



POLICY #13: PARTICIPATION IN TOURNAMENTS POLICY

VERSION: 1

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 2025

1. Introduction

Tournaments are a valued component of the hockey season, offering teams opportunities for competitive play and team development. VMHA encourages team staff to identify and participate in at least one tournament that aligns with the appropriate skill level of their team.

Team staff are reminded that tournament participation may incur additional costs for families. As such, financial considerations should be considered when planning tournament attendance to ensure accessibility for all team members.

VMHA may organize one or more tournaments during the season. Participation from VMHA teams is expected to support these events, both to ensure a competitive standard of play and to contribute to the operational success of the tournament through volunteer involvement and other support roles.

2. Participation in VMHA Host Tournaments

VMHA-hosted tournaments are an important part of our association's commitment to fostering community, sportsmanship, and competitive play. These events provide opportunities for players to showcase their skills, build team spirit, and engage with the broader hockey community. Successful tournaments rely on the active participation and support of VMHA teams, families, and volunteers. The following outlines expectations for team involvement, volunteer contributions, and other requirements to ensure the success of VMHA-hosted tournaments.

2.1 Rep Teams: All VMHA Rep teams competing at the level for which a VMHA-hosted tournaments are organized, are expected to make every reasonable effort to participate in that tournament.

2.2 Recreational Teams:

- In divisions with **three (3) or fewer teams**, all VMHA teams are expected to make every reasonable effort to participate in the VMHA-hosted tournament.
- In divisions with **four (4) or more teams**, participation will be limited to a maximum of **two (2) VMHA teams per tournament pool**.
 - The Tournament Director will inform the Division Manager of the number of teams eligible to participate per division.
 - The Division Manager will collaborate with team coaches to determine which teams will participate.



2.3 Raffle Table Donations

- All teams in the division for which the tournament is hosted—whether participating or not—are required to donate one raffle basket with a minimum value of \$150 for the tournament raffle table.

3. Participation in all other Tournaments

This policy is **in addition to** the requirements set forth by PCAHA, BC Hockey, and Hockey Canada regarding tournament participation and approval. These requirements may vary depending on the nature and location of the tournament. It is the responsibility of the **head coach and team manager** to ensure full compliance with all applicable regulations and to submit any necessary requests for approval in a timely manner.

3.1 Out-of-District, Out-of-Province, and USA Tournaments

- Teams planning to participate in tournaments outside of their PCAHA district, outside of British Columbia, or in the United States must complete the applicable BC Hockey travel or exhibition form and submit it to the VMHA President for signature.
- The applicable forms can be found on the PCAHA website and include: Teams
 - **Interdistrict Travel / Exhibition Game Form** (for tournaments or exhibition games outside the team's district but within British Columbia)
 - **Out-of-Province & USA Tournament Travel / Exhibition Game Form** (for tournaments or exhibition games outside of British Columbia or in the United States)

3.2 Tournament Permission Number

- Before participating in any tournament, a team must obtain a Tournament Permission Number (TPN) from your PCAHA League Manager.
- The Team Manager will email the appropriate PCAHA League Manager with the following information:
 - Tournament Sanction Number (BC Hockey)
 - Tournament Name, including host association
 - Location – including arenas
 - Dates of tournament
 - Tournament Format (potential # of games)
 - Team HCR Number
 - Manager full name, email, and phone number



- o Teams attending Out-of-District, Out-of-Province, and USA Tournaments must also provide the applicable permission form signed by the VMHA President

3.3 Team Responsibilities

- Teams are responsible for managing all aspects of tournament participation, including researching suitable events, completing applications and registrations, arranging payment of fees, and ensuring all required documentation is obtained and submitted accurately and on time.
- No VMHA team shall participate in any tournament not sanctioned by BC Hockey, Hockey Canada, USA Hockey, or IIHF.

4. Document Control

Version	Date	Author	Policy Owner
1.0	December 2025	Policy Review Committee	Tournament Coordinator