



**Don Mills Mustangs
GTHL Hockey Club**

RULES AND POLICIES

2019/20 Season

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Section 1- Application of Rules and Policies of The Don Mills Mustangs GTHL Hockey Club (“The Club”)

- 1.1** These Rules and Policies are intended to set out the Rules and Policies of the Don Mills Mustangs GTHL Hockey Club (“the Club”) that will be applicable to the Teams and players during the 2019/20 season.
- 1.2** While the Rules and Policies are intended to be comprehensive, the rules and policies are not exhaustive and the Club reserves the right, in its discretion, to make such changes and additions from time to time as it deems appropriate. Notice of any changes and/or additions will be given to Team Officials and, when appropriate, directly to parents/guardians on a timely basis.
- 1.3** The Club may, at its discretion, and under extenuating circumstances, apply sanctions to coaching staff and/or players either in addition, or in lieu, of any sanctions applied by the GTHL.

Section 2 CLUB MATTERS

Governance

- 2.1** The Club is incorporated as the Don Mills Mustangs Hockey Club, as a not-for-profit Canadian corporation.
- 2.2** It is the mission of the Club to provide an organized competitive hockey program for children and youth in the Don Mills and surrounding area, to promote sportsmanship among our players and healthy social interaction among our members, parents and the community, to teach and develop the fundamental skills of hockey in a positive learning environment, and to protect and serve the mutual interests of the corporation's members, the players, and their families.

2.3 Club Officials

Board Members

General Manager	Mark Bailey	GTHL Club Operations GTHL Team Management
President	Mike Hillick	Corporate affairs Civitan affiliation
Vice-President	Scott Anderson	NYHL Liason Ice Partnerships

Administrators

Rob Grand	Amelia Leckey
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Teams Registered within the GTHL

- 2.4** For the 2019/20 season the Club will register the following 11 teams:

Minor Atom A	Minor Bantam A
Atom A	Bantam A
Minor Peewee A	Bantam AA
Peewee A	Minor Midget A
Peewee AA	Minor Midget AA
	Midget Jr A

Registration fees

- 2.5** Registration fees for the 2019/20 season are \$21,950 per team. Refer to Statement of Club Fees to see what is included in this cost.
- 2.6** Payment of team registration fees to the Club is due in full by June 30, 2019 (provide post dated cheque as early as possible). Payments (cheques) are made to Don Mills Mustangs GTHL or via email transfer to donmillsmustangs@outlook.com. Failure to meet deadlines may result in suspension of practice ice permits, or delayed receipt of jerseys and apparel, unless special circumstances exist.

Team Budgets

- 2.7** All estimated Team budgets are to be submitted to the General Manager for approval prior to presentation to Team parents. Once approval has been given by the Club Executive, estimated Team budgets are then to be presented to the parents or guardians before signing player cards.
- 2.8** Parental approval and acceptance is to be in writing via parent acknowledgement form.
- 2.9** Budget Updates are to be provided by the Team Manager per GTHL guidelines under section 5.

Uniforms & Equipment

- 2.10 (a)** All equipment provided by the Club must be used by the player.
- (b)** Home & Away Jerseys & socks, and hockey bags, and pant shells are included in club fees.
- (c)** Credit for reuse of items in 2.9(b) may be reduced from club fees. The equipment must be in reasonably good condition and suitable to last the entire season. Credits apply as follows:
1. Hockey Bag reuse - \$40 (per bag)
 2. Home/Away Hockey Jersey reuse - \$25 (per jersey)
 3. No credits for socks, and 3rd jerseys
 4. Pant shells must be returned at the end of the season.
- (d)** Socks with excessive holes must be replaced by the Team at their expense.
- (e)** Damaged Team sweaters must be replaced by the Team if they cannot be repaired.
- (f)** Club hockey pants or shells must be worn. Shells are included in Club fees, with the player or team option to upgrade to pants. Shells must be returned at the end of the season.
- (g)** Black helmet and gloves must be worn for all games.

Dress Code

- 2.11** Dress codes are determined by each individual team, subject to the approval of the Club.
- 2.12** Players and Team Officials may not wear any clothing or other items that display offensive or obscene language or images while attending team events.

Use of Affiliated Players

- 2.13** Team to team affiliation is determined by the Club prior to the GTHL deadline of November 15th each year. Team/Coach input will be requested for affiliation purposes.
- 2.14** Any player used in advance of November 15th must be on the affiliated team (or in the case of House League affiliation, on the player affiliation list). DO NOT call up

any player until you have confirmation of your team affiliate.

- 2.15** An affiliate player may not be called up for a game unless a player on the official team roster will be absent, or otherwise unable to dress for the game. It is recommended no AP be used unless there are less than 13 skaters.
- 2.16** An affiliated team requesting the use of a player or players should contact the Head Coach of the affiliate team to request the use of such players. A compelling reason for the need for such player or players must be provided.
- 2.17** A rostered player may not be sat for a game in order to use an AP.

Financial Assistance

- 2.18** In very limited cases, the Club may be able to provide financial assistance to a player/family. The terms for financial assistance and a copy of the financial assistance application form can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/kebc7mp>

Refund policy

- 2.19** (a) Up to the date of the team's first regular season or pre-season tournament game:
- (i) A full refund of fees paid less
 - \$400 administration and equipment (to be returned to club)
 - the player proportionate fees for any team expenses to date (apparel, team events, etc.)
 - (b) From the first regular season game to the end of the regular season the player shall receive a pro-rata rebate of fees paid based on the number of games played by the team out of the GTHL regular 36 game season, less \$600, and less an additional \$100 for each tournament that has been played.

Permission to Skate

- 2.20** Permission to skate for LOR region teams, or OHA Junior teams, is provided at the discretion of the Head Coach only, and is valid only when issued and signed by a signing officer of the Club at the end of the regular season.

Use of Club Name and Logo

- 2.21** No unauthorized use of the Club logo is permitted. All items with the Club logo must first be authorized in writing by the General Manager prior to its production. Failure to abide by this rule may result in a financial penalty to the team.
- 2.22** No unauthorized Supplier may be used to produce or manufacture team equipment, apparel, or any other items with consent from the Club General Manager. Failure to abide by this rule may result in a financial penalty to the team. For 2019-20 the Authorized Supplier is Gitch Sportswear.

Club Financials

- 2.23** (a) The Club may reimburse its members and staff for reasonable expenses incurred during the season at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- (b) The Club may at its discretion provide a small stipend to those volunteers

putting in an extraordinary amount of effort.

(c) For further disclosure of Club Financials, requests may be made to the Club President.

Dispute Resolution procedures

- 2.24** (a) Complaints against the Team are to be presented in writing to the Team Manager. The Team Manager must provide a copy of any and all complaints received to the Club General Manager.
- (b) Complaints against the Club are to be made in writing and emailed to donmillsmustangs@outlook.com
- (c) Upon review of the complaint, the Club may choose to facilitate a face-to-face meeting with all parties concerned, where possible, and if necessary.
- (d) If the Club determines no face-to-face meeting is required with respect to the complaint a written response will be provided.
- (e) Disputes over Team Finances will be considered by the Club only if the parent has signed the Parent Acknowledgement form accepting the team budget estimate, provided at tryouts.

Releases

- 2.25** Releases may only be granted by a Club Official. To request a release, please contact donmillsmustangs@outlook.com. If the team wishes that the club decline a release, an in person meeting may be necessary.

Commitment to Fairness

- 2.26** The Club may employ a Coach Mentor, who will meet with team representatives no less than once per season. The Coach Mentor may help review GTHL rules and policies, perform team official evaluations, and ensure overall fairness with respect to team composition and competitiveness.

Disposition of end-of-season surpluses

- 2.27** Final team financial statements are to be delivered within three weeks of the last scheduled team function. Any account surplus to be returned to players/parents will be done on an equal basis.
- 2.28** A team may elect to carry forward an account balance of no more than \$1000, out of the season-end surplus only.
- 2.29** In the case of allocated, but unused sponsorship funds, these may be returned to the sponsor subject to Club approval.

Section 3 TEAM MATTERS

Team Rules

- 3.1** Individual Teams may have their own Team rules, provided they do not override the Club policies and procedures. These Team rules are to be presented to the General Manager prior to their presentation to your parents. Team parents or guardians must sign a declaration indicating they have reviewed and agree with the Team Rules.

Team Officials

- 3.2** Team officials are defined as any GTHL carded Team staff member that has been properly carded by the Club and the GTHL. Specifically they are to be known as the Head Coach, Assistant Coach(s), Trainer and Team Manager. Team officials shall not number more than five.
- 3.3** The Head Coach is to ensure the Club policies and procedures are being upheld. As such they are responsible for the day to day running of the Team. The Head Coach is appointed by the Club and is responsible for appointing all Team staff members. Final approval to card all Team Officials is that of the Club's General Manager.
- 3.4** The duties and responsibilities of all remaining team officials are to be determined at the team level.
- 3.5** All Team Officials and appointed Team Volunteers are considered representatives of the Club and as such are expected to set a positive example both on and off the ice.
- 3.6** It is the intention of the Club to uphold GTHL regulation 7.15, specifically that no carded official will be granted his/her release to be registered or to appear on the bench of another club at the immediate higher age division in the immediate following season.
- 3.7** It is the responsibility of each Team Official to learn the Club's policies and procedures. All policies and procedures are expected to be followed at all times. Failure to do so may result in suspension, the length of which will be determined by the Club, financial penalty, or termination for those individuals found to be in severe default.
- 3.8** The Club policy allows for a Team Official to coach his own child. However, if the Club determines that a coach's son/daughter is not of appropriate caliber, which shall be at the sole discretion of the Club, then the coach will be asked to remove his child from the team. Should the coach decide not to remove his child, both the coach and the child shall be removed. However if the child is of appropriate caliber, the Club expects its Team Officials to keep the best interest of the team in mind at all times. Should the Club determine that they are not keeping the best interests of the Team in mind, a warning, suspension or termination may result.
- 3.9** In accordance with GTHL Policy 6.7, Screening for the Prevention of Harassment/Abuse in Associations, all new team officials for 2019/20 will undergo a police record check unless they can produce evidence of a recent police check. Police record checks are to be renewed every three years.

Ice Time Policies

- 3.10 The Head Coach has the final say on the ice time a player receives in any game.
- 3.11 Any player denied significant ice time in non-critical games must have that reason explained to them before they leave the dressing room at the conclusion of the game, or at the next reasonable opportunity.
- 3.12 The team should state its policy with respect to participation in school hockey, and other conflicting sports programs.

Team Meetings

- 3.13 The frequency of team meetings is to be determined at the team level. 3 team/parent meetings is the recommended minimum.

Team Official Suspensions

- 3.14 Team Official Suspensions will NOT be appealed – do not request them. Team Officials receiving a second suspension within the same season are additionally at risk of further suspension from the Club.

Payment of Team Officials

- 3.15 The Team must disclose any payments made to Team Officials, or related parties (as defined by the GTHL).

Team Bank Account

- 3.16 There must be no fewer than three signing authorities on each team bank account; team cheques or withdrawals require signatures of at least two people (at least one of whom is a team parent who is not a Team Official or related to any Team Official).

Section 4 PARENT/GUARDIAN MATTERS**Payment of Fees**

- 4.1 The payment of fees / fee schedule is to be determined at the team level.

Standard Code of Conduct

- 4.2 Parents and guardians have an obligation to remain positive and show respect towards all League Officials, Club Officials, Team Officials and all players at all times.
- 4.3 It is understood and agreed that when your child joins the Club that they are in fact joining an organization and not just an individual team. For clarification purposes, when your child's participation is requested by their affiliated team for a game, it is expected that you make every effort to make your child available.
- 4.4 Families must give the Head Coach a minimum of thirty (30) days notice of their intention to take their child on a family vacation that would have them miss any game or practice, unless permission otherwise has been granted by the Head Coach in writing.

Sanctions for Misconduct

- 4.5 It is the responsibility of each Parent or Legal Guardian to be familiar with the Club's policies and procedures. All policies and procedures are expected to be followed at all times. Failure to do so may result in your child's suspension from the Team, the length of which will be determined by the Club, or outright release for those individuals found to be in severe default. Any disagreement between a parent or guardian and the Club or a Team official shall be dealt with as per Club Dispute Resolution Process outlined in section 2.22 of this document.

Section 5 PLAYER MATTERS

Player's Obligations

- 5.1 Players are expected to abide by all Club and Team rules.
- 5.2 It is understood and agreed that when you join the Club that you are in fact joining an organization and not just an individual team. For clarification purposes, when your participation is requested by your affiliated team for a game, it is expected that you make yourself available.

Standard Code of Conduct

- 5.3 (a) Respect your team-mates, coaches, on-ice officials and opponents at all times. Treat each other fairly, equally and positively.
- (b) Show up within the time prescribed by your coach for team events.
- (c) Your coach or other designated team official must be notified in advance if you are unable to attend games or team functions or if you may be delayed for any reason.
- (d) Failure to comply may result in loss of ice time or other disciplinary measures.
- (e) Represent your team with class and dignity at all times on and off the ice.
- (f) Abide by the team dress code.
- (g) Always play to the best of your ability and within the spirit of true sportsmanship.
- (h) Talking back to your coach, team officials or referees or other forms of disrespectful conduct, including trash talking, is unacceptable. Foul language and spitting are not permissible at any time.
- (i) Abuse of drugs or alcohol will not be tolerated.

Player Injury

- 5.4 Players receiving a concussion, either in a game or a practice, may only return to play or practice after passing through the GTHL concussion protocol. Permission to return should be emailed to the team manager, trainer, and forwarded to the General Manager before commencing practice or game play.

Sanctions for Misconduct

- 5.5 It is the responsibility of each player to understand the Club's policies and procedures. All policies and procedures are expected to be followed at all times. Failure to do so may result in your suspension from the Team, the length of which will be determined by the Club, a financial penalty, or outright release for those individuals found to be in severe default.