was interrupted during the first period, the game suspension is not considered as having been served and will be carried over to the next immediate game, which can be the rescheduled game;
 - If the game is interrupted after the first period, the game suspension is considered served, however if the next immediate game is the rescheduled game, that game will be used to complete the game suspension;
 - A rescheduled game may be used to serve a game suspension for any player as long as the game lasts for a minimum time of twenty (20) minutes;
 - If the rescheduled game takes place after the player has completed his suspension, the player may participate in the rescheduled game.

4.10 SUPERVISION OF THE TIME KEPT BY THE VISITING TEAM

At anytime, the visiting team has the right to assign a representative to supervise the work of both the time keeper and the penalty time keeper. The representative shall be given full cooperation from the assigned personnel. Any infraction shall immediately be reported to the Commissioner.

4.11 TEAM STANDINGS

The Board of Governors shall ratify the proposal made to determine the League general standings according to the number of divisions or conferences.

4.12 STANDINGS OF THE SCORERS AND GOALTENDERS

- a) The rankings for leading scorers are compiled by taking into consideration the players who have obtained the most points (total goals and assists).

In the event of a tie, the following criteria are considered:

- I. The most goals;
 - II. The least number of games played.
- b) The goaltender rankings are compiled by taking into consideration the goaltenders who have obtained the best goals against average.

In the event of a tie, the following criteria will be considered:

- I. The greatest number of minutes played.

4.13 TIE IN THE STANDINGS

When two teams or more are tied in the standings, the Commissioner shall determine the final ranking as follows:

- a) The team having the most wins at the end of the regular season shall be awarded the highest rank between the tied teams, excluding the wins acquired via shootout;
- b) should there still be a tie after this procedure the team with the highest difference between the total of goals for and goals against at the end of the regular season shall be awarded the highest rank among the tied teams;
- c) should there still be a tie, the team with the most goals at the end of the regular season will rank at the highest position among the tied teams;
- d) should there still be a tie, then the procedure set in paragraph a), b) and c) should be repeated in that order, strictly considering the regular season games played on the road;

- e) should there still be a tie, a drawing will determine which team will be ranked at the highest position; but, if this exercise would result in a team being eliminated from playoff contention, then a deciding game will be played between the two teams involved and a draw will decide which team will host.

4.14 PLAYOFFS

4.14.1 Playoff standings

Sixteen teams are eligible for playoffs, and they will be ranked on the following principles:

- The first three places are awarded, in order of points cumulated during the regular season, by the three teams at the top of each division;
- Beginning with the 4th position to the 16th position, teams are ranked according to the number of points cumulated during the regular season;
- Teams with position higher than 16th are eliminated;
- In cases of a tie in the number of cumulated points, the ranking is determined through the application of Article 4.13.

Said ranking, called « Playoff Standings » is used to determine opponents for each series as well as the team that will have 'Home Ice' advantage.

4.14.2 Playoffs Format

All playoff series are 'best of seven' series.

The first series (Round of sixteen) are played amongst the sixteen teams, the first playing the sixteenth, the second playing the fifteenth, the third playing the fourteenth, the fourth playing the thirteenth, the fifth playing the twelfth, the sixth playing the eleventh, the seventh playing the tenth, and the eighth playing the ninth.

The quarter-finals are played amongst the eight winners of the first round, the first playing the eighth, the second playing the seventh, the third playing the sixth, and the fourth playing the fifth.

The semi-finals are played amongst the four winners of the quarter-finals, the first playing the fourth, the second playing the third.

The final series is played by the winners of the semi-finals.

4.15 PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

The playoff schedule shall be prepared by the Commissioner no later than 36 hours after the end of the last game of the regular season or of the previous playoff series.

As soon as the positions in the general standings are official, the teams shall abide by the schedule prepared by the Commissioner.

In the first round of sixteen and quarter-finals, if the typical distance by land between both teams involved is more than 800 kilometres, the best of seven series will be played according to the 2-3-2 system; in all other cases, the series will be played according to the 2-2-1-1-1 system. However, when both teams involved in a series agree to play according to the system not planned in their case, the Commissioner may grant their request.

If a playoff series played under the 2-3-2 format shall end with the fifth game, a financial compensation determined by the Commissioner will be paid to the visiting team by the home team. In the event that the visiting team lost the series, the Commissioner will determine the compensation on the following basis: the lesser between seventy-five percent (75%) of net revenues of this fifth game or the average net revenues of the first two games of the series. In the event that the visiting team won the series, the Commissioner will determine the compensation on the following basis: the lesser between twenty-five percent (25%) of net revenues of this fifth game or fifty percent (50%) of the average net revenues of the first two games of the series. For the purposes of applying this clause, net revenues will be gross revenues from admission fees, minus the arena's rental fees, the contribution to the League determined by the Commissioner and officiating fees.

4.16 HOME ICE ADVANTAGE

In case of circumstances beyond anyone's control which would prevent the teams from following the method set in rules 4.14 or 4.15, the Commissioner will assess the situation and come up with an alternate solution in cooperation with the teams involved. In case of conflict between the teams, the Commissioner's decision will be final.

4.17 BEGINNING OF THE PLAYOFFS

The playoffs shall begin at the dates set by the Commissioner.

4.18 EXHIBITION GAMES

4.18.1 Required authorization

No team of the League shall play exhibition games without the Commissioner's authorization. The request shall be made to the Commissioner at least 72 hours before the proposed date.

For any infringement to this By-Law, a \$1,000 fine shall be imposed. No authorization will be granted to a team during the regular season schedule or playoffs.

4.19 VIDEO

- a) It is mandatory that teams record on DVD all home games, including the warm-up session, and that they make sure the progress of the game is clear and visible. Teams shall keep copies of the DVD for the Commissioner's use, for a minimum of five days. Each time the game is stopped, the cameraman shall record the time on the clock;

- b) at the end of the game, the local team must give the visiting team a complete copy of the game;
- c) should a team not comply with 4.19 a) or b), a \$500 fine will be imposed at the first infraction and of \$1,000 at each additional infraction;
- d) if a team is found at fault further to a complaint registered by a team or a member authorized by the Commissioner, the Commissioner shall receive the DVD from the home team and any other evidence considered reasonable and valid;
- e) upon request at the end of the game, the local team shall give a copy of the DVD to be reviewed by the Commissioner.

Note: any complaint or incident considered groundless by the League will result in a \$500 fine imposed to the club having filed the complaint.

BY-LAW 5 WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM

5.01 WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM

No debate on a decision made by a referee or minor official can be settled by withdrawing one of the teams from the game. The game must resume and those not satisfied with the decision made have the privilege to file a complaint with the Commissioner.

5.02 PENALTIES FURTHER TO THE WITHDRAWING OF A TEAM FROM A GAME

Any team having withdrawn from a game in a gesture of protest to finally return on the ice and resume the game will automatically be fined \$1,000.

Any team having withdrawn from a game in a gesture of protest and not resume the game within the prescribed delay will be fined as per article 4.06.

BY-LAW 6 LISTS OF PLAYERS

INTRODUCTION

1. The eligibility list is in force at the end of the Annual Entry Draft session

6.01 ELIGIBILITY LIST

Each team has an eligibility list on which must appear the names of all of the players whose services or rights as hockey players belong to the club.

At the beginning of the regular season, the status of each player shall be stated as follows:

- a) major junior;
- b) affiliated player; or
- c) inactive player in the QMJHL.

6.02 TOTAL NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON THE ELIGIBILITY LIST

The eligibility list of each team shall not include more than 50 eligible players.

6.03 PLAYERS AUTHORIZED TO BE REGISTERED ON THE ELIGIBILITY LIST

The teams can register the following players on their eligibility list:

- a) selected (drafted) players;
- b) players having signed a major junior certificate for the current year within the authorized period;
- c) players whose names have been kept on the eligibility list;
- d) players having signed a training camp form before the opening of the regular season; and
- e) each team is entitled to a maximum of five free-agent forms in order to register a player on its list without having the obligation to ask for his release; these forms can be used from the beginning of the regular season until February 10th, at noon.

6.04 IDENTIFICATION OF PLAYERS REGISTERED ON THE ELIGIBILITY LIST

- a) Major junior: players having signed a major junior certificate for the current year;
- b) Affiliated players: players having signed an affiliated player certificate for the current year;
- c) Inactive player in the QMJHL: other players whose names have been legally registered on the eligibility list of a team.

6.05 TRADING OF PLAYERS REGISTERED ON THE ELIGIBILITY LIST

Unless otherwise stated in the regulations, the teams can, during authorized periods, trade the players registered on the eligibility list.

6.06 REMOVAL OF A PLAYER FROM THE ELIGIBILITY LIST

No team shall remove the name of a player registered on its eligibility list before the player has been released and submitted to the selection (waiver) of other teams in

compliance with the regulations, unless the removal has been authorized in compliance with the regulation.

6.07 PLAYERS WHO CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED AS AFFILIATED PLAYERS

Twenty year-old players cannot be identified as affiliated players and cannot sign an affiliated player certificate.

6.08 RESTRICTIONS

A player whose name appears on the eligibility list of a team cannot play for another one. However, during the training camp, the player may play for another team as long as his name is registered at that time on the eligibility list of a QMJHL team and that the two teams have agreed to this in writing and have previously informed the League of their intention. The teams shall benefit from this regulation until the first trading period of the season held in August.

6.09 FROZEN LISTS

The eligibility list shall be frozen at midnight February 10th of each year until 24 hours before the beginning of the Annual Entry Draft session.

Any player whose name does not appear on the eligibility list may be selected by the other teams at the Annual Entry Draft session.

BY-LAW 7 WAIVING

7.01 RELEASE AND CLAIM PERIODS

No team may remove a player from its list before the player has been released in view of a potential selection by other teams of the League. The release and claim periods (waiver) are at the same dates as the trading periods unless otherwise provided by the regulations, for example, in 3.02 e) During the mid-season trading period - mid December to mid January -, the period (waiver) period ends at noon on January 10th of each year.

7.02 AFFILIATED 16, 17, 18 AND 19 YEAR-OLD PLAYERS

Any 16, 17, 18 or 19 year-old player may be designated as an affiliated player without having been waived, as long as this designation does not contradict the regulations on affiliated players.

7.03. NINETEEN YEAR-OLD PLAYERS

7.03.1 Eighteen and nineteen year old players without contract offer

- a) At the end of the trading period in August, the team must provide the League with a list of all 19 year old players who have not received contract offers. Following the reception of the list, a special selection round for above-mentioned players

will take place via teleconference. The order of selection will be identical to that of the preceding trading period. The team which selects a 19 year old player is obliged to offer said player a major junior registration certificate.

- b) In the same manner and following the same procedures, another special selection round will be held on Wednesday, August 31st for all 19 year old players who are either released or who have not yet received a contract offer.
- c) In addition, a third special selection round will be held at the end of the trading period during the holidays for all 18 and 19 year old players who have either been released or are without a contract offer. The manner and procedures will be identical to previous rounds; however the selection order be in reverse order (last to first) when compared to the team rankings as determined by the article 4.13.

7.03.2 Nineteen year old players who are released or without a contract

19 year old players who have signed a contract and are released from their team, or any 19 year old players who are released after Wednesday, August 31st without having signed a contract, must be submitted for selection by the other teams immediately after their release. A team which releases a player after Wednesday, August 31st will be fined one thousand dollars \$1,000, unless the release is made within the trade period held during the holidays.

7.04 TRADING BETWEEN TEAMS

Trading between teams is subject to the regulations covering the waiving.

7.05 WAIVING PROCEDURE

Upon receipt of a notice of waiving, the League shall submit the name of the player to the other teams. The selection period shall start at the time indicated on the notice sent by the League and end 48 hours later, exception made of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

Delays set in this procedure do not apply to the team standing last in the general standings, as this team is exercising its own right.

7.05.1 Notice of waiving

The team will inform the League of its intentions and indicate the name, surname and date of birth of the player.

7.05.2 Cancellation of a notice of waiving

Once a team has informed the League of its intention to release a player, it cannot cancel the notice.

7.05.3 Non-qualified player

The waived player shall not participate in the games of his team until he is back on its eligibility list in compliance with the regulations.

In addition, the player whose name is submitted to the waiver may not sign with a team of lower category as long as the waiver process is not completed.

7.05.4 Claiming priority

Upon receipt of a notice of waiving, the League submits the name of the player to the other teams. The selection period shall begin at the time indicated on the notice issued by the League and ends 48 hours later, exception made of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

Delays set do not apply to the last team in the general standings, as this team is exercising its own right.

Note 1: from the end of the regular season until September 30 of the following season inclusively, the priority of claim shall be given according to the reverse order of the general standings at the end of the regular season. Any team joining the League as an expansion club shall have the first choice unless otherwise agreed.

7.05.5 Claim

Any team wishing to claim a player shall inform the League within the set delays.

7.05.6 Claiming team

Once the delay has run out, the League shall inform the team claiming a player that it may enter into negotiations with the player.

7.05.7 Numerous claiming teams

When several teams have indicated their interest in claiming a same player, all within the prescribed delays, the League shall inform the team ranked last in the general standings as per article 4.13, at the beginning of the selection period that it may enter into negotiation with the player.

If no agreement is reached between the player and that team, the League will inform the next claiming team that it may enter into negotiation with the player. The negotiation rights will be offered to the other claiming teams in the reverse order of their rank in the general standings determined as per 4.13.

7.05.7.1 The secret shall be kept

The only club knowing that negotiations are in progress is the one having been given authorization by the League. The club having waived the player shall be informed that the player is being claimed but shall not be informed of the name of the claiming team. If there are several claiming teams, the club having the right to negotiate with the player shall be informed of that fact. The other clubs shall be informed that the club ranking last in the standings, without naming it, has been given the right to negotiate with the player.

7.05.8 Restriction

If several players are waived at the same time, a team can claim more than one. However, if there are several claiming teams, a team can only obtain one player, the other players remaining available for other teams to select them, starting with the team that ranked last in the standings. However, if a team claiming more than one player is the only one to do so, this team shall obtain the services of all of the players claimed.

7.05.9 Negotiation

Starting at 10:00 am the day after the claiming team has been advised by the League that it may enter into negotiations with the player, the team and the player have 48 hours to reach an agreement and sign a certificate. The successful team shall inform the League immediately after having reached an agreement.

7.05.10 End of negotiations

At the end of the forty-eight hour delay or before if an agreement has been reached, the team shall inform the League of the result of the negotiations. In case of a failure, the claiming team may register the name of the player on its eligibility list and pay to the team that waived the player an amount of money determined by the League; the amount shall not be less than \$500 nor over \$1,500.

If the team claiming the player does not use its option to register the name of the player on its eligibility list, the other claiming teams may then negotiate with the player according to articles 7.05.7 and 7.05.7.1.

However, the period allowed for negotiation provided for in article 7.05.9 will be reduced to six hours. When the six-hour delay has run out or before if the negotiation has been successfully concluded, the team shall inform the League. In the case of a failure, the team may put the player on its list and pay the waiving team an amount set by the League; that amount shall not be less than \$500 nor over \$1,500. This procedure shall be repeated until there is no claiming team left.

7.05.11 Payment for the release of players

Claiming teams having reached agreements with 19 or 20 years old players must have each of them sign a major junior registration certificate. The certificates shall be sent to the League and the team will pay an amount of money equivalent to the amount paid by the club as a partial payment for the release of the player, up to a maximum of \$1,500.

7.05.12 Unclaimed waived player

When a waived player has not been claimed, the team then has 24 hours to inform the League of its intention regarding that player. Otherwise, the name of the waived player shall be removed from the eligibility list of the team. However, the League office will keep all names so the QMJHL teams may ask for a release fee to the Ontario Major Junior Hockey League and the Western Major Junior Hockey League teams interested by those players.

BY-LAW 8 SPECIAL SELECTION

8.01 SPECIAL SELECTION

Whether due to a team abandoning the League in compliance with its By-Laws, to its being expelled or suspending its activities, the League shall take care of the players of that team as follows.

8.01.1 After the end of the hockey season

If the situation described in the preceding paragraph occurs after the end of the hockey season, the procedure shall be the same as at the Annual Entry Draft session.

8.01.2 During the hockey season

If the withdrawal, removal, expulsion or termination of the operations of the team occurs during the hockey season, the League shall proceed as follows:

- a) the Commissioner shall determine the general standings of the teams by using the percentage of points - if all teams did not play the same number of games at the time of the event - ;
- b) the selection shall then be made according to the reverse order of the teams in the general standings, the team ranked last choosing first and so on, up to the first team; and
- c) should two or more teams be tied at the same rank, their position shall be determined according to article 4.13.

8.02 PAYMENT

For each selected player having signed a contract, the team shall pay to the League or team having terminated its operations in compliance with the By-Laws of the League and with the consent of the Board of Governors, an amount of money to be determined by the Board of Governors following the terms and conditions decided by the Board of Governors before the Annual Entry Draft session. If operations ceased without authorization, further to an expulsion from the League or due to a suspension for an undetermined period of time, the clubs making the selection shall not pay any amount to the offending club.

8.03 SELECTED PLAYER REFUSING TO SIGN A CONTRACT

If a player refuses to sign a contract with the club that selected him or with the club designated by the club that selected him, the player shall remain the property of the club and he will be allowed to play for any team of his choice at a lower level. The name of this player shall be put on the eligibility list of the team.

**BY-LAW 9
TRAINING CAMP AND
HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT CAMP**

9.01 OPENING OF TRAINING CAMP

No team shall hold a training camp, on-ice training, hockey development session or hockey school before the second Saturday of the month of August of each year. Any infraction to this rule will automatically result in a \$1,000 fine. Nevertheless, the teams can hold a development camp for players whose names appear on their protected list. The team must send the League's office a list of the names of the players, coaches and the date of the camp, for approbation. All faulty team in regards to this rule will be fined.

A player whom the Commissioner has recommended to take part in a HC and its branches, USAH Hockey camps to be held during the months of July and August, will not take part in the training camp of his team during these hockey camps.

Each team is given a maximum of 20 training-camp forms in order to invite new players who have not been selected at the Annual Entry Draft session. At the opening of the regular season schedule, the unused training camp forms can no longer be used.

9.02 PLAYERS QUALIFIED TO TAKE PART IN TRAINING CAMP

Players on the eligibility list of the team at the end of the Annual Entry Draft session can participate in the team training camp, as well as players invited in compliance with 9.03, 9.04 and 9.05.

9.03 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS AT TRAINING CAMP

A maximum of 70 players can participate in the training camp of each team; 50 players that are on the eligibility list of the team and the 20 other players that have signed a training camp form. However, the clubs shall reduce their list of players to 50 before noon on the date set for the first trading period.

Expansion teams shall have 25 training camp forms at their first year of operation.

9.04 TRANSMISSION OF TRAINING CAMP FORMS

The team having a player sign a training camp form shall send a copy to the Commissioner. If two training camp forms are signed by a same player and both are received at the League, priority will be given according to the earliest date showing on the postmark or date and time showing on the faxed copy.

9.05 ILLEGAL PARTICIPATION

Any player participating in the training camp of a team without having signed a training camp form, is doing so illegally. The offending team is liable of tampering and may lose its rights over the player and shall be subject to disciplinary measures.

9.06 REDUCTION OF THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS AT TRAINING CAMPS

At the opening of the regular season, all players still at the training camp shall have signed a player certificate or shall have received an offer. If not, the player does not have to remain at the training camp and he can return freely to his former team.

A player who has refused to be traded is considered as having received a contract offer.

9.07 QMJHL DEVELOPMENT CAMP

The League may organize for the benefit of its teams, a development camp.

**BY-LAW 10
ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT SESSION****10.01 RIGHTS GRANTED**

The rights granted herein shall extend to September 22 of each year or until the opening of the regular season, whichever occurs first.

10.02 ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT SESSION

The Annual Entry Draft session shall be held at the date, time and place set by the QMJHL.

10.03 AUTHORITY AT THE ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT SESSION

The Annual Entry Draft session shall be chaired by the Commissioner.

10.04 DISPUTE

The Commissioner shall resolve any dispute occurring during the Annual Entry Draft session and his decision shall be final.

10.05 QUALIFYING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL ENTRY DRAFT SESSION

In order to be qualified to participate in the Annual Entry Draft session, each team shall meet the following requirements:

- a) be a regular member of HC and its branches, USAH and the QMJHL on May 1st of the current year;
- b) to have conveyed its intention to carry its activities in HC and its branches, USAH and as a member of the QMJHL following the requirements and rules and regulations prescribed in their By-Laws;
- c) operate the team in an arena located on the civil territory of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince-Edward Island , Newfoundland or in the US,

in compliance with the By-Laws of HC and its branches, the USAH, the CHL and the QMJHL; and

- d) to have paid any amount of money due to the Corporation.

10.06 LIST OF PLAYERS

10.06.1 Production of the list

- a) At midnight on February 10 of each year, the eligibility list of the clubs shall bear the names of all registered players of the team. Such list is issued by the League and each team receives its copy.
- b) At the date set by the League, the clubs will be allowed to remove from their list as many names as desired in order to create openings for the upcoming Entry Draft; afterwards, no other removal shall be made from the list until the end of the Annual Entry Draft session. Such list is issued by the League and each team shall receive its revised list.
- c) A list of the names of all players having been removed shall be attached to the list issued by the Director of Central Scouting. These players become available for selection by any club at the Annual Entry Draft session.

10.06.2 Players on the eligibility list

Other clubs of the League cannot select players whose names are registered on the list of eligible players.

10.06.3 Eligible players

The eligible players are those registered on the eligibility list of the team as at February 10th of the current year or who are qualified to play major junior the following year.

10.07 RESTRICTIONS

10.07.1 List of players

The list of players shall not include the name of players eligible for Bantam or lower level divisions.

Note: the names of 15 year-old or under players shall not be registered on the list for selection nor on the eligibility list of the teams.

10.07.2 Players eligible to the Entry Draft Session

All players not affected by the restrictions mentioned in the QMJHL By-Laws are eligible for the Annual Entry Draft session, notwithstanding the By-Laws of HQ, HC, USAH and those of the CHL.

10.08 FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

The Annual Entry Draft session shall be organized in accordance with the specifications where financial obligations of the QMJHL and the host team are indicated.

10.09 METHODS OF PAYMENT

The methods of payment for the release of players shall be determined jointly by the League and the associations from which the players come from. The compensation for the release shall be paid only once for each player.

10.10 MORTGAGED RELEASES

When a team having selected a player from a club at a lower level wishes to release that player while the release is still mortgaged, then the player must be sent back to his original team. No monetary compensation shall be claimed and the release under such circumstances is automatic. If the release is free of mortgage, the major junior club may do whatever it wishes with the services of that player.

10.11 TRANSFER BETWEEN TEAMS OF THE LEAGUE

By-Law 10.13 shall not affect the right of a major junior team to transfer or release a player to another team of the League in compliance with the By-Laws of HC.

10.12 RELEASE OF SELECTED PLAYERS

A player selected by a QMJHL team can be released to an affiliated team at a lower level or may be designated as an affiliated player if the major junior team has received permission from the team that originally released the player to do so, or if the release is free of mortgage.

10.13 PLAYERS PARTICIPATING IN A TRAINING CAMP

Players registered on the eligibility list of the team further to the Annual Entry Draft session are the only ones allowed to participate in the team's training camp. The team may put on its eligibility list a maximum of 50 players outside the period during which the list is frozen. Exception made of the players registered on the eligibility list of the team at the end of the Annual Entry Draft session, players shall sign a training camp form before participating.

10.14 TAMPERING

All proven cases of tampering shall be treated in compliance with article 2.15.1

10.15 PRIORITY OF SELECTION FOR THE FIRST ROUND

The selection shall be made following the reverse order of the teams in the general standings at the end of the regular season; at each turn of selection, and the distribution shall be made as described hereafter.

Teams that did not participate in the playoffs shall have priority in the selection process. The priority of selection for the other teams shall be determined among the teams having participated in the playoff series.

Except for years where the first pick is awarded to an expansion team in accordance with entry conditions set by the Board of Governors, a drawing will determine the order in which the teams not having participated in the playoffs will select in the first round of the draft. Each team will be given equal chances.

10.15.1 Compensatory pick

In the event that a player who has been selected in the first round, has not been traded to another team or submitted to other team's claim refuses to present himself at his team's training camp, refuses to play a single game, refuses to sign a regular player contract at the beginning of the regular season and refuses to play one single game as an affiliated player, the team which has selected said player can, thirty (30) days before the beginning of the following years' Annual Entry Draft session, withdraw said player from their eligibility list. Said player's name will immediately be added to the list of the players eligible for selection. In consideration of this withdrawal of said player from the team's eligibility list, the team will be allowed an extra pick in the second round; the pick will take place between the rank in which he was chosen the previous year in the first round and the preceding pick.

In the event that such a player had been selected at age 15, the team which would not have exercised its extra compensatory pick at the Annual Entry Draft session of the following year is allowed to do so in the Annual Entry Draft session taking place in the second following year, according to above-mentioned procedure.

The team which decides to exercise its extra compensatory pick must prove in due time to the Commissioner that all facts are present to justify such a right. The Commissioner's decision is without appeal.

In the event that a team exercises its right according to the first paragraph and a resulting conflict arises with a second round pick of a team's exercised right according to the second paragraph, the exercised option according to the second paragraph will take precedent.

10.16 SELECTION AND USE OF 16 YEAR-OLD PLAYERS

A club can select 16 year-old players at any of the first eight rounds.

A team can protect its 16-year-old players according to the By-Laws, and they shall sign a junior major player certificate to be qualified to play as major junior players.

10.17 NUMBER OF ROUNDS

There will be a maximum of 14 rounds. Within the 14 rounds of selection, at least 2 American players from the CHL's territory that belongs to the QMJHL (New England territory) must be drafted.

A three-minute period is allowed on rounds 1 to 5. For subsequent rounds, a one-minute pause will be given until the team uses up all its pauses.–

The last selection made by a club may occur before the last round of the Annual Entry Draft session:

- a) if the club informs the Commissioner that it will not be selecting any other player; or
- b) when the list of the team totals 50 eligible players.

10.18 TRANSFER OF SELECTION RIGHTS

A club is entitled to transfer its selection rights during trading periods and shall indicate to whom and at which round the selection right is being transferred. A club can also transfer its selection rights during the Annual Entry Draft session but must first advise the registrar of its intentions.

10.19 LOST TURN

Any club not using its selection right or making an error when selecting a player shall irrevocably lose its turn.

10.20 IDENTIFICATION OF A SELECTED PLAYER

10.20.1 Information

At the time of the selection and for each selected player, each club shall provide the following information:

- a) the player's family name;
- b) the player's first name;
- c) the name of the team with which the player has signed his last HC certificate or the name of the team for which he has played regularly during the previous hockey season; and
- d) the name of the city of the team he was registered with or with which he was playing hockey regularly.

10.20.2 Commissioner's privilege to declare a player sufficiently identified

Notwithstanding the present section, any player sufficiently identified according to the Commissioner, shall immediately be registered on the list of the team which selected him at the Annual Entry Draft session.

**BY-LAW 11
TROPHIES AND ALL-STAR TEAMS**

11.01 PARTICULARITIES

The trophies, replicas or plaques put in competition by the League shall not bear any commercial connection. No name or trademark of any business shall appear on any of them.

11.02 APOLITICAL

Trophies, replicas, plaques put in competition by the League shall not be linked to any political party, organization, association or any ideological movement.

11.03 ACCEPTATION, REFUSAL AND CARE OF TROPHIES

The Board of Governors has the authority to accept or refuse new trophies to be put in competition by the League.

11.04 LEAGUE TROPHIES

Here is a list of League approved trophies:

- a) the “Jean-Rougeau commemorative trophy” is given to the League regular season champions;
- b) the “President’s Cup” is given to the League playoff champions;
- c) the “Jacques Plante commemorative trophy” is given to the goaltender with the best average at the end of the regular season;
- d) the “Michel Brière commemorative trophy” is given to the most valuable player during the regular season;
- e) the “Jean Béliveau trophy” is given to the League top scorer at the end of the regular season;
- f) the “Michel Bergeron trophy” is given to the offensive rookie of the year;
- g) the “Raymond Lagacé trophy” is given to the defensive rookie of the year;
- h) the “RDS trophy” is given to the rookie of the year;
- i) the “Émile “Butch” Bouchard trophy” is given to the defenceman of the year;
- j) the “Frank J. Selke commemorative trophy” is given to the most sportsmanlike player of the year;
- k) the “Luc Robitaille trophy” is given to the team who proved to have had the best offence at the end of the regular season;

- l) the “Robert LeBel trophy” is given to the team who proved to have had the best defensive average at the end of the regular season;
- m) the “Guy Lafleur trophy” is given to the most valuable player of the playoffs;
- n) the “Michael Bossy trophy” is given to the best professional prospect;
- o) the “Marcel Robert trophy” is given to the scholastic player of the year (best academic and hockey performance);
- p) the “Paul Dumont trophy” is given to the personality of the year;
- q) the “John Horman trophy” is given to the Executive of the year;
- r) the “Ron Lapointe commemorative trophy” is given to the Coach of the year;
- s) the “Jean Sawyer trophy” is given to the Marketing Manager of the year;
- t) the “Kevin Lowe trophy” is given to the defensive defenceman of the year;
- u) the “Guy Carbonneau trophy” is given to the defensive forward of the year.
- v) the “Maurice Filion trophy” is given to the General Manager of the year.
- w) the “ Denis Arsenault trophy” is given to the School Advisor of the year.

11.05 TROPHIES ARE DEBATED ANNUALLY

Each year, all of the trophies of the League shall be put at stake. Only replicas and plaques shall be given to the recipients. Original trophies are under the League’s care, and are kept in a secure place.

11.06 CRITERIA FOR AWARDING THE TROPHIES

The required procedures and criteria which are necessary to award the various trophies are to be determined by the Commissioner at the beginning of each year. The particular procedures and criteria will be communicated to the teams before the beginning of each year. The same applies to the procedures and criteria surrounding the selection of the members of the first all-star team, the second all-star team and the rookie all-star team.