

Constitution of the Western Province Grand Masters Hockey Association (WPGMHA)

1. Structure & Objectives

Structure
Objectives

2. Affiliation

Western Province Hockey Association
South African Grand Masters Hockey Association

3. Membership

4. The WPGMHA Committee

Chairman
Secretary-Treasurer
Playing Affairs Coordinator
Marketing Coordinator
Election of Office Bearers & Voting Rights

5. Tours and Tournaments

National (annual IPT)

6. General

Subscriptions
Utilisation of Assets

7. Amendments to the Constitution

1. Structure & Objectives

Structure

The WPGMHA shall be a voluntary association (not for gain) of hockey players and administrators of a sports body having an existence independent of its members with perpetual succession and all its assets shall be registered or held in the name of WPGMHA. Members shall not be liable to meet the debts or liabilities of the WPGMHA and the liability of members shall be limited to payment by them to the WPGMHA of the subscriptions or other fees due by them in terms of this Constitution.

The main **Objectives** of the WPGMHA will be to:-

- 1.1 Encourage older players, coaches, administrators and umpires to remain in or return to the game as well as encouraging younger participants to remain involved.
- 1.2 Organise and coordinate the affairs of the WPGMHA at provincial level and encourage the formation of provincial leagues
- 1.3 Ensure that Western Province Grand Masters teams are selected for the SAGMHA inter-provincial tournament.
- 1.4 Organize Masters hockey for players aged 55 and over, with a view to developing strength at a 60+ level, in order to support the SAGMHA in its efforts to be competitive internationally.
- 1.5 Control and administer the selection, coaching and management of WPGMHA representative teams attending national tournaments
- 1.6 Promote and further hockey at all levels in South Africa
- 1.7 Promote the spirit of Masters Hockey.

The activities of the WPGMHA shall be mainly directed to the furtherance of these objectives.

2. Affiliation

WPGMHA shall be affiliated to Western Province Hockey Union (**WPHU**) and to the SAGMHA.

3. Membership

3.1 All players affiliated to the WPGMHA shall be registered with a club affiliated to the WPHA or be registered as a player with the WPGMHA and pay an annual membership fee, proposed at the annual AGM by Treasurer and supported by a simple majority. This fee does not exempt the member from paying the capitation fee nor the weekly fees payable to ensure the use of fields and facilities and agreed support staff.

3.2. Qualification criteria for players representing their province and/or any SA Alliance team/s. In order to qualify to be a playing member of a province a player must be a bona fide active hockey player either playing in the “normal” hockey leagues in the respective provinces or in organized masters or grandmasters hockey leagues.

4. The WPGMHA Committee

4.1 The affairs of the WPGMHA shall be governed and managed by a committee consisting of the following Office Bearers:

a) Chairman

Key functions of the Chairman are to ensure that all statutory requirements, provincial and national affiliations and liaison therewith are in place, that committee members are fulfilling their roles as defined herein, and that the vision for the committee reflects what is in the best interests of the game.

The Chairman’s report must include, inter alia; key issues involving Grand Masters affairs on an international and national level as well as reports from the office bearers.

b) Secretary-Treasurer

Key functions of the Secretary-Treasurer are to secure all documents of record, including those required by statute, and to keep the Books of Account of the affairs of the WPGMHA. Such books together with all other papers and documents relating to the business or the affairs of the WPGMHA shall at all times be accessible to committee members, including duly assigned representatives of WPHA and SAGMHA. *The Treasurer shall prepare annual financial statements that are independently audited to be adopted at the AGM.*

All monies paid to the WPGMHA shall, as soon as possible after receipt, be deposited in the name of WPGMHA with a bank as the Committee may decide. All payments or withdrawals shall be approved by any 2 office bearers.

c) Playing Affairs Coordinator

The Playing Affairs Coordinator will be responsible for the organizing and co-ordination of provincial grand masters league, the annual participation in the inter-provincial tournament, and the selection process for the provincial teams. A comprehensive timetable should be included.

d) **Marketing Coordinator**

Internal and external communication, uniforms, sponsorship and fundraising related to the support of the provincial teams are the key functions.

All members shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election.

The chairman's term in office should be for two years and, if re-elected, may be extended for a second period of two years, after which he/she shall step down for a year and only thereafter be eligible for election for another two years.

4.2 The Annual General Meeting of the WPGMHA shall be held after the annual SAGMHA IPT and before the end of the Winter hockey season.

4.3 Written nominations for the WPGMHA Committee must be signed by the nominator, a seconder and the nominee and received by the Committee no later than 14 days prior to the annual general meeting. In the absence of written nominations, nominations will be accepted from the floor.

4.4 The quorum for a meeting (Council or AGM) shall be 15 members.

In the absence of a quorum at any meeting, the business of the meeting shall be conducted without the necessary quorum and the minutes of such meeting circulated to all members within seven days thereof.

Any fifteen (15) members may within fourteen (14) days of the date of the circulation of the minutes lodge a duly signed, written objection against any decision taken at such a meeting.

Any decision taken at a meeting conducted in terms of paragraph 4.4 shall be effective only:

- If no written objection thereto is received within the fourteen (14) days.
- If a written objection is lodged within the period stipulated the Committee shall call a special general meeting at which the objection will be dealt with within 14 days of having received such an objection.

4.5 The Committee is empowered to fill any vacancy on the Committee or to co-opt two additional members during its tenure. The person being appointed should preferably be a Grand Masters member.

4.6 Election of Office Bearers & Voting Rights

4.6.1 All members of the WPGMHA, the participants in the WP Grand Masters Hockey league and the duly assigned representatives of WPHA are entitled to attend the AGM and speak to the issues on the Agenda and to vote on these and the election of office bearers.

4.6.2 It is hoped that, in the spirit of Hockey in general and Masters Hockey in particular, consensus on all matters including the Election of Office Bearers will be aimed for and achieved. Failing this, a two thirds (67) % vote, of those entitled to vote, would be required to carry any changes to the Constitution, while a simple majority would prevail in other matters.

4.7 The committee will meet at least quarterly and report quarterly to the members.

5. Tours and Tournaments

National (annual (IPT) Tournament

5.1 Provincial teams will be selected by an elected selection committee of four persons nominated and elected at the AGM each year.

5.2 Wherever possible teams will be selected in the categories +55, +60 and +65. These teams will be selected on the basis of participation in the Grand Masters leagues and or the Masters leagues.

5.3 Appointments of coaches and managers will be done by the WPGMHA committee.

6. General

6.1 The committee recommends that initially there should be no subscriptions. The inaugural committee should consider whether to introduce subscriptions at a later date as the conditions determine.

6.2 All assets, funds, profits and gains of the WPGMHA shall be utilized at the committee's discretion, **solely** for investment and / or for the objects of the WPGMHA and shall in no circumstances be distributed to any person or persons.

As amended October 2017

7. Amendments to the Constitution

7.1 Bye Law 1 – WPGMHA Code of Conduct. Adopted following a vote by a quorum of members at the AGM held on 19 November 2020.

7.2 Bye Law 2 - WPGMHA Disciplinary procedure and flow chart. Adopted following a vote by a quorum of members at the AGM held on 19 November 2020.

7.3 Annual Financial statements to be financially reviewed and not audited. – Adopted following a vote by a quorum of members at the AGM held on 24 February 2022.