



Willowdale Hawks Executive Summary 2022-2023 – U14-U18

Since 1965, Inc 1967, the Willowdale Hockey Club (**WHC**), a not-for-profit organization previously known as Willowdale Boys Club, then Willowdale Sports Club, has provided a variety of hockey, lacrosse, basketball and baseball programs to the community of Willowdale and surrounding regions. This text relates to the **GTHL hockey operations of WHC only**.

More information may be found at the Club website at www.willowdalehockey.com. This is the Executive Summary for 2022-2023 although we understand that there may be some practical variances due to Return to Hockey policies from Game Plan 2.0 Return to Hockey Safety Plan.

Guiding Principles

Fairness is the guiding principle of **WHC**. This must be evident in the selection of players, the determination of roster size, and ice-time.

The players, team management and supporters are all goodwill ambassadors of the **WHC**. It is expected that players show respect to their coaches, to their fellow teammates, to opponents and to the referees. Under GTHL regulations, one parent of each player must complete the Respect in Sport Parent Program and both Player and Parent must review and sign a Rowan's Law declaration. Occasionally both parents will be asked to complete the program. All participants born 2009 or earlier are required by the GTHL to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 by Nov 1st, 2021 (2nd dose by Oct 17th 2021) or to hold a GTHL exemption letter. This mandate may change with Government policy.

Player safety is a priority of **WHC**. It is mandatory for teams to have at least one accredited trainer, two is encouraged. Upon successful completion of accredited trainer's courses, the individuals may submit an invoice through the team for reimbursement by **WHC**.

WHC has a responsibility to parents to ensure that its coaching staff has the ability, temperament, and knowledge to instruct, as well as serve as role models for their children.

Parents are required to sign the Player Commitment Form, and a team document indicating that they have reviewed these Guiding Principles and the Team Handbook including budget and refund policies.

Community

WHC has a favourable reputation within the hockey community. We expect everyone associated with our organization to be aware and proud of this reputation. Teams are held responsible for the activities of players and parents as soon as they enter onto the property that the arena is situated and until they leave.

Player Development

Willowdale Hawks A and AA teams are developmental programs. Player skills can only be enhanced through practice and game participation. Coaches are solely responsible for the selection and utilization of players. Each player should have equal opportunity but will not necessarily have equal ice time.

At the start of the season each player should have the opportunity to participate in power plays and shorthanded situations. Shortening a bench in a close game with five minutes to play is understandable and supportable.

Player Releases

It is the policy of **WHC** to not release players during the season. We believe that commitments should be fulfilled by both parties. However, circumstances may exist that a release is in the best interests of all concerned.

The Club is not permitted to release a player if this would cause the team to fall below a 15-player minimum, without approval of the Board of Directors of **WHC** & ratified by **GTHL**.

According to **GTHL** rules, for a player release to be valid, the General Manager or President must advise the **GTHL** Office in writing prior to 5:00 p.m. on November 15th, 2022.

Team Budget

All teams must submit a team budget and policies to parents for approval. Team management must provide regular updates to parents as to the financial position of the team. The approved team budget with parent signatures on the same page is to be provided to **WHC** by July 8th, 2022 and updated as players join later. Further statements of account are to be provided to **WHC** at intervals as specified by the **GTHL**.

Each team is entirely responsible for its own finances. For the 2021-22 season, the non-refundable per team levy is \$21,960. This levy covers the cost of 20 game jerseys, game and practice socks, 30 hours of practice ice (1 hr per week approx), team pictures, insurance for players and Team Officials, reimbursement of team officials' accreditation and \$2,100 for the **GTHL** team entry fee, plus a variety of smaller expenses which are provided on request. Willowdale does not levy or refund any per-player charges.

Team dues are paid in post-dated cheque installments of \$7,300 due by May 15th, 2022, \$7,300 by September 7th, \$7,360 by Nov 30th 2022. \$100 late fees apply for each unless a delay is approved by Rob Lee or Carol Mallett.

The May 15th payment and July 8th parent-signed budget and acknowledgement of team documents are required for the team to be registered for the season.

Other costs such as gamesheets, equipment, jackets, additional ice-time, hired instructors, exhibition games, tournament entry fees and team parties are the responsibility of the individual team. All team revenue and expenses will be recorded through the team budget. Additional funds may be obtained through sponsorships, additional player levies and fundraising activities. All fundraising activities and additional levies must be pre-approved by team parents and the Club and tracked through the team financial reporting.

Team officials are not hired by **WHC**. Where a team official or other party related to the team is to receive payment aside from immediate expenses, this will be recorded clearly in the team budget including but not limited to contractual payments and tournament expenses. Similarly, the Club is allowed to pay a Director or Officer if time is dedicated beyond that of a reasonable volunteer position to ensure that Willowdale is run in a professional efficient manner. For the 2022-23 season the GM/Registrar only is affected.

All volunteers are recognized and thanked for their generosity of time and energy.

Communication

Each season there are approximately 520 **GTHL** Rep teams with an average of 16 players per team. In order for the **GTHL** to operate efficiently, all communication with the **GTHL**, by parents, team managers and coaches, must go through the General Manager or President.

In the event of questions or disputes, the appropriate process to follow is.
Parent > Manager > Coach > General Manager/President > **WHC** > **GTHL**

In some circumstances, it is appropriate for the parent to contact the General Manager or President directly, on a confidential basis.

May 1st, 2022