



Ice Hockey ACT Rules of Engagement for Senior Grades Rev 2022-1.2

21/07/2022

Guideline for Senior Ice Hockey within Ice Hockey ACT

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IHACT Senior Leagues Rules of Engagement
Issue date 21/07/2022

Register of Document Changes		
Item Change Description	Presented By	Date
Removal - Appendix 3 Sunset Arrangement: Partial removal of Senior D Sunset Arrangement for returning players.	D Grade Committee	Nov 2021
Addition – Whole Document: Addition of Document Register	IHACT Board	August 2022
Amendment – Whole Document: Renumbering of clauses and appendices where required.		August 2022
Addition - Clause 1: Note of register in Scope of Document.	IHACT Board	August 2022
Amendment - Clause 2: Clarification of Women's League in Operating Structure of Senior Grades - Grade Matrix.	IHACT Board	August 2022
Amendment - Clause 3.4: Correction of grammar Finals Format	IHACT Board	August 2022
Addition - Clause 4.1: Addition of Substitutes Registration Note	IHACT Board	August 2022
Addition - Clause 4.3.3: Addition of Covid-19 in Goaltender Substitutions exceptions in Finals	IHACT Board	August 2022
Addition - Clause 4.8: Amended to be a reference to Appendix F.	Junior Delegate	August 2022
Addition - Clause 4.9: Clarification of Bench Coach information	IHACT Board	August 2022
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Removal – Appendix C c2: Removal of Minimum Skaters per team Covid specific sub clause under team requirements.	Senior Delegate	August 2022
Amendment – Appendix C c3.2.a.ii: Addition of reference to clause number for All Other Players	Senior Delegate	August 2022
Amendment – Appendix C c3.1.2: Amendment to Lapsed Player Definition	Senior Delegate	August 2022
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Removal – Appendix C c3.5: Full removal of Clause 3.5 except for explanatory note of removal.	Senior Delegate	August 2022
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Amendment – Appendix C c4: Grammar correction and addition of standing confirmation.	IHACT Board	August 2022
Removal – Appendix C c5: Removal of 2021/2022 Draft Order	Senior Delegate	August 2022
Addition – Appendix F	Junior Delegate	August 2022

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1. Scope of Document

This document is to serve as a guideline for Ice Hockey ACT (IHACT) Senior and Women's grade players and officials and should be adhered to in good faith.

The information contained in this document is overridden by any relevant directive, policy or guideline published by International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) or Ice Hockey Australia (IHA). IIHF directions take priority over IHA and IHA directions take priority over IHACT directions.

Changes to the Rules of Engagement by the IHACT Board will be passed via majority vote at a standard board meeting following consultation with each Grade Committee and the Senior Coordinator.

A Register of Changes is provided immediately after the title page. All versions of this Document pre-dating this version as noted on the Title Page and in the Page Headers will be deemed invalid.

Each grades organising committee should adhere to these rules and those binding above in accordance with the IHACT Constitution.

This document refers implicitly to the IIHF Rule Book, located at:

<http://www.iihf.com/iihf-home/sport/iihf-rule-book/>

2. Operating Structure of Senior Grades

Each IHACT senior grade is managed by the respective grade committee under the authority of the IHACT board. The aim of the grades committee is to promote the participation and performance of the highest level of ice hockey in the ACT. This is achieved by encouraging teams to organise themselves. Each grade committee is comprised of a grade coordinator and a representative from each team in the grade.

The committee will meet when requested by the IHACT Board or Grade Committee to administer the grade in an organised fashion. If a committee member is unavailable to attend a meeting they may choose to appoint a proxy to act on their behalf. Such an appointment is temporary and shall be made by the committee member notifying the Grade Coordinator in advance.

The grades are ordered as follows:

Grade	Higher than
Senior A / Premier League	All others
Senior B	Senior C, Senior D
Senior C	Senior D
Senior D	None currently
Women's League	Alongside and Equal to Senior D. Players are eligible from 14 years and may also play in other grade if they are successful in the relevant draft process and have acquired playing up approval. See Clause 4.8.

2.1 Key Personnel

2.1.1 IHACT Senior Delegate

Senior Delegate is an elected member of the IHACT Board and is the main point of contact for the senior grade committees. The Senior Delegate can be contacted at senior.delegate@ihact.org.au.

2.1.2 Grade Coordinator

The Senior Delegate will appoint the Grade Coordinator in consultation with that grade's committee. Each Grade Coordinator is expected to

- ensure team managers are aware of the game schedule each week
- keep a copy of each team's roster
- maintain a register of contact details for team managers and captains
- liaise with Senior Delegate
- liaise with the Treasurer regarding team fee payments (for self-managed grades).
- chair the respective grade committee

2.1.3 Team Managers

Each team shall appoint a manager to be responsible for the administration of the team and be their representative on the grade committee. The role of team manager includes:

- maintaining the team player list
- work with the Registrar to verify player registrations as requested
- manage all communications with players, including weekly game times
- ensuring the team has suitable players (and goaltender) each week

- ensuring the players are in the correct uniform
- assisting the scorekeeper to accurately complete the scoresheet
- participating in the grade committee
- collecting ice fees from players using IHACT allocated team bank account (for self-managed grades only)
- work with the IHACT Referee-in-Chief and Secretary in handling player suspensions

2.3 Team Standings

Team standings will be determined by assigning points to the results of games. Teams will receive the following points:

- Win - 2 points
- Draw - 1 point
- Loss - 0 points

A team who forfeits is recorded as a loss and their opposition awarded the win with a score of 3 - 0. Placings will be according to highest points during the regular season. In the event of a points tie, placings will be decided by (in order) most wins; results between the tied teams; goal difference; least penalty minutes. **Once a scoresheet is signed off by the Head Referee, the contents cannot be changed.**

2.4 Procedure for Enquiries, Complaints & Contacting IHACT

In most cases the team manager or league director will be able to assist players with their enquiries or concerns. However, any player with an enquiry or complaint may contact IHACT or its appointed officials without going through their team manager, grade coordinator or senior delegate. Serious complaints of harassment or abuse or non-game/play related grievances should be taken to the Member Protect Information Officer directly (via mpio@ihact.org.au). The MPIO sits externally to the IHACT Board and treats all complaints in confidence.

A list of current IHACT board members and contact details can be found on the IHACT website <http://www.ihact.org.au/>.

3. Season

3.1 Number of Games

The board's intent is that games will be scheduled so that teams in their respective grades play each team the same number of times, excluding finals. The number of games is subject to the availability of ice time and may vary.

3.2 Development of Schedule

The IHACT Board will assume that the same grade structure as in the previous season will apply unless notified otherwise by the grade's committee. Such details will include:

- number of teams participating in the grade,
- required number of regular season games,
- required number of play-off / finals games, and specific scheduling considerations,
- required length of game ice booking,
- requirements for game officials

3.3 Game Format

The referee will be responsible for the running of the ice booking in line with the following agenda:

	Senior B, C, D and Women's	Premier League
Warm-Up	5 minutes	5 minutes
Periods	18 minutes*	20 minutes*
Intermissions	1 minute	3 minutes
Clock	Running* <i>* During finals games the last two minutes of the third period will run using the stop clock format.</i>	Running* <i>* During finals games the last two minutes of the third period will run using the stop clock format.</i>

The final period in any game may be reasonably reduced at the discretion of the referee to remain within the games scheduled time slot. The scheduled end time as published in the IHACT schedule is not to be extended under any circumstances. Team Captains are required to ensure players keep to the schedule, under the direction of the referee.

3.4 Finals Format

The finals format will depend on the number of registered teams in the grade and will be at the discretion of the scheduler, taking into account ice time availability. A winner must be declared in all finals games; if a game is tied a penalty shoot-out will occur.

Senior B

- Game 1: 2nd place vs 3rd Place
- Game 2: 1st Place vs Winner Game 1

Senior C

- Game 1: 1st place vs 2nd place
- Game 2: 3rd place vs 4th place
- Game 3: Loser game 1 vs Winner game 2
- Game 4 Grand Final: Winner game 1 vs Winner game 3

Senior D

- Game 1: 1st place vs 2nd place
- Game 2: 3rd place vs 4th place
- Game 3: Loser game 1 vs Winner game 2
- Game 4: 5th place vs 6th place (Consolation Game)
- Game 5: Grand Final: Winner game 1 vs Winner game 3

W League

- Game 1: 1st place vs 4th place
- Game 2: 2nd place vs 3rd place
- Game 3: Loser game 1 vs Loser game 2 (Consolation Game)
- Game 4 Grand Final: Winner game 1 vs Winner game 2

In all grades in which teams did not make finals, consolation games are available for those teams. This needs to be made known prior to the season beginning. This will allow the game/s cost to be added to the seasons total costing. Consolation games do not require a penalty shootout if there is a draw and play normal season game times as in section 3.3.

3.4.1 Penalty Shootout.

Penalty shootouts will be a best of 3. If after a best of 3 the score is still tied it will become a best of 1. No player should have a second penalty shot, until all other players have had one penalty shot.

4. Teams & Players

4.1 Membership and Registration Requirements

All players are required to have current IHA and IHACT memberships and be registered in the grade to be eligible to play in a grade's games. Any team found to have an unregistered player participate in a game will be ineligible to receive game points and receive a further penalty of two points from their team standings.

Any non-playing persons on the players bench must be registered, financial members of IHACT and be listed on the team sheet and are required to have a WWVP card if there are juniors playing on the team.

Substitute Players for all grades must complete the Substitute Registration applicable to that specific grade, and have current IHA and IHACT memberships applicable to the season they are substituting in.

The [IHACT Registrar \(registrar@ihact.org.au\)](mailto:registrar@ihact.org.au) is the primary point of contact to address any registration issues.

4.2 Financial Obligations

Players who have outstanding monies owed to IHACT or their team (as determined by the IHACT Treasurer) are not eligible to participate in any game or training until fully resolved. Teams may also prevent players from participating if they have outstanding monies owing to their current or past teams.

4.3 Team Lists

4.3.1 Team Members

Team managers will submit a team list with numbers to the respective committee in advance of the season. For a player to be eligible to play in the grade, either on a set team list or as a substitute player, the following criteria must be met:

- The player must be registered in accordance with section 4.1: Registration Requirements.
- In the case of a substitute player not on the team list, the opposing team manager is notified at least one hour before the game is scheduled to commence
- The player is not currently on a team list in a higher grade.
- The player has not qualified for the finals in a higher grade in the current or the previous season
- The player remains compliant with the One Team Rule and the principles of New Players

4.3.2 Substitute Players

A team needs 10 players and 1 goalie to take the ice to avoid a forfeit. A team must have less than 10 core team skaters attending a game to organise substitutes. A team organising substitutes will be capped at 13 skaters and 1 goalie made up of core and substitute skaters for that game. A team can request substitutes to a maximum of 6 eligible players from the established substitute pool containing skaters from other grades for that game.

To be eligible as a substitute the player must have:

- current and relevant IHA and IHACT memberships,
- be over 18 years of age (over 14 for women's league) and
- not been registered in a higher grade in the previous season.
- has registered as a substitute to relevant league on eSportsDesk

A skater can substitute a maximum of N times, where $N = \frac{\text{Number of regular season games}}{3}$ times in a different league within a season. There is not a limit for goalies, however they are ineligible for finals.

4.3.3 Goaltender Substitutions exceptions in Finals

If your registered goaltender is unable to play in finals, a substitute can be found on a case-by-case basis. Reasons for being unable to play could include, but not limited to, overseas deployment, injury, debilitating illness, **quarantine as per public health advice**, and family emergencies.

To be approved for a substitute a team would need to take the following steps:

1. Provide a reason for the goaltender absence
2. Find a replacement as per the RoE
3. Obtain approval from the grade committee of step 1 and 2
4. Obtain approval from the Senior Delegate

4.4 Other Grades

A person may play uniquely in one grade as skater and in another as goaltender providing that they meet the eligibility and draft standards of the grades.

A player moving to a lower grade will play in the lower grade for two seasons during which the player will not be eligible to play as a substitute player in a higher grade, nor draft to return to a higher grade. This is to stop players from playing in both winter and summer seasons continuously. As outlined in Appendix 4, Entry to D Grade.

4.5 Finals Eligibility

Any player who has played more than a third of the regular games will become eligible for finals in that grade. $\text{Eligibility} = \frac{\text{Number of regular season games}}{3} + 1$

4.6 One Team Rule

A player registered in a team must play in that team for the duration of the season, including finals. If a team needs extra players in a given week, they may seek substitutes in accordance with 4.3.2 Substitute rules above.

An exception can be made to allow a player to play in their non-primary role, within the same league. This would allow them to substitute as a goaltender, provided they are not a goaltender in a higher grade and the team has exhausted the options available in compliance with 4.3.2 Substitute rules above.

4.7 New Players

Players new to the ACT and surrounding areas should be directed to the Senior Delegate in all cases including transfers.

Players who are new to IHACT and at an appropriate level of skill should be considered for inclusion into a senior grade. If this occurs part-way through a season and there is room for the player, the Senior Delegate will liaise with the appropriate grade committee and grade coordinator to ensure that all agree to the placing of the player.

In the case of the Senators, IHACT recognises that they are established as an independent club and as such may wish to add players from within the club to their respective teams. It is not the intention of the guidelines in this document to preclude them from doing this, however any changes to the team list need to be accepted by the grade and be in the overall best interests of the grade.

4.8 Juniors Playing Up an Age Division, Including Senior Leagues

Refer to Appendix F.

4.9 Teams Coaches

Teams with junior players (under 18yrs) listed on team lists must have a Level 1 Bench Coach present at all games. That Bench Coach must hold a current ACT Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) accreditation and have their WWVP card with them at all sessions as there are financial penalties for the individual and the association for non-compliance.

That Bench Coach, with WWVP, must be present at all times on the bench during the game and must not be skating in that game.

5. Game Rules

5.1 Body Checking

Senior A / “Premiere League” is the only body-checking grade. Senior B, C, D and Women’s are non-body-checking grades.

5.2 Slap Shots

For safety reasons a team can request with the referee (prior to the start of the game) that the game be played with the “no slap shot rule”. The referee holds final decision for the safety of players and as such will make the decision for this. By default, the game will remain full slap shot. **The exception is Senior D grade, which is a non-slapshot grade.**

5.3 Players Bench

Only persons who are registered and financial under IHACT, listed as a team official or player may sit on the player’s bench. Suspended players may not sit on the player’s bench.

5.4 Player Behaviour

Players will always maintain a high standard of behaviour. Players are reminded of their obligations under the IHA Players Code of Behaviour and Ethics (appendix 1) and that behaviour during IHACT sanctioned games may affect players ability to play in other IHA and IIHF-affiliated competitions. Members are also reminded that the board can refuse any person’s application for membership and that earning excessive penalty minutes could result in the board refusing a player’s future application for membership.

5.4.1 Supplementary Discipline

Players will incur supplementary discipline when they exceed the following thresholds of penalty minutes:

- 40 minutes – Warning letter
- 50 minutes – 1 game suspension, does not impact the players PIM
- 60 minutes – Immediate suspension of further participation in games. Referral to Disciplinary Tribunal for review. Possible season suspension on conclusion of findings by the tribunal, and any application for membership with IHACT in future seasons will have to be approved by the sitting Board.

5.5 Player Uniforms

Teams in self-managed leagues will need to organise their own uniforms for their teams. As D League and Women’s are association managed, **Grade Representatives** should approach the Senior Delegate and discuss options to organise uniforms. The options are either the association organising and providing uniforms, or the teams can negotiate to organise their own uniforms.

Any changes to existing colour schemes, uniform design, iconography, or sponsorship will require approval by the IHACT Board to avoid any conflicts.

When a nameplate is specified only a player’s surname, as they are registered in esports desk, may be used. Nicknames are not permitted.

All uniforms in use before the beginning of summer 2018/2019 season are strongly encouraged to acquire a patch to cover up or rectify any nameplates that do not comply with the above criteria. **All nameplates on jerseys are expected to adhere to the players surname rule by the beginning of the 2022 / 2023 Summer Season.**

5.6 Cancelled games

Cancelled Games in any Senior Grade (due to lack of officials or other reasons) will result in 1 point per team and games will not be rescheduled. The ice booking will remain with the teams for their own agreed use.

6. Administration

6.1 Ice Fees

The cost for a team to participate in a season will be determined by the IHACT board before the season commencing. The cost will cover ice rink booking fees, referee, and linesman and scorekeeper fees. Player membership/registration fees, as per Clause 4.1, are in addition to team ice costs and are paid by the player to IHACT directly through eSportsdesk.

6.2 Payment of Ice Costs

If players are not paying IHACT directly via eSportsdesk, such as “B” and “C” Grade players, teams will make ice cost payments in two instalments as per the season’s schedule at Appendix 3. Generally, the first payment will be 1 week before the commencement of the season and the second payment midway through the season. Payments are to be made by bank deposit to the team’s nominated IHACT account and the IHACT Treasurer will deduct the payment on the advised due date as one lump sum. IHACT will enforce a strict ‘no pay, no play’ rule. Teams that have not made the required payments by the due dates will be refused access to the ice.

6.3 Player Payments in Self-Managed Leagues

It is at the discretion of the team manager to determine how much each player is required to pay to participate, when the payment is due and how the payment will be made. Players are reminded that the ice cost payment for each team is fixed regardless of the number of players attending games. When a player accepts a place on a team (and pays their ice fees) they have secured a position on the team list for the whole season and are liable for the ice fee contribution of that position each game - whether they are in attendance or not. Refunds based on absence are to be arranged between team manager and player.

6.4 On Ice Officials in Self-Managed Leagues

Each team must have a minimum of two players accredited from the annual IHACT linesman or referee course and officiate in at least 20 games throughout the year.

- A team member doing linesman duties for a game counts for one to the officiating requirement
- A team member doing refereeing duties for a game counts for one to the officiating requirement

Officials must be accredited in line with the requirements set out by the IHACT Referee in Chief. In the event of a shortage of officials, teams will at the direction of the IHACT Referee in Chief (RIC) be allocated games to officiate. If a team fails to provide officials for the allocated games they will lose 2 competition points.

6.5 Scorekeeping

Each team must have a minimum of one player or associate who is suitably qualified to run the scorer’s bench, including timekeeping. The grade coordinator will arrange the training for scorekeepers and ensure that scorers are arranged for all games. All scorekeepers must be registered with IHACT (volunteer level is acceptable). Scorers need to follow the [Scorers process and procedure](#) outlined in the scorer’s folder, and attached to this document as Appendix B.

Appendix A: IHA Players Code of Behaviour & Ethics



IHA Players Code of Behaviour & Ethics



In addition to Ice Hockey Australia's General Code of Behaviour & Ethics, IHA member players are required to meet the following requirements in regard to their behaviour during any activity sanctioned by Ice Hockey Australia, Member State Association or an Affiliated Club:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow players, coaches, officials and spectators;
2. Do not tolerate acts of aggression;
3. Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow players and competitors;
4. Care for and respect the equipment provided to you as part of your program;
5. Be frank and honest with your coach concerning illness and injury and your ability to train fully within the program requirements;
6. At all times avoid intimate relationships with your coach;
7. Conduct yourself in a professional manner relating to language, temper and punctuality;
8. Maintain high personal behaviour standards at all times;
9. Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the official, making all appeals through the formal process and respecting the final decision;
10. Be honest in your attitude and preparation to training. Work equally hard for yourself and your team; and
11. Cooperate with coaches and staff in development of programs to adequately prepare you for competition at the highest level.

Appendix B: IHACT Score Sheet Procedures & Process

IHACT Score Sheet Procedures & Processes

All eSportsdesk (ESD) generated game sheets will be placed in the scorer's locker- each grade /league will have their own folder or file within a folder. If no pre-printed game sheets are available, IHA Game Report pads are located in the scorer's locker for use.

It is the scorer's responsibility to make sure all players on ice are ticked off on the game sheet & **jersey numbers correspond with the game sheet & player.**

The scorer or team official is responsible for any injuries to be recorded on the Game Sheet.

Post-Game Procedures for the IHACT on-ice game official includes responsibilities related to Game Sheets. The referee must sign the Game Sheet at the end of the game to confirm that it is an accurate reflection of the game i.e. all goals & penalties are correct.

The following conventions must be followed when submitting game documentation:

- All files submitted must be in PDF format as they will be up-loaded to ESD for each game.
- Each item must be in a different file (i.e. no multiple game sheet in one scan)
- Scanned documents to be named per **Home v Visitor** team names & date

1. The completed and signed Game Sheet must be scanned & emailed (a good quality photo via a mobile phone will be accepted, please see below for details) to the IHACT Registrar registrar@ihact.org.au within twenty-four (24) hours of the conclusion of the game.

2. The Game Sheet, Incident Report(s) (if any) must be returned to the scores locker & placed in the correct folder/plastic sleeve as labelled.

3. Any Injury Report(s) to be scanned & emailed to the Secretary at secretary@ihact.org.au for processing.

Note: Scanning of documentation utilising a mobile phone will be accepted, however must use "Office Lens" (iPhone: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/office-lens/id975925059?mt=8>)

(Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.microsoft.office.officelens>) or CamScanner (iPhone: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/camscanner-free-pdf-document-scannerand-ocr/id388627783?mt=8>) (Android:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.intsig.camscanner>) to ensure a good quality scan.

Note: the free version of CamScanner includes a 'watermark' on the scan which may obscure details on all scans. Please ensure you check the scan to confirm that no content is obscured, and scan again if issues are present. To avoid the watermark, you can use the paid version (iPhone: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/camscanner-pro/id395904807?mt=8>) (Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.intsig.lic.camscanner>).

This is so all game sheets can easily be read & up-loaded to the ESD.

Appendix C: D Grade Specific Information



D Grade

Contact: senior.delegate@ihact.org.au

1. Background

In the lead-up to the 2018/2019 IHACT summer season of D Grade, the D Grade Committee in conjunction with the Senior Delegate, have discussed ways to ensure that new players have a reasonable opportunity to be able to join and participate in the summer season. Those discussions have identified the following basic circumstances that influence the committee's deliberations and decisions:

- D Grade is the entry-level league of IHACT,
- D Grade is a development league of IHACT,
- New players, particularly men, need an option to play. (Women have a women's specific league)

2. Team Requirements

All teams must have:

- A **minimum** of 16 players, 15 skaters and 1 Goaltender, on their roster before the season commences.
- Not have any more than 21 players on their roster
- An Accredited Coach
- A Team Manager
- A Captain and two Alternate Captains.

3. Selection Eligibility

3.1. Categories of Players

3.1.1. Returning Players - Those who played in D Grade in the previous summer season,

3.1.2. Lapsed Players - Those who have played in D grade in seasons prior to the previous summer season but did not play in the previous season for whatever reason, **except for joining a higher grade.**

- (1) An exemption may be made for those that were away/incapacitated for the whole of the previous season due to medical reasons, essentially classing them as returning skaters.
 - (a) If a player is seeking a medical exemption, they must provide a medical clearance to the IHACT Medical Officer, or if none the IHACT Secretary, for the purposes of duty of care and due diligence for IHACT.
 - (b) If a player is seeking a medical exemption, they must attend Try Outs / Grading, or make alternative arrangements as per the All Other Players section of the RoEs (**Ap C c3.2**) so that the Senior D Committee and coaches can validate that the skater is safe to play.

3.1.3. Higher Grade Players - Those players either:

- (1) retiring from a higher grade permanently or,
- (2) those who are returning to D Grade to develop skills over at least two seasons before attempting to return to a higher grade, or
- (3) Players who fill a different position in a higher-grade team (e.g., C Grade goalie as D Grade skater or vice versa)

3.1.4. New Players - Those who have never played hockey in any senior IHACT team.

3.2. All Other Players

In some years this will mean teams would not be required to introduce new players as they already have the minimum required players already.

To fill the remaining positions teams will follow the following draft priority order that has been agreed by the Senior D Committee in consultation with the Senior Delegate. It is articulated here to ensure team managers, coaches, players and those new prospects wishing to join D Grade understand each prospective player's likelihood of joining D Grade.

All players who are not returning from the previous season must attend the D Grade Skills Grading/Tryouts to ensure they are suitable to play in the League. All new and lapsed players must be assessed by several coaches on the ice during the Skills Grading/Tryouts as well as be viewed by the team representatives attending Skills Grading/Tryouts. This will ensure that no teams are able to recruit a player whose ability has not been assessed, without the means of assessment being agreed by the entire committee.

3.2.1 If a player is unable to attend the Grading/Tryout session, that player would need to arrange a separate time to be assessed. To be approved they must have:

- One Accredited Coach in attendance and,
- Three D Committee Members in attendance or,
- 2 Committee Members and the Senior Delegate

This would not have to be a private session, but could be part of a Drop-In game, Stick and Puck or public skate session. Teams are unable to have a Coach sign off on a player's competence outside of these two options. This would need to be done prior to the official D Grading/tryout session. Players cannot be assessed after this has happened. These players would go into the player pool and be selected in the draft as all other players who attend the official grading/tryouts. They would not be selected to a team before this.

4. Prioritisation Model

Having taken all of this into consideration the D Committee, in consultation with the Senior Delegate, decided that players wishing to fill available spaces in the league would be selected in the following order:

4.1. Order when selecting players to D Grade Teams:

1. Returning players - These players are placed into their former teams prior to the draft selections,
2. **New male players and Lapsed players,**
3. Players who have the option of playing in another league: Women and C Players in a different role (C/W Goalie – D Skater or vice versa),
4. Considered on a case-by-case basis, and a vote by the Senior D Committee:
 - a) Male players dropped from C - Those that have had their coach ask them to develop their skills before attempting to return to C,
 - b) Male players retiring from C, Players wishing to return to D - Players who are capable in C, but wish to return to D for their own reasons,
5. Players who have stated that they will only play for a nominated team.

Teams should move onto the next order of preference if there are no more suitable players left in the previous category. For example, all competent new players (Order 2) would need to be exhausted before moving onto men retiring from C Grade (Order 4).

The Committee recognises that this prioritisation model favours male players. This was consciously decided as the D Committee and Senior Delegate recognize that male players wishing to play Ice Hockey currently have no other option to play, especially new and novice skilled men, while women and those men playing in another league have opportunities to play elsewhere.

~~4.2 Sunset Arrangement for Returning Players in All Categories~~

The D Grade Committee for 2021-2022 has confirmed that this sunset clause is no longer required and has been removed.

4.3 Restrictions on Higher Grade Players Returning to D Grade

Players retiring, being dropped, or just wishing to move to a lower grade from a higher grade would be required to play at least two seasons in D Grade before they would be permitted to return to C Grade as a player or goalie. This is to stop players from swapping up and down between each grade and playing two grades every year. This behaviour can lead to positions being filled by current members, exploiting the system to enable themselves to play more hockey to the detriment of introducing new players to the sport.

5. Grounds for Exclusion

5.1. A Player's application to enrol into D Grade may be declined, and that Player may be rejected from playing D Grade if:

- 5.1.1.** During Skills Grading/Tryouts the coaches deem they are unable to participate in the league safely, or
- 5.1.2.** During Skills Grading/Tryouts, the coaches deem their level too high above D Grade, in which case these players will be introduced to C or B Grade and shown opportunities they can be involved in playing hockey till those seasons commence, or
- 5.1.3.** The player's application for membership has been declined by the IHACT board on the grounds of:
 - (1) non-payment of fees,
 - (2) breaches of IHACT Rules of Engagement or IHA Code of Conduct, or
 - (3) Any other reason

6. Draft Day / Skills Grading / Tryouts

6.1. Draft Day Requirements

- 6.1.1.** All teams are required to have a representative, preferably a committee member, and coach present at the session
- 6.1.2.** Teams will be provided with a list of players attending with bib number & colour

6.1.3. Immediately following the conclusion of the session all committee members will meet and confirm all team selections

6.1.4. Draft occurs in reverse order of previous season standings as recorded by eSportsDesk.

(1) Draft Selection order will be confirmed by the Senior Delegate prior to Draft Day. Draft order sheets will be provided on the day.

6.2. Drafting Process

6.2.1. Goaltender Difference

Teams will ensure they have a Goaltender using the previous format. However, each team should pick a goaltender as a first round, before moving onto skaters. If teams already have a goaltender, then they abstain from this round. Abstaining in this round does not stop a team from selections for skaters.

6.2.2. Drafting Round Rules

- (1) Teams will select players in each round of the draft.
- (2) They may not trade selections to another team at any point.
- (3) If a team passes on a selection in a round, they pass on all further rounds.
 - (a) This is to ensure that teams are avoiding an order of player, so they may draft someone in a different order when the other teams have exhausted that order.
 - (b) For example, if a team wishes to select a player from Order 5, all players from order 1-4 would have to be exhausted first. If they passed on an order 2 player, they have then passed for the remainder of the draft.

6.2.3. Teams are to finalise their players on the night of Grading/Tryouts. All players wishing to be selected must have attended grading or organised their own session prior to the Grading/Tryouts (Ap C c3.2). If a player/s have organised a grading session prior to the Official Grading/Tryouts, they will not be given a team at the time but will be placed into the pool of players eligible for selection during the team allocation meeting.

6.3. Player Preferences

Players may state a preference for the team they'd like to play for. The committee will take this into consideration and try to accommodate these preferences, however a stated preference does not reserve a position on that team. No player may demand allocation on to a certain team. Players stating that they would only play for a particular team may find they are not allocated to any team once available positions are allocated as per the allocation model stated in this document.

Appendix D: B/C Draft Procedure

1. IHACT Senior B & C Draft Policy

1.1. Purpose

Throughout the off-season many life changing events take place. Some people relocate cities or countries for work, others get injured and leave the sport; and some hang up their skates and retire. This leaves teams with a few empty spots on their rosters as they approach a new season. The purpose of a DRAFT day is to provide teams with eligible players of a relevant skill level; who can demonstrate their abilities before being selected for a permanent spot on a team. Selection takes place immediately following the Draft Day on-ice skills demonstration.

IHACT Draft days are designed to provide teams in each grade with a chance to evaluate the skill level of players wanting to enter their relevant grade. This is done so that teams can then select and put forward roster for the current calendar season.

1.2. Criteria for all Grades

Players must be of an acceptable skill level for the league. This is determined by the relevant League Coordinator, grade committee and the relevant Head Coach. The anticipated minimum entry level skills for grades are as follows:

- **It is anticipated that players commencing in D grade will be able to:**
 - Skate forwards
 - Stop
 - Turn both ways
 - Stand up from being prone on the ice
- **It is anticipated that players commencing in C Grade will be able to demonstrate all abilities expected of D grade as well as:**
 - Hockey stop on both sides
 - Skate backwards
 - Power turn
 - Alternate dropping one knee to the ice and standing back up between blue lines (demonstrating balance)
 - Puck handle during most drills
- **It is anticipated that players commencing in B grade will be able to:**
 - Demonstrate sufficient hockey skills to satisfy the League Coordinator, grade committees and the Head Coach.

2. Player Eligibility

Players wanting to enter a league must have demonstrated the minimum skills outlined in the relevant criteria to the satisfaction of the League Coordinator, grade committees and the Head Coach. It is therefore a requirement that all players wanting to advance a grade (or who have not played in the association during the previous season and are now wanting to return) ***MUST*** attend the relevant Draft session so that the skill level can be assessed. All skills must be demonstrated at the required level. This does not apply to a B grade player, who did not play in the previous season, dropping to C grade.

2.1. Senior B & C League Committee Process for Draft

2.1.1. Core Team Lists

- All Senior B & C teams need to submit a list indicating who will be returning from the previous season.
- New players are not be included in the core team list
- These Lists will be used as an indication on numbers for B & C and spaces available
- Lists can be changed and modified based on the outcomes after B grade teams have selected C graders.

2.1.2. Team Expectations

- Each team is expected to fill a minimum 14 slots including goalie, in their roster. Since not all teams have the same amount of spaces available, when a team has a full roster (including returning players from the previous season); they will be withdrawn from the selection order. If there are not enough eligible candidates on the Draft day to fill all teams' rosters; then the Coordinator and Head Coach must identify a way of ensuring an even number of players spread across all teams so that the season will be fair.
- C grade teams may make up to two priority picks before the draft limited to one stepping down from B grade and one invited from D grade. Priority picks must be notified to the committee one week before the date of the draft.

2.1.3. Team Transfers

- Players currently registered in Senior B or C are welcome to change teams with their current league
- Current team management will need to be notified prior to the transfer being confirmed by the new team.

The relevant League Coordinator is to be notified once transfer is confirmed.

2.1.4. Draft Players

- **All players who were not registered in Senior B or C in the previous season must attend the draft, with the exception of players who played in Senior B and are dropping to Senior C.**

2.1.5. Draft Day

- All teams are required to have a representative present at the session, unless the team has a full roster and is not adding any additional players
- Teams will be provided with a list of players attending with bib number & colour
- Once the session is complete all committee members will attend a meeting and confirm all team selections

- Draft occurs in reverse order of previous season standings.
- Any player additions following the draft must be agreed by the committee.
- The Selection order works in reverse order from the previous season's ladder.
- Since not all teams have the same amount of spaces available, when a team has a full roster (including returning players from the previous season); they will be withdrawn from the selection order. If there are not enough eligible candidates on the Draft day to fill all teams' rosters; then the Coordinator and Head Coach must identify a way of ensuring an even number of players spread across all teams so that the season will be fair.

2.1.6. Additional Notes

Phoenix and Senators are not required to attend the Draft.

- Phoenix being a junior team invited to participate in C Grade, will have junior players from the relevant age group (Midget)
- Senators being an independent club may find players according to their own arrangements and constitution. They are welcome to attend the draft and select players to fill their teams if required.

If a team has a full roster from a previous season, and they are not taking on new players, then that team is not required to attend a Draft Day

Appendix E: Volunteers for Summer 2021-22 and Winter 2022

League Coordinator & Team Managers

B Grade

League Coordinator	
Team	Manager
Blades	
Bulls	
Rebels	
Jokerit	

C Grade

League Coordinator	
Team	Manager
Chiefs	
Devils	
Eagles	
Phoenix	
Redbacks	
Belco Butchers	
Senators White	

D Grade

League Coordinator	
Team	Manager
Bison	
Bombers	
Dingoes	
Hornets	
Ice Bears	
Shamrocks	

Womens

Women's Director	
Team	Manager
Dragons	
Foxes	
Raptors	
Wolves	

Appendix F: Juniors Playing Up an Age Division, Including Senior Leagues

Junior players include all players that turn 18 years of age and under by the 31st of December in the current playing season. This includes any juniors that turn 18 prior to the season starting.

4.8.1 - Junior Age Groups are:

- 18U (16,17,18 years)
- 15U (14, 15 years)
- 13U (12, 13 years)
- 11U (5-11 years)

Female players aged 14 years by 31st of December in the current playing season, or older, can play in the Women's league.

4.8.2 Juniors Playing Up

A Junior player must play in his or her correct age division before they play up. Junior leagues include House league (all age groups), Phoenix & Travel Team (18U age group), and for females, Pirates or Women's League.

4.8.2.1 Except where:

- a) for a player aged 16-18 years, there is no house league, Travel team, or junior league team other than the Phoenix team in Senior C, then this team becomes their junior league.
- b) If the Phoenix team playing in Senior C (as described above at a)) is the only Team/ league, and more than one suitability skilled goalie is available. In this instance, excess goalies may opt to play in an alternate C grade team

The Players 16-18 in the Phoenix Team in C Grade require the players parent/guardian accepting responsibility and conditions via the "Juniors playing Seniors Supplementary Form for Parents"

4.8.3 A Junior player can only play up one age division.

Players must be invited by a coach to be able to play up in the next age division. Once invited to do so, a player needs -

- a) an 'IHACT Playing up Form' that has been approved by all of the following:
 - i. Current Junior Coach,
 - ii. IHACT Coaching Director authorising the player to play up a division,
 - iii. IHACT Board approval to Play up an age division,
- b) pay the "junior playing up in a second junior age division" fee.

4.8.4 15U players may be selected or invited to the Phoenix C team depending upon numbers and or experience each year. Once invited to do so, a player needs –

- a) if an 'IHACT Playing up Form' has been approved by all of the following:
 - i. Current Junior Coach,

- II. IHACT Coaching Director authorising the player to play up a division,
- III. IHACT Board approval to Play up an age division,
- b) and the players parent/guardian accepting responsibility and conditions via the “Juniors playing Seniors Supplementary Form for Parents”

4.8.5 Players under 18 years of age, but above 16 years of age, can play in Senior B if suitably skilled and invited by a B Grade team from the B Tryouts,

- a) if an ‘IHACT Playing up Form’ has been approved by all of the following
 - I. Current junior coach,
 - II. IHACT Coaching Director authorising the player to play up a division,
 - III. IHACT Board approval to Play up an age division.
- b) and the players parent/guardian accepting responsibility and conditions via the “Juniors playing Seniors Supplementary Form for Parents”

Playing up forms are available from the Junior Delegate and must be requested by the relevant coaches, not by players or parents.

4.8.5 Equipment

All players aged 18 years and under **MUST** in all games, including those in the senior grades, wear:

- Neck guard,
- Full Face shield (cage, clear or combination of both),
- Helmet complete with ear guards,
- Helmet complete with Chin straps that must be done up.