

# ***LOWER LAKES FEMALE HOCKEY LEAGUE***

To: LLFHL League Liaisons

Date: November 11, 2007

Subject: Game Curfews

The Lower Lakes Female Hockey League Transition Executive is experiencing a great deal of frustration as it relates to game curfews and the protesting of these curfew issues. By issuing this letter I am requesting on behalf of the LLFHL Transition Executive to solicit the assistance of the LL's in delivering the following to all of your teams and the referee assignor within in your association. Additionally the referee assignor does need to forward this information onto all of the officials that are assigned LLFHL games.

The LLFHL at the last League Liaison meeting modified Section 17 of the leagues Rules and Regulations dealing with curfews. This revised document is available on the league website. I would request that all teams review this revised document and understand the requirements of Section 17.

## **TEAM MANAGEMENT**

It is the responsibility of the Head Coach of the home team to ensure that a note is placed on the game sheet on the "Other" line indicting either "NO CURFEW" or a specified curfew time i.e. CURFEW 8:15 pm. One of the above mentioned notes **MUST** appear on all game sheets and **MUST** be signed by both teams to acknowledge the curfew. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide this information and convey such information to the visiting team prior to the start of the game. Failure to follow this rule is forfeiture of the game by the home team should the game be protested. Please note that any game that has a specified "NO CURFEW" must be played in its entirety and cannot be stopped unless it falls under subsection 6. I would expect to see very few if any games played with "NO CURFEW" noted on the game sheet.

## **GAME OFFICIALS**

As the officials assigned to a LLFHL game under **NO** circumstances is a game to commence until there is one of the above notes on a game sheet and it is signed by both teams. No team is permitted to stall the starting of a game in the signing of a game sheet to acknowledge the curfew note. If a team purposely delays a game start by refusing to sign assess a delay of game to the offending team. If a team should continue to refuse to sign a game sheet to acknowledge a curfew make a note on the game sheet, front and or back that you as an official advised the team of the curfew and they refused to sign the game sheet. The League will deal with the team staff for refusal to acknowledge the request. When the specified curfew time is met the game **MUST** be stopped at that time. There will be **NO** exceptions to this. If no time of day clock is visible in the arena you must specify to both teams what time piece will be used and this time piece must remain with the official time keeper for the game. The time keeper, as part of the officiating crew is responsible to advise the on ice officials of the curfew when it arrives. A game sheet that specifies "NO CURFW" means that the game must be played in full unless it falls under

subsection 6 which deals with injuries. To review the rule regarding curfews you can obtain it by going to [www.llfhl.ca](http://www.llfhl.ca) and going down the left side of the home page and clicking on the Rules & Regulations.

## **GAME PROTESTS**

Every team must review the protest procedures and understand them prior to submitting a protest of a game. The protest procedure can be found in the Rules & Regulations Section 9. If a protest is filed and it has failed to meet anyone of the criteria laid out in Section 9 the protest will be denied and will not be heard. These protests should be filed through the League Liaison. If you feel a team has failed to meet the criteria please do not forward the protest on to the Discipline Chair. The initial notification is nothing more than an e-mail to the league Discipline Chair advising that you are protesting a specific game and the reason for the protest. A detailed statement will be required and should be submitted to the Discipline Chair within a couple of days of the infraction occurring along with your copy of the game sheet. In Section 9 there is a requirement to submit a registered letter to the protested team. This is not necessary; however an e-mail to the protested team and or the protested teams League Liaison with a cc to the Discipline Chair is sufficient to meet this requirement of the protest process.

If we all work together on these issues we can relieve some of the issues that the Transition Executive is currently facing. Failure to follow the curfew rules carries a stiff penalty if a team files a proper protest. There is no excuse for there to be curfew issue in a game if the teams cooperate and follow the rules as laid out. There is no reason why a visiting team cannot speak up and question the home team as it relates to curfews if they do not see it on the game sheet. We all have to remember the game is about the young ladies who play the game going out and having fun and enjoying the sport that they love to play. It is not about adults playing mind games between each other to gain an advantage or trying to manipulate the rules to suit themselves and then trying to bring the game into the board room to determine an outcome.

*Doug Tiffin*

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Lower Lakes Female Hockey League