



POLICY #11: APPAREL AND EQUIPMENT POLICY

VERSION: 1

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 2024

1. Introduction

VMHA requires all teams to adhere to specific rules regarding the jerseys provided by the association, team apparel they purchase, and the equipment worn during association on-ice sessions including all games and practices. All association provided items are expected to have a lifespan of greater than one season and we need our members to take proper care of the items.

2. Game Jerseys

- The Association will provide each team from U7 to U18 with two sets of game jerseys.
- The Association's assigned Home jersey is Black and the assigned Away jersey is White. Team managers are expected to confirm with their opponent to ensure they possess a jersey of a non-conflicting color prior to the game otherwise teams can wear their other jersey.
- Game jerseys are only to be worn during games.
- It is recommended that game socks are to only be worn during games.
- Team Manager should inform the Association Equipment Manager if a jersey becomes damaged or stolen during the season.
- If a player moves to a different team or moves out of the Association boundary, the team manager must collect all team items from the player to ensure it stays with the team.

3. Third Jerseys in Games

- Third jerseys are not permitted to be worn for games under any circumstance unless it is a special program initiated by the Association or approved by the Board.

4. Practice Jerseys

- The Association provides practice jerseys to teams in all rep divisions as part of their fees.
- All other divisions are permitted to purchase team practice jerseys if the purchase is approved by the parent group as part of the team fee budget and any sponsorship

requests adhere to the requirements laid out in this policy. All jerseys must be secured through the VMHA approved apparel provider.

- Practice jerseys do not need to be returned at the end of the season.

5. Caring for Jerseys

- Wash jerseys on a regular basis using cold water and hang to dry.
- All association provided jerseys should be kept on a hanger and not transported in a player's hockey bag to best protect it from potential damage from Velcro or skates.

6. Name bars and Captains Letters

- Name bars are not permitted on any association provided game jersey. To do so would be a forfeit of the jersey deposit.
- Captain's letters are permitted. Tape is not permitted to be used to create captain's letters as the adhesive may cause damage to the jersey.
- The Association will provide each team with captain and assistant captain letters. These can only be hand sewn on and easily removed after without damaging the jersey. They are sewn on the top left chest. Ironing on or using a machine to stitch an item to a jersey will cause damage and the player assigned the jersey will be assessed the jersey damage fee.

7. Other Team Apparel

- Teams may purchase other team apparel (e.g. hoodies, shirts, shorts, jackets, etc) as part of the team fee if the parent group approves the purchase as part of the budget.
- All apparel must be ordered from the VMHA approved apparel provider. This information can be provided by the division manager.

8. Sponsorship Logos on Jerseys/Apparel

- Teams do not have the authority to provide sponsor logo placement on any piece of apparel.

9. Association Provided Goaltender's Equipment

- Goaltender equipment (glove, blocker, upper body protector, leg pads and stick) will be provided to all teams up to U9 for game play during the regular fall/winter program. Coaches are responsible for ensuring the equipment is only used for association games and practices. Absolutely no use for street or ball hockey is permitted.
- Goaltender equipment (glove, blocker, upper body protector, leg pads and stick) is not permitted to be used for any non-VMHA program. For clarity, players participating in

non-VMHA spring and/or summer programs are not permitted to use VMHA provided goaltender equipment.

- Goaltender equipment (glove, blocker, upper body protector, leg pads and stick) may be available for U11 and U13 to members in need of the equipment in order to play goal for an association team during the regular fall/winter program. An additional fee will apply if equipment is required.
- It will be the responsibility of the player to provide all other Hockey Canada required equipment for the position.
- Any player/team that is provided with Association goaltender equipment is required to maintain proper care of the equipment including:
 - ALWAYS air-dry equipment at room temperature in a well-ventilated area after every use. Drying your gear will prevent bacteria growth and reduce odor.
 - DO NOT use heat to dry equipment as this can cause premature, unseen damage to the surface materials and internal padding which will accelerate wear.
 - Deodorize equipment with sports disinfectant designed for soft and porous fabrics. DO NOT household sprays such as Febreze as the chemicals in these types of products will break down the equipment.
 - DO NOT machine wash equipment. DO NOT submerge any item in water as it will not be able to dry properly (resulting in mould/mildew).
 - Best practices for cleaning the goalie equipment:
 - Periodically check all straps, buckles and hardware and inform the Association Equipment Manager immediately if an issue arises. Do NOT use tape of any kind to attempt to fix any issue.
 - Air dry leg pads upside down against a wall.
 - Clean pads with a damp (not soaking) cloth.
 - Do not use leather softeners or cleaners as the gear is made from synthetic materials, not leather.
 - Do not use any harsh chemicals such as bleach, Magic Erasers, bathroom/kitchen cleaners on any equipment.
 - Pull all equipment out of the bag to air dry properly after each use.
 - Upper body protectors can be wiped down with a mild detergent and cold water then hung to dry.

10. Returning Jerseys and Equipment

- Team Managers will be responsible for ensuring all jerseys, goalie equipment and team equipment are collected at the end of the season. Items may be returned by any team volunteer to the Equipment Manager as per the directions provided by the Association.

- All jerseys are to be separated into color sets, be clean, dry, on hangers in numerical order and, if provided by the association, in the same garment bags they were received in.
- All Captain's letters must be removed prior to returning.
- If a jersey is not returned at the end of the season, the player the jersey was assigned to will be invoiced a jersey fee of \$140.
- If a jersey is returned but is in a condition that warrants it no longer usable in the future for reasons beyond standard wear and tear or a reported in-game incident that caused the damage, the player the jersey was assigned to will be invoiced a jersey fee of \$140.
- Any player that is invoiced for a jersey replacement fee will be ineligible to register for any Association program until the fee is paid in full or a payment plan is confirmed in writing by the Association Registrar (registrar@vmha.com).

11. Version History

This policy combines the previous Goalie Gear Rental & Cleaning Policy (created September 2020) and the Jersey Care Policy (last updated July 2021).