



## **APPEAL POLICIES**

### 1. Categorization:

- (a) If a team has been moved, appealed, had their appeal denied, there will be no further request accepted by the specific team to further review their team.
- (b) If a team has been moved and they didn't appeal, the team may request a move later.
- (c) If a team requested to be re-categorized and it was denied and the team did not appeal, the team may request a move later.
- (d) If a team was moved, appealed and won their appeal and the Categorization Committee receives a second request from an outside member, the process will start again.
- (e) If there are extenuating circumstances that might make a difference after a re-categorization has occurred (ie loss of players through injury and/or moves), the team may make a request, in writing on the applicable form (Request for Re-Categorization form), to the Chair of the Categorization Committee for relief to have their team reviewed again. The Chair of the Categorization Committee, in conjunction with the President of the OWHA, will make a determination if the request should go before the Categorization Committee again. If relief is granted to have the request reheard by the Categorization Committee for a second time and the team's higher level is confirmed by the Categorization Committee, there will be no further right of Appeal.
- (f) The team re-categorized will be notified of the time to Appeal and in order to have an Appeal Hearing, they must complete the attached Appeal Application Form and forward to the OWHA, with the applicable fee by the date as advised.
- (g) The written facts supporting the Appeal re the team being re-categorized will be accepted at the time of the original submission, prior to the Appeal, or at the Appeal Hearing.
- (h) New material may be provided to the Appeal Committee by both parties.
- (i) The OWHA Appeal Tribunal shall be formed and operate in accordance with the OWHA Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, Rules and Policies.

2. Suspensions:

- (a) All suspensions as listed in the OWHA Handbook are treated as individual suspensions.
- (b) Multiple suspensions in a single game or over a period of time, will each be treated individually as minimum suspensions.
- (c) Any individual suspensions in excess of seven (7) games or less may not be appealed.
- (d) All appeals must be submitted and filed with the OWHA office on the attached Appeal Application Form, together with the applicable fee within 48 hours of receipt of the suspension.

Example: A player is assessed a GM 20 and a GM 21 at the end of one game. The minimum suspension is GM20 (2 games), GM 21 (3 games) plus implied GM for second major penalty in one game (2 games). The total minimum suspension is 7 games. This is not appealable.

If the player had been suspended earlier in the season, she is considered a Repeat Offender resulting in an additional 2 game minimum. In this case the total minimum suspension is 9 games. This is not appealable.

- (e) Grounds for Appeal:
  - (i) Supplementary game(s) above the minimum suspension added by the OWHA that takes the suspension to 8 games or more.

Example: A player is assessed a combination of 3 different penalties in a hockey game that add up to a total minimum suspension of 10 games. The 10 game suspension is not appealable. The OWHA Discipline Review Board adds 4 games for a total of a 14 game suspension. The additional 4 games may be appealed. The Appeal Tribunal has the authority to remove, lessen or add to the 4 games. The Appeal Tribunal must leave the minimum 10 game suspension in place.

- (ii) A suspension imposed by a Team, Association or League where there has been a conflict with the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, Rules or Policies of the OWHA; or a material procedural error; or adopted an error of fact; or did not provide a fair Hearing; or did not have the authority or jurisdiction to make the decision.

NOTE:

- The OWHA Discipline Review Board consists of the OWHA Discipline Chair in conjunction with the applicable OWHA Regional Director; or the OWHA Discipline Chair, the OWHA Chair of the Executive Committee and one other OWHA Executive Committee member.