

Membership Policy

Reference

This policy is intended to support and supplement Article I of the Bylaws.

Eligibility

Membership in the Association is a privilege, not a right.

Memberships are issued on the basis of a “family unit”. In other words, all parents/guardians and siblings under the age of eighteen (18) living at the same address are recognized under a single membership. The administration of membership rights for family arrangements outside this situation will be considered by the Board on a case by case basis.

A person wishing to further the Objects, Goals and Aims of OMHA and living in the Town of Olds and District, may apply in writing to the Board for membership. Normally this person will fit one of the following descriptions:

- the parent or guardian of a child or children wishing to participate in the Association’s activities.
- a team and/or on-ice official, or the parent or guardian thereof, registered with the Alberta Amateur Hockey Association who has designated OMHA as their “home” LMHA. (Team officials must also be prepared to sign required team affiliation card(s) and/or to be added to the necessary team sheet(s), pending approval.)

Filling out the Association’s registration materials will satisfy the condition of applying in writing.

Potential members living outside the designated OMHA boundary may apply for membership; they will need to supply written permission from their home Association before their application can be considered.

The Board may also place other conditions on the membership application process. These conditions may include, but not limited to:

- payment or the promise of payment of Association fees and dues, according to the rates and schedule approved by the Board.
- signing a waiver or voluntary assumption of risk agreement
- signing a personal conduct agreement or similar document
- providing a certified medical report from a physician.

The Board shall have the discretion to accept or refuse an application for membership:

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- Prior members or participants who have been the cause of unacceptable behaviour, or who have been a burden to the OMHA in the past may be refused re-entry.
- Potential members or participants from other LMHAs, with a reputation of poor behaviour or conduct, may also have their application declined.

Expiration

All memberships in the OMHA, except those of duly elected Board members, will be deemed to expire on July 31st. They must be reactivated annually.

Expectations and Rights

Members shall unconditionally commit to obey and abide by all the Objects, Bylaws, Regulations and Policies of the OMHA, at all times.

At any meeting of the general membership, one vote will be given to each membership unit as defined above. The vote can only be cast by an adult from that unit.

Any adult from any membership unit in good standing may allow their name to be put forward for election to a Board position.

A member has the right to petition to appear before the Board to be heard on matters of interest.

Suspension/Revocation

As per clause B of the Bylaw, a member may voluntarily withdraw from the Association.

Residents of the LMHA may petition the Board to release a player or players from OMHA.

In emergent situations, the President shall be empowered to temporarily suspend a member for a period of up to 14 days, pending investigation and ratification by the Discipline Committee and/or Board.

The Board may suspend a member for a specified period of time, until specified conditions are met or both. Suspensions cannot extend beyond the term of the membership, but the circumstances related to the suspension can certainly be considered should a new application for membership be filed.

Suspensions may be applied to the entire membership unit or to individual(s) within that unit.

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