

Fundraising and Sponsorship Policy

1. Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

Fundraising shall mean the raising of funds through the sale of items, or participation in events where funds are collected.

Sponsorship refers to a corporation or person supporting the team financially.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for sponsorship and fundraising activities within the Norfolk Minor Hockey Association (NMHA). All sponsorship and fundraising activities must be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the organization's mission and values.

3. Fundraising

Sale of Items: Teams may sell items (e.g., merchandise, tickets, etc.) to raise funds. All sales must comply with federal, provincial, and municipal laws, including those outlined by the Ontario Alcohol and Gaming Commission Act.

Participation in Events: Teams may participate in fundraising events (e.g., car washes, bottle drives, bake sales, etc.) to raise funds.

4. Sponsorship

Teams are encouraged to seek sponsorship from the following sources:

- Family and friends who own businesses or are willing to support the team financially.
- Personally owned businesses of team members or their family members.
- Workplace of team members or their family members, subject to the employer's policies and regulations.

Teams should refrain from seeking sponsorship from local businesses not directly associated with the team to maintain NMHA's cohesive representation in the community.

NMHA is not a charitable organization and therefore cannot provide receipts to sponsors. Upon request, teams may provide receipts acknowledging sponsorship.

5. Limitations

The maximum number of fundraising activities a team may operate shall not exceed five (5) events between the conclusion of tryouts and end of season.

Teams shall not solicit or accept sponsorships or conduct fundraising activities until the conclusion of tryouts.

Accepting sponsorships or conducting fundraising activities that may conflict with the organization's interests or negatively impact its reputation are prohibited.

6. Use of Funds

Sponsorship funds and proceeds from team-level fundraising activities shall be allocated to the team promptly upon receipt. These funds are intended to enrich the hockey experience for players and should be utilized based on a collaborative agreement among the coach, team members, and parents.

All funds raised must be used for team activities, including equipment, travel expenses, and other team-related costs.

Sponsorship funds must be liquidated at the conclusion of the season and cannot be diverted to team staff, players, player parents, player guardians, or their families.

7. Approval Process

All sponsorship and fundraising activities must be submitted to the board for approval. The board will review and approve or deny each proposed sponsorship and fundraising activity.

8. Compliance

Teams must comply with this policy and any additional guidelines set by the board. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action up to and including the suspension of sponsorship and/or fundraising privileges, and/or forfeiture of funds raised.

9. Review

NMHA reserves the right to periodically review and amend this policy as necessary to ensure alignment with prevailing laws and regulations and to serve the best interests of the organization.