

VGHL SEASON 15 RULE BOOK



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- i. Harassment of other users.
- ii. Abuse or disruption of our services.
- iii. The impersonation of VGHL staff.
- iv. Advertising of third party services or websites, unless authorized by us in advance and in writing.
- v. Abusive language and excessive trolling of players and forums.

The VGHL Staff has the right to remove any individual that they deem has intentions to disrupt or damage the integrity of the league. The severity of punishment will be decided on a case by case basis. The punishment can be but not limited to; a suspension of play, chat ban, forum ban, blacklisting and/or removal (Ban) from the league.

VGHL Office Hours are between 6pm-9pm EST on league nights (Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday).The Office is closed from Thursday 9pm until Sunday 6pm for all transactions

Section 1 – Gameplay

1. General

1.1.1 Regular season and playoff games must be played 6 vs. 6. It is up to Team Management to make sure they have a full line-up at game time.

1.1.2 If a player quits on his/her team during a game, the player will be eligible for suspension at the discretion of the VGHLDC.

1.1.3 VGHL Game times are as follows all in EST.

NHL 9:30/10:30, AHL 9:35/10:35, and PHL 9:40/10:40

1.1.4 If you do not have a full roster at game time there will be a **10 minute window** to start the game. If a team is unable to play and they are out of reschedules, a forfeit will be issued. If a team is not out of reschedules, they have up to 24 hours to post a reschedule request.

1.1.5 Teams discussing the possibility of FF or a reschedule must do so following the VGHL game night rules. If a game is to be rescheduled or forfeited, it is to be posted in the appropriate area and no game shall be played that evening. If these rules are ignored, and a game is played, the game is official and no other decision can be made.

1.1.6 If any team uses an illegal roster, the result will be a 1-0 regulation forfeit win for the opponent.

1.1.7 The VGHL operates Sunday through Thursday.

1.1.8 All VGHL games will have the Home Team host the game.

1.1.9 If a team has an issue with a game which has already started and requires staff assistance for a potential forfeit win, the team must stop playing the game and send their evidence to the VGHLDC and their league commissioner for review . The staff will not reverse the results of any game if teams continue to play the game out unless invalid rosters were used. If a team stops a game that has started because they feel that the other team has broken a rule, the staff will review their evidence and decide which team shall receive the ff win. Partial games will not be restarted or rescheduled once they have been stopped for staff review.

2. Disconnects (DC)-

1.2.1 If any player disconnects before the 2 minute mark of the start of the game or of the restarted game, the game is to be paused at the earliest whistle and is to be restarted. All play up to the whistle, including any cpu stats will still carry over into the restarted game. There will be no DC penalty for this restart.

1.2.2 If a single skater disconnects after the 2 minute mark of the first period, the game must be played until the next period. During the intermission the teams must take stats and restart. Upon restarting, play **CAN NOT RESUME** until the disconnected player takes a DC penalty and is in the penalty box. The 1st period becomes the first period to be made up.

1.2.3 If the goalie or two players from the same team have disconnected, the game is to be paused at the next available whistle. Each team is responsible for recording their stats and the time of the restart, then the game is to be restarted. All play up to the whistle will still be counted. If a goalie has disconnected then the team may choose who is to take the DC penalty. If players on both teams disconnected then the penalties are voided and no team has to take a DC penalty. If two players from the same team have disconnected then the team that had the DC's may choose between the two for taking the penalty upon restart. If two players DC only one DC penalty has to be taken.

1.2.4 If a player disconnects during an intermission (between periods), teams **MUST** continue into the next period and follow the above guidelines. Teams **NEVER** back-out and restart during intermission.

1.2.5 Any stats accumulated by computer players will carry over into the restart.

1.2.6 Teams have up to 10 minutes to restart the game after a DC. If a Team cannot produce the same lineup, NHL Teams must use an ECU. AHL Teams may use a player from their roster or an ECU. PHL Teams may use a player from their roster or an ECU. If an ECU is used, the ECU'd player must follow all ECU guidelines and the ECU will count as an official ECU. Any player replacing a DC'd player must replace that player in the exact same position which that player was playing before they DC'd.

1.2.7 If a Team is unable to restart the game after 10 minutes, the result will be a 1-0 regulation forfeit loss. If the DC occurred in OT and the team is unable to restart the game after 10 minutes then the result will be a 1-0 overtime forfeit loss.

1.2.8 Any player that disconnects twice during one game is not allowed to play in the next restart. Teams must replace this player following guidelines set in Rule 1.2.6. The ECU used must follow all ECU guidelines and the ECU will count as an official ECU.

1.2.9 If a team has any ongoing penalty time when a game must be restarted, the team is obligated to take that remaining time as well as the DC penalty.

1.2.10 The team that has the player/player's DC must pause the game and backout. If they do not and continue to play passed the above guidelines the game will result in a forfeit loss.

1.2.11 Each Team is responsible for their own stats on restarted games.

1.2.12 In the event of a DC, all players must continue with the player build selected in the original attempt. The opposing team is responsible to submit evidence to the VGHLDC if this is violated. Infractions could result in an invalid roster and suspensions for those involved.

3. Game Freezes and Game Loops

1.3.1 If a game freeze or game loop occurs during a game, and the game is able to continue, the game must go on with whatever time, penalty minutes and score that the score clock is showing after the freeze or loop. Any goals lost as a result of a freeze or loop will not count towards the official game score. If a game freezes before the game ends and stats are not able to be retrieved, the game must be restarted from the beginning of the game with a 0-0 score.

Section 2 – Code of Conduct

1. General

2.1.1 All members of the VGHL are expected to carry themselves in a respectful manner at all times. Trash talking is allowed, but if it gets out of hand and people start complaining. Then action will be taken by the staff. The players and captains involved will be contacted.

2.1.2 If for any reason a player feels that another player is making his or her VGHL experience unenjoyable, that player may contact the Disciplinary Committee for further action. The reported player may appeal a ruling by contacting the VGHLPA within 24 hours. The VGHLPA will then forward the information to the staff for a ruling. In that ruling there must be a VGHLPA and Disciplinarian present. Once there is a ruling, the decision is final.

2.1.3 Players must assign the PSN that they plan to play with to their gamer profiles. If they wish to change the PSN associated with their account, they can only do so during the Off-Season when the Status Change edit feature becomes available.

2.1.4 Any player complaints should first be addressed by team management, followed by the VGHLPA. These issues should not be addressed in the general population (e.g. chat box, Forums, Etc.). Do not go directly to the VGHL Staff, the VGHLPA will be your medium.

2.1.5 All members of the VGHL are expected to carry themselves in a respectful manner when using the site. Excessive trolling and abusive behavior could result in the temporary or permanent removal of your league privileges.

2.1.6 It is not the responsibility of the VGHL to monitor the actions of its members outside of the confines of the league. As such, the VGHL will not be held accountable for any actions carried out by its members in these events and will not be willing to provide members with any form of conflict resolution. If you feel that any member of the community is directly or indirectly causing you any form of disturbance, please resolve these matters on your own or contact the appropriate authorities for further assistance.

2. Infractions

2.2.1 All infractions must be posted in the infractions section in the Manager Control Panel within 24 hours of game-time. All Evidence for the complaint must be submitted to the VGHLDC by PM within 24hrs of game time or case will be invalid. Posts may be made by either team.

2.2.2 If a player is under suspension and has not served the entire term of the suspension once that player's season/playoffs have ended, the remaining games will be carried over to their following season.

2.2.3 Players that are suspended are exempt from all game requirement rules.

2.2.4 Suspended Players can NOT serve out suspension on the IR. Games missed while on the IR will not count towards their suspension

2.2.5 Repeat offenders will receive more severe suspensions for continued offenses regardless of the nature of the offense. Three suspension in one season could result in a season ending suspension, severe team fine, or blacklist.

2.2.6 Using the one-handed poke to glitch on face-off plays, whether the draw is won or lost, will not be tolerated. Any player caught doing this with the submission of video evidence will be subject to disciplinary action from the VGHLDC ranging from suspension of play, up to and including blacklist for multiple offenses.

3. Owner/Captain & Player Communication

2.3.1 All players that play in the VGHL represent the league. All player names used must be respectful. If the VGHL finds a player name to be disrespectful that player will be suspended until he/she changes their name. To what some people find funny, some will find offensive. Keep it Clean!

2.3.2 All connection issues must be reported to team management before game time. It is the player's responsibility to prevent connection problems during games.

2.3.3 Respect your teammates, owners, captains and your opposition. Unsportsmanlike conduct will NOT be tolerated by the VGHL. We are all here to play and have fun, with the opportunity to be in a competitive environment.

2.3.4 All appointed Owners must work alongside of their NHL and AHL captains in their organization.

2.3.5 A player cannot under any circumstances talk to another team's owner asking them to acquire them, even if the owner contacted them first unless, 4.3.19 is being referenced.

2.3.6 A player is not allowed to act as a team manager in trade negotiations with other teams, posting transactions, or have any access to the Manager Control Panel under any circumstances. Sharing accounts will result in a possible fine and or suspension from the VGHLDC.

2.3.7 No Player or Manager is allowed to communicate with other team's players regarding league matters (availability, scheduling, transactions, etc.) other than to organize a game unless 4.3.19 is being referenced. This is considered tampering and the team/player accused will be penalized accordingly by the VGHLDC.

Section 3 – Players

1. Rights

3.1.1 Players in the VGHL are obligated to meet the Minimum Game Requirements per week as stated in section 4.2.3. If a player CAN NOT for any reason then it is the PLAYER'S responsibility to inform their team management ahead of time so that the team can adjust the line-ups accordingly.

3.1.2 If a player is unhappy on his/her team and wants to be traded or sent down, the player may request a trade. To file a trade request you must contact the VGHLPA. Players are limited to one trade request per a contract year. Please note that managers are not required to trade you only put you on the trade block. Do NOT post in the forum, chat box, or message anyone making it public.

3.1.3 Players must continue to honor their contracts while a possible trade is being negotiated. Players who refuse to play will be subject to the VGHL black list.

3.1.4 Any player suspended by their team may appeal it through the VGHLPA.

3.1.5 Players will be sent invites to their team groups from their team managers and they will need to accept these in order to receive any updates regarding scheduling. They will also need to join their team groups in order to receive assistance from the VGHLPA regarding inactive disputes.

3.1.6 Players must play in the positions selected on the website if instructed by their owner. Owners must play their players in the positions selected on the website if instructed by the player. Players may play outside the selected positions, but may only play a position within the category they selected. The 3 categories are Forward, Defense, Goaltender. Ex. If a player selects LW/RD, he/she may play any F or D position, but may not play G. If any player is found playing outside a selected category, this will result in an invalid roster and a forfeit win for the opposing team.

3.1.7 During the off-season, players with expiring contracts may entertain management opportunities from other teams before deciding if they will accept ELC or contract extensions from their current franchise. Teams may only contact players with expiring contracts to offer them management opportunities during the off-season before the captain selection deadline. If a player agrees to take a management opportunity, their expiring contract will be terminated immediately.

3.1.8 Players will be able to update their weekly availability by editing their gamer profiles from Thursday until Saturday to keep their profiles up to date. **This will not affect rule 3.5.1 and the rules laid out in 3.5.1 must still be followed.**

2. Contracts

3.2.1 All players in the VGHL must play for the team that has acquired their rights.

3.2.2

- FA1's and FA2's signed through NHL Pre-Season Bidding and In-Season Bidding will be given a One Way Contract (OWC)
- FA1's and FA2's signed through AHL Pre-Season Bidding and In-Season Bidding will be signed to a Two Way Contract (TWC).
- FAA's signed through AHL Pre-Season Bidding and In-Season Bidding will be signed to an AHL ONLY Contracts (AHLO).
- FAA's signed through PHL Pre-Season Bidding and In-Season Bidding will be signed to PHL contracts (PHLC) and will retain their FAA status.

3.2.3 Once a player with a 1 way contract in the NHL is waived and clears both NHL & AHL Waivers, the player becomes a free agent and is available for NHL bidding at any time before the trade deadline. Bidding for a NHL 1 way contract will begin at \$500,000.00

3.2.4 Once a player with a 1 way contract in the NHL is waived and clears both NHL & AHL Waivers, the player becomes a free agent and is available for AHL bidding at any time during the regular season and playoffs. Bidding for a AHL 2 way contract will begin at \$250,000.00

3.2.5 Once a player with a 2 way contract in AHL is waived, and clears waivers, the player becomes eligible for free agent bidding by NHL teams at any time before the trade deadline. 2 for a 1 way contract will begin at \$2,500,000.00.

3.2.6 Once a player with a 2 way contract in the AHL is waived, and clears waivers, the player becomes eligible for free agent bidding by AHL teams at any time during the regular season and playoffs. Bidding for a 2 way contract will begin at \$250,000.00.

3.2.7 Once a player with an AHL ONLY contract in the AHL is waived, and clears waivers, the player becomes eligible for free agent bidding by AHL teams as well as PHL Waivers for PHL teams at any time during the regular season and playoffs. Bidding for all AHL ONLY contracts will begin at \$250,000.00.

3.2.8 FAA's signed through in-season bidding will be signed to AHL ONLY contracts. Bidding for AHL ONLY contracts will begin at \$250,000.00. AHL teams can sign FAA's during the regular season and playoffs.

3.2.9 Once a FAA/AHLO has played **20 regular season** games in one season at the AHL level their contract will be upgraded to a 2 way contract. Players that are on the IR will NOT graduate.

3.2.10 FAA's signed through PHL free agency will be signed to PHL contracts. Bidding for PHL contracts will begin at \$125,000.00. PHL teams can sign FAA's during the regular season and playoffs.

3.2.11 FAP's are only eligible to receive PHL ONLY contracts.

3.2.12 Once a FAP/PHLO has played **20 regular season** games in one season at the PHL level, their status will change to PHL and they will be eligible to receive an AHL ONLY contract through AHL bidding per the AHL bidding guidelines. Players that are on the IR will NOT graduate.

3. Legend for Registered Player Status:

3.3.1

FA1 - Players that were signed to a 1 way contract and are in free agency.

FA2 - Players that were signed to a 2 way contract and are in free agency

FAA - Players that were signed to AHL ONLY Contracts and did not achieve the minimum games played requirement to graduate to 2 way contract.

BL1 - Players that have been removed from the league before the trade deadline. Players who receive a BL1 will be banned for the remainder of the season and will be eligible for return the following season as a FAP. Players who are eligible to return from their BL1 status must request a status change in the status change thread while it is open during the off-season. Once this thread closes, no status change requests will be processed.

BL2 - Players that have been removed from the league after the trade deadline. Players who receive a BL2 will be banned for the remainder of the season and the following season. They will be eligible for return as a FAP. Players who are eligible to return from their BL2 status must request a status change in the status change thread while it is open during the off-season. Once this thread closes, no status change request will be processed.

BL3 - Players who have been black listed more than one time will receive a BL3 and will need to appeal to the staff for reinstatement. Players who receive a BL3 during the regular season will have to sit out the remainder of that season plus the next full season before being eligible to appeal. Players who receive a BL3 after the regular season will have to sit out a minimum of two full seasons before being eligible for an appeal. The VGHLDC and the VGHL staff may also give a player a BL3 status for violating any of the VGHL rules and regulations.

BAN - Players that receive a BAN status may not appeal and are henceforth banned from playing in the VGHL permanently.

IDLE - Players that have requested to be inactive will receive and IDLE status. Players who request IDLE status will be allowed to retain their original status for one season. IDLE players may not be used as ECUs. Players who wish to come off of IDLE status must request a status change in the Status Change Thread while it is open during the off-season. Once this thread closes, status change requests will not be processed. If a player wishes to return from their IDLE status during their IDLE season they may do so after pre-season draft for a PHL ONLY contract. Players must contact the PHL commissioner and make a special request. Players who come off of IDLE status during

their IDLE season will forfeit their previous status. Contracted IDLE Players can NOT return during their IDLE season.

RETIRED - Players that have retired from the VGHL. Players who retire will forfeit their VGHL status. If a retired player wishes to return to the VGHL they will be given FAP status. Players who wish to retire must request a status change in the Status Change Thread while it is open during the off-season. Once this thread closes, no status change requests will be processed.

**Players may not go inactive/retire during the regular season or the playoffs. Players who go inactive/retire during the season or the playoffs will be black listed according to the VGHL black list guidelines.*

**Players that are currently Blacklisted, Banned, Idle or Retired can not play or ECU in the VGHL.*

***Eligible BL1, BL2, retired and idle may register after the season begins as FAP**

4. Appeals

3.4.1 Players who wish to appeal their BL3 status must post a request for an appeal during the off-season in the appeal thread of the Status Change Section. Once this thread closes, no more appeals can be submitted. The player will be contacted by the head of the PA to go over the appeal process and answer any questions needed by the player before the case is brought to the league office for review. The player will have to submit a formal letter stating why you believe that you were initially given a BL3 status as well as the reasons why you should be granted a return to the VGHL.

After review, the appeal will be voted on by the VGHL Staff and the player will be contacted by the PA as to the results. If the player is granted reinstatement, the player must agree to all terms of reinstatement which will be delivered by the VGHLPA, before being granted FAP status. If the player receives any further black listings after reinstatement, that player will receive a BAN status and will never again be eligible for an appeal.

If your appeal is denied, you may submit a new appeal during the next offseason when the appeal process reopens.

3.4.2 Players can ONLY appeal their suspensions if they notify the VGHLDC before the office closes the night of the suspension. The player must then submit a written document to a VGHL commissioner that represents their league stating why they feel that their appeal should be reviewed. Appeals must be submitted to a VGHL commissioner who represents their respective league within **24 hours** from the time the suspension was posted.

3.4.3 If a player notifies the VGHLDC that they wish to appeal their suspension before the office closes on the night of their suspension, they will be allowed to play that night and may use the full 24 hours to prepare their written appeal.

5. Availability

3.5.1 Players must submit their availability each week in the team group by Sundays at 6 P.M. EST if they wish to receive any assistance from the VGHLPA throughout the season regarding inactive claims. From your group, simply post your weekly availability with the week number and games you can make. Add #availability at the end. You may add #lineups and #availability filters to your group menu by clicking "Add Filter" so that you may quickly see all of the posts in your team group relating to these topics. **Managers may also make a poll in their team group for each week and players may vote on the days that they can play.**

The screenshot shows the VGHL HUB group page. The top navigation bar includes 'VGHL HUB' and a calendar for the month of February. The group name is 'Staff Department Heads', which is a closed group with 14 members. A 'Menu' on the left side has 'availability' and '#availability' filters highlighted with green arrows. The 'Recent Updates' section shows a post for 'week 1' with availability for 'sun 2', 'mon 2', 'wed 930', and 'thurs 1030'. A green arrow points to the '#availability' filter in the post. A 'LEADERBOARD' on the right lists players and their points: Castrogstar (16093), Yucko (15736), Carmelsnake (15105), Wade-Belak (10505), and xstcopleyx (882). A green arrow points to the 'Groups' icon in the top right navigation menu.

The screenshot shows the S15 Vancouver Canucks team group page. The top navigation bar includes 'Leagues', 'Info', 'Events', 'Forums', 'MVG TV', 'MVG Buzz', 'Gamer Profile', 'Pro-shop', 'MCP', 'Staff', and 'Big Chat'. The group name is 'S15 Vancouver Canucks', which is a VG NHL Team with an invite-only setting and 4 members. The 'DETAILS' section shows a poll titled 'Week 1 Availability' with the following options: Sun 930, Sun 1030, Mon 930, Mon 1030, Wed 930, Wed 1030, Thurs 930, and Thurs 1030. The 'NEWS FEED' and 'MEMBERS (3)' sections are also visible.

Section 4 – Management

1. Owner & Captain Responsibilities

4.1.1 All Owners, Captains, and Assistants must follow all the rules and guidelines set by the VGHL. If the VGHL deems a team to be poorly managed and is feels that that team is hurting the league, the VGHL can step in and attempt to restore the team using any management tools necessary.

4.1.2 Each Franchise must consist of an NHL Owner, NHL Captain, AHL Captain and AHL Assistant Captain. Owners may pick their NHL and AHL Captains. The AHL Captain may pick their Assistant Captain. All transactions posted by AHL management will be considered official once they are posted.

4.1.3 PHL teams have no affiliation to any NHL franchise. Each PHL team must consist of a Owner and Captain.

4.1.4 NHL Owners can remove management players from the franchise but are required to buyout their contract. Captains and Assistants that are bought out are placed in free agency.

4.1.5 Captains and Assistants that are bought out at the NHL/AHL/PHL level, may NOT be bid on in free agency by the NHL/AHL/PHL franchise that bought their contract out.

4.1.6 All VGHL Managers must communicate lineups, game times, roster changes, and roster needs to all the players on the team.

4.1.7 All VGHL Managers are expected to communicate with other team's Managers on all VGHL matters.

4.1.8 Team Management is allowed to suspend a player on his/her team with good reason. Team suspensions must be done in the team's "Team Page" with a valid explanation. **Team rules are not recognized by the VGHL.** At no time may a custom team suspension contradict any of the VGHL rules.

4.1.9 If an Owner, Captain, or Assistant can not be present for a game., it is their responsibility to notify the VGHL Staff and opposing team on who will be responsible for their team.

4.1.10 The winning team records all game stats. Each team is responsible for their own player stats. All stats must be posted on the site within 12 hours of scheduled game times. Teams will be fined 200k in the NHL and 100k in the AHL for not posting their stats on time. Teams that do not have their stats recorded and submitted to the VGHLDC within 24 hrs of scheduled game times will be fined an additional 200k for the NHL and 100k for the AHL. If the winning team fails to record team stats within 24 hrs, the game will result in a forfeit loss. Any teams caught tampering with stats or rosters will be dealt with by the VGHLDC accordingly including fines, suspensions or possible blacklist.

4.1.11 Teams that play with an illegal roster will forfeit the game.

4.1.12 Forfeited games that are not played will still count as a game played for players on the winning team as long as the following guidelines are met:

- Team line up must be posted in the team page prior to the start of the game.
- A screenshot of the teams line up must be taken within 30 minutes of the scheduled game time.
- Screenshots must be submitted to the VGHLDC within 12 hours of the scheduled game time.

4.1.13 Forfeiting games will result in fines issued by the disciplinary committee. The first forfeit will be a warning, subsequent forfeits will result in a 200k fine for NHL teams and 100k fine for AHL teams.

4.1.14 All managers will be warned when a team reaches 4 forfeits. If the team reaches 5 forfeits, management will be eligible for removal by their league commissioner (excludes final week of season)

4.1.15 Any NHL Owner, NHL Captain, AHL Captain, AHL Assistant Captain, PHL Owner or PHL Captain that quits during the season on his/her team will automatically have their status changed to BL2.

4.1.16 Management transactions which have not yet been approved by the league may not be leaked by anyone regardless of the significance. **ANY** infractions will be dealt with by the VGHLDC accordingly and could result in fines, suspensions or possible blacklists.

4.1.17 Managers are required to send group invites to all of their roster players and to remove players from their groups if they are no longer on their roster. The VGHLDC will do random group checks and will send out warnings if groups are found to be in violation of this rule.

4.1.18 Player Association members are ineligible to hold any management positions.

2. Player Management

4.2.1 Managers must report players to the VGHLPA if a player is inactive, uncontrollable, or unresponsive. The definition of an inactive player is as follows; a player will be deemed inactive once they miss at least 4 games which they have been scheduled to play and they haven't communicated with their manager's. The definition of a unresponsive player is as follows; a player who fails to reply to a message sent from the player's management team in four calendar days. Falsely reporting inactive players will result in team fines from the VGHLDC. The VGHLPA will not assist in any inactive claims if the team group has not been used to list weekly lineups. All evidence for inactive players must be added under the reason section of the report. All evidence from elsewhere will not be accepted including, but not limited, to skype and psn.

4.2.2 All players must meet the minimum games per week requirement. If a player does not meet the minimum games played per week requirement, the team will be fined 200k per game at the NHL level and 100k per game at the AHL level. Fines will be doubled for each consecutive week of inactivity and will continue to be doubled as such. NHL, AHL and PHL managers who do not report inactive players to the VGHLPA will be subject to fines from the VGHLDC. Team Management does not have to play 2 games per week at the NHL, AHL and

PHL level. Please note that send downs and call ups must still follow this rule.

4.2.3 Minimum Game Requirements for Players:

- 8 Game Week: Players must play a minimum of 2 games
- 6 Game Week: Players must play a minimum of 1 game
- 4 Game Week: Players have NO minimum requirements
- *Reschedules DO NOT adjust these requirements unless they are played during the same week that they were originally scheduled to be played.

4.2.4 Minimum Game Requirements for Traded Players and Players Signed Through Free Agency:

- Sunday Trade/Signing: Players signed through free agency must play a minimum of 2 games. Traded players must play a minimum of 2 games for their new team and have NO minimum requirements for their old team.
- Monday Trade/Signing: Players signed through free agency must play a minimum of 1 game. Traded players must play a minimum of 1 game for their new team and have NO minimum requirements for their old team.
- Wednesday Trade/Signing: Players signed through free agency have NO minimum requirements. Traded players have NO minimum requirements for their new team or their old team.
- Thursday Trade/Signing: Players signed through free agency have NO minimum requirements. Traded players have NO minimum requirements for their new team and must play a minimum of 1 game for their old team. *Reschedules DO NOT adjust these requirements unless they are played during the same week that they were originally scheduled to be played.

4.2.5 To place a player on the IR, managers must use the Injured Reserve thread in the Manager Control Panel on the VGHL Forums

4.2.6 All call-ups must be posted in the Call Up section in the Manager Control Panel by **9 pm EST**.

4.2.7 All Players acquired through In-Season Free Agency and Waivers must play 2 games before they can be moved.

4.2.8 Players called up from the AHL must play one game before they can be re-assigned back to their AHL team.

4.2.9 AUTO TRANSACTION PROCESS FEATURE: Teams may go forward with their transactions without the approval of staff for call ups, send downs, and placing players on IR. These transactions must still fit within our office hour guidelines. Any time sensitive transactions which expire after office hours and have not yet been approved by the staff may not be used. If the staff denies the transaction after the team has moved forward, their games played will be forfeited. Management is expected to let the Transaction Team know of other moves they are processing. An example would be letting staff know you have an IR placement waiting on approval in your post for a call-up. Waiver claims and trades may not be used until they have been approved by the staff.

4.2.10 Trades must be approved by the VGHL Staff before a team is allowed to move forward with the transaction. Once both parties have accepted a trade, the trade may not be cancelled unless both parties post their agreement to have the trade voided. A VGNHL owner may veto a trade made by their VGAHL manager, even if both parties have agreed to the trade, without

needing another manager to agree to void the trade, as long as the trade has not yet been approved by the VGHL. Once the VGHL has approved a trade, the trade is final.

4.2.11 A player may not be traded back to their original team on the same game day that they were traded off of their original team.

3. NHL Specific

4.3.1 All NHL teams will operate with a salary cap of \$32,500,000.00

4.3.2 Team rosters at the NHL level must always consist of a minimum of 10 players up to a maximum of 13 players. One spot will be given to the Owner and one spot to the Captain. The captain will be appointed by the Owner and approved by the VGHL. All Rosters must stay within the guidelines of the VGHL and the Salary Cap.

4.3.3 Any team over the salary cap at the end of the season will have the balance carried over to the next season.

4.3.4 Two Way Contracted players may not play more than twelve games in the NHL per season, per Team. This includes play-off games.

4.3.5 Teams are not allowed to trade inactive players.

4.3.6 Teams are not allowed to trade players on the IR

4.3.7 Players called up to a NHL roster while under a TWC, if traded, will be traded to a NHL roster. They can not be called up then traded to a different franchise's AHL roster.

4.3.8 NHL can not place a AHL TWC player on the NHL IR. If the player needs to be placed on the IR, he must first be returned to the AHL and placed on the AHL IR.

4.3.9 Teams are allowed to trade draft picks. No team may exceed 4 draft picks from one season.

4.3.10 If an NHL Team wishes to buyout a player with a extension contract they must do it during the Off-Season Contract period. Teams must continue to pay 50% of the player's salary for the remainder of that player's contract.

4.3.11 FAA's may not be appointed as NHL Captains.

4.3.12 Teams may promote AHL players to NHL management during the regular season by first acquiring them on the NHL roster with a ELC contract. AHL management may not be promoted to NHL management while they are managing AHL teams.

4.3.13 If a player under a extension contract is promoted to management, that player must honor the length of their contract as management for the remainder of their contract years. The player's salary will be adjusted by the league during the off-season should they chose to remain a manager. The Owner has the option to return the player to their roster during the off-season. The player would return as a player for the remainder of their contract years at their existing salary. The Owner may also choose to buy out the player per our buyout rules during the off-season.

4.3.14 Any One Way Contract (OWC) that has cleared waivers and is on an AHL team at season's end will automatically become a Free Agent. If that player has a extension contract, this rule still applies. The NHL team will continue to pay a buyout penalty for the remainder of their contract.

4.3.15 If a player that was signed to a One Way Contract (OWC) through Free Agent Bidding was promoted to Captain during the season, the Owner has the option to return the player to their roster during the off-season and use a PBR extension on him.

4.3.16 At the end of the playoffs, any TWC players left on the NHL roster will be returned to their AHL affiliate. If the team does not have enough roster space and or salary cap for the player to return, the team will be forced to buy out the contract.

4.3.17 Owner have the ability to simultaneously perform franchise transactions for call-ups/send downs **only as long as the transactions fit within all of the rules and guidelines.**

4.3.18 Teams may trade for the extension rights of players with expiring contracts during the off- season contract period. Unused ELC contracts may not be traded.

4.3.19 Teams may contact players with expiring contracts during the off-season before the captain selection deadline to offer them a management opportunity. If a player agrees to take a management opportunity, their expiring contract will be terminated immediately.

4.3.20 If a team has not selected an NHL captain before the captain deadline, a fine of 500k will be handed out on a 24h cycle until a captain is named. If a team has not selected AHL management before the deadline, a fine of 250k will be handed out per position on a 24 hour cycle until all positions are filled.

4.3.21 If a team is unable to name a free agent or a player with an expiring contract as their captain by the captain deadline, they may name a player acquired through a trade during the off season contract trade period as their captain. A fine of 500k will be handed out along with late fees in accordance with the rules set out in 4.3.19. The player's salary will also be set by the VGHL staff in accordance with the rules set out in 6.1.3.

4.3.22 Owners may trade the rights of players with extension contracts who have requested idle status if their contract is not expiring during the off season. Managers may not seek any form of compensation if the player does not return after their idle status expires.

4. AHL Specific

4.4.1 All AHL teams will operate with a salary cap of \$17,750,000.00

4.4.2 Team rosters at the AHL level must always consist of a minimum of 11 players up to a maximum of 14 players. One spot will be given to the AHL captain and 1 spot to the AHL assistant captain. The assistant will be appointed by the AHL captain and approved by the AHL Commissioner. All Rosters must stay within the guidelines of the VGHL and the Salary Cap.

4.4.3 Teams are not allowed to trade inactive players.

4.4.4 Teams are not allowed to trade players on the IR.

4.4.5 If an AHL team wishes to buyout a player during the season, they must carry 50% of the contract for the remainder of the year. This rule also applies to 1 way contract players who have cleared waivers and are currently on an AHL team. Players who clear waivers will be placed in free agency.

4.4.6 Any AHL team over the salary cap at the end of the season will have the balance carried over to the NHL Team for next season.

4.4.7 To promote a player to management during the regular season you must acquire them on your roster first.

4.4.8 AHL Management will graduate to FA2 Status during the off-season if they have met the AHL graduation requirements.

5. PHL Specific

4.5.1 All PHL teams will operate with a salary cap of \$9,000,000.00

4.5.2 Team rosters at the PHL level must always consist of a minimum of 12 players up to a maximum of 16 players. One spot will be given to the PHL Owner and One spot to the PHL Captain. The Captain will be appointed by the PHL Owner and approved by the PHL Commissioner. All Rosters must stay within the guidelines of the VGHL.

4.5.3 Teams are not allowed to trade inactive players.

4.5.4 Teams are not allowed to trade players on the IR.

4.5.5 If a PHL team wishes to buyout a player during the season, they must carry 50% of the contract for the remainder of the year. Players who clear waivers will be placed in free agency.

4.5.6 To promote a player to management during the regular season you must acquire them on your roster first.

4.5.7 FA1's, and FA2's are not eligible for PHL free agency.

4.5.8 FAA's that are not signed during pre-season bidding are eligible for PHL free agency once the waiver office opens.

4.5.9 FA2's and FAA's that do not have a contract after pre-season bidding are eligible to manage PHL teams. These players will retain their status

4.5.10 PHL Owners can demote their PHL Captain back to their roster if they have a replacement. Replacements must accept the offer before staff will make them the captain.

4.5.11 PHL Owners and Captains who held their management contract for 50% of the season or more will be eligible for FA2 status the following season and be eligible for the NHL ENTRY DRAFT. This is pending an end of season office vote and approval.

4.5.12 PHL Owners can not place players on the IR once an AHL team has placed a bid on them. Any abuse of the IR will result in **fin**es.

4.5.13 PHL Owners who have held their management contract for 100% of the season will be considered for NHL Ownership for the following season if an NHL team is available. Eligible owners are placed into a ranking system based on their current season contract and performance. It is not a guarantee that an eligible candidate will receive an NHL franchise.

6. PHL Fine System

4.6.1 PHL franchises will be fined for infractions similar to any NHL or AHL team. PHL fines will be 25% of any standard NHL totals

7. Reschedules

4.7.1 All teams will be given 3 reschedules per season.

4.7.2 Once a team has used all of their reschedules, they will begin to forfeit games that they do not show up for.

4.7.3 All reschedules must be posted by the team that caused the reschedule within **24 hours of the original game time**. The opposing captain must agree to a rescheduled time and date **within 48 hours of the original game time** in the reschedule topic in the Manager Control Panel.

- If the team that used the reschedule does not post their reschedule request within the 24 hour time period they will forfeit the game.
- If the opposing team does not respond to the reschedule request with an agreed time within the 48 hour time period then they will forfeit the game.

4.7.4 Teams are given until the end of the upcoming league week to complete their rescheduled games. The team that originally did not use the reschedule, can use a reschedule if needed. No team may reschedule the same game more than once.

4.7.5 If the team charged with a reschedule cannot field a roster for their rescheduled game they will forfeit that game.

4.7.6 Reschedules may not be used during the last week of the regular season.

4.7.7 Rescheduled games will still count as a game played for players on the team that did not use the reschedule as long as the following guidelines are met:

- Team line up must be posted in the team group by the lineup deadline.
- Adjustment lineups must be submitted 1 hour before the scheduled game time
- A screenshot of the teams line up must be taken within 10 minutes of the scheduled game time.
- Screenshots must be submitted to the VGHLDC within 12 hours of the scheduled game time.

8. Appeals

4.8.1 Team managers may appeal any fines or violation points which they have been given by submitting a written document stating why they feel that their appeal should be reviewed. Appeals must be submitted to a VGHL commissioner who represents their respective league within **24 hours** from the time that the fine was given.

4.8.2 Team managers may appeal any forfeit loss which they feel was inaccurately given. Managers will need to submit a request to a VGHL commissioner who represents their respective league within **24 hours** from the time that the forfeit loss was given. Evidence will be needed to support such requests.

9. Lineups

4.9.1 Team managers must submit their weekly lineups each week in the team group by Sundays at 7:30 P.M. EST if they wish to receive any assistance from the league regarding inactives or weekly games played credit from reschedules . From your group, simply post your weekly lineups with the week number and lineup. Add #lineups at the end of the post. Please add #lineups and #availability filters to your group menu to quickly see all of the posts relating to these topics. Please add @ to the players name and click the entry once it appears so that they receive a lineup alert.

4.9.2 Lineup changes may be submitted up to 1 hour before the scheduled game time. This info will be used when disputing inactive cases or when trying to obtain credit for WGP from an opposing team's reschedule. Add #lineups at the end of your post. You may also tag the players that are affected by the change by clicking the tagging button.

The screenshot displays the VGHL HUB interface for a group. The top navigation bar includes the VGHL HUB logo, group status (Closed Group), staff information (14 Members), and a Manage Group button. Below this, there are statistics for 0 Videos, 4 Albums, and 181 Hits, along with a Social Share button. The main content area is divided into a Menu on the left and a Recent Updates section in the center. The Menu includes options for Details, Timeline, lineups, availability, Add Filter, Discussions, Events, Groups, Links, Announcements, Photos, Polls, Repost, and Links. The Recent Updates section shows a post titled 'WEEK 1' with a green arrow pointing to it. The post content includes 'Sunday 930', 'Yucko LW', 'Sazer15 C', 'SMOKESHOWJOERW', 'kyie83 LD', 'King-Forest RD', and '@GODISNOWHERE'. A green arrow points to the '@GODISNOWHERE' tag. Below the post, there is a 'lineups' filter and a 'GODISNOWHERE' link. On the right side, there is a LEADERBOARD section listing users and their points: Castrogstar (16093 Points), Yucko (15736 Points), Carmelsnake (15105 Points), Wade-Belak (10505 Points), and xstcopleyx (8882 Points). A green arrow points from the Yucko profile to the Groups, Events, and Achievements icons in the top right navigation menu. A 'View Leaderboard' button is located at the bottom of the leaderboard section.

Section 5 – Contracts

1. Re-signs

5.1.1 Each NHL team is allowed to re-sign 2 expiring contracts during the off-season contract period. A player's re-sign value will be determined by a Performance Based Rating system. A player's PBR will be based on their regular season performance.

Players will be given a PBR value in one of three categories; Forward, Defense, Goalie. A player's PBR category will be determined by which position they played the most throughout the regular season. If a player has played an equal amount of games in multiple PBR categories, they will be given the highest PBR value. All re-signs must fit within the guidelines set by the VGHL.

5.1.2 Players will receive a minimum re-sign value if they have not met the minimum games played for their PBR category. The minimum games played for all positions is 30 regular season games played.

5.1.3 Players will receive a minimum re-sign value if they have a PBR value lower than 0.

5.1.4 If a player that was signed to a One Way Contract (OWC) through Free Agent Bidding and was promoted to Captain during the season, the Owner has the option to return the player to their roster during the off-season and use a PBR re-sign on him.

5.1.5 Performance Based Rating Re-sign Values

DEFENSE

| PBR RANGE | SALARY RAISE |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 0.00 to 0.49 | 25% |
| 0.50 to 0.79 | 50% |
| 0.80 to 1.14 | 75% |
| 1.15 to 1.44 | 100% |
| 1.45 to 1.80 | 125% |
| 1.81 to 1.81+ | 150% |

FORWARD

| PBR RANGE | SALARY RAISE |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 0.00 to 1.00 | 25% |
| 1.01 to 1.49 | 50% |
| 1.50 to 1.99 | 75% |
| 2.00 to 2.39 | 100% |
| 2.40 to 2.69 | 125% |
| 2.70 to 2.7+ | 150% |

GOALIE

| PBR RANGE | SALARY RAISE |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 0.00 to 1.99 | 25% |
| 2.00 to 2.49 | 50% |
| 2.50 to 2.99 | 75% |
| 3.00 to 3.49 | 100% |

| | |
|---------------|------|
| 3.50 to 3.99 | 125% |
| 4.00 to 4.00+ | 150% |

5.1.6 Players that have a split salary during the season must be paid the PBR increase of their combined total salary.

5.1.7 All contract re-signs must be verified by the VGHLPA. If a player denies a contract re-sign, or does not respond to the PA before the Player Response deadline, the re-sign will be voided. Teams may re-use the voided re-sign again if the deadline has not yet passed.

5.1.8 Players have 48 hours after the off-season contract deadline to accept their offer. Players have the right to refuse contract re-signs.

2. Contract Extension Negotiation Period

5.2.1 The contract extension negotiation period will take place 3 weeks into the season. The official date and time will be added to the events section.

5.2.2 The maximum number of contract seasons to be given to one player is 2 seasons.

5.2.3 Teams may give out up to three extended contracts. Existing extended contracts on a team's roster will count towards the maximum amount of extension contracts that can be given out during the extension negotiation period.

5.2.4 It is not required that all extension contracts be given out.

5.2.5 Any teams who have more than four players on their roster with extended contracts during the off-season will be fined \$1,000,000 for each additional player. Fines will be applied to the upcoming season.

5.2.6 All contracts must be given out by the contract extension negotiation deadline. All contract transactions must be done in the Manager Control Panel.

5.2.7 All extension contracts must be verified by the VGHLPA. If a player denies the extension contract, or does not respond to the PA before the Player Response deadline, the extension contract will be voided and the player will remain on the roster as a one season contracted player. Teams may offer the voided extension contract to another player if the deadline has not passed.

5.2.8 Players have 48 hours after the contract extension negotiation deadline to accept their offer. Players have the right to refuse extension contracts.

5.2.9 NHL trades will not be processed during the contract extension negotiation period.

3. Entry Level Contracts

5.3.1 All NHL teams have two Entry Level Contracts (ELC) they can give to two AHL players with 2-way contracts. ELC's may be given during the season for the current season. Teams with remaining ELC's at the end of the season, can offer them to AHL players with 2-way contracts off their affiliate team during the Off-Season Contract Period. Players only have the right to refuse off-season ELC's.

5.3.2 ELC contracts will be set at a minimum salary of \$2,500,000.00. All players that are signed to a 2 way contract that exceeds \$2,500,000.00 are given an Entry Level Contract at their current salary.

5.3.3 Once a team signs a player to an in-season ELC they **may not trade that player for 14 days** from the time the contract was approved.

5.3.4 ELC contracts are for 1 season and they may not be extended. A player with an ELC may be re-signed per the player's PBR value once their ELC contract expires.

5.3.5 During the regular season, players that have an entry level contract can be sent down/called up without going through waivers. If an ELC player is sent down they are required to play 1 game before being called back up. If they are called up they are required to play one game before being sent back down.

5.3.6 Players signed to ELC's during the off-season may be traded once the VGNHL Entry Draft trade office opens and/or can be dropped to the AHL roster once the VGNHL waiver/transaction office opens.

5.3.7 In season ELC's may only be given out once the contract negotiation period has started up to the end of the regular season.

4. Buyouts

5.4.1 If an NHL Team wishes to buyout a player with a extended contract they must do so during the Off-Season Contract period. Teams must continue to pay 50% of the player's salary for the remainder of that player's contract.

5.4.2 If an AHL team wishes to buyout a player during the season, they must carry 50% of the contract for the remainder of the year. This rule also applies to 1 way contract players who have cleared waivers and are currently on an AHL team.

5.4.3 If an AHL team wishes to buyout a player after the Trade Deadline, they can not re-sign that player.

5.4.4 If a PHL team wishes to buyout a player during the season, they must carry 50% of the contract for the remainder of the year.

5.4.5 If a PHL team wishes to buyout a player after the Trade Deadline, they can not re-sign that player.

5.4.6 Owners can remove management players from the franchise but are required to buyout their contract. All Captains and Assistants that are bought out are placed in free agency. NHL Captains can only be bought out before the Trade Deadline.

5. Franchise Tags

5.5.1 NHL teams can decide to add a franchise tag to one of their expiring NHL contracts. They will first need to request approval during the off-season contract period from the player in order to re-sign their contract. By adding the franchise tag, the player's salary would not be adjusted by the PBR and it would be locked in at the league average for that position, or at the player's current salary, whichever is higher.

5.5.2 Teams may offer a franchise tagged player a contract extension during the contract negotiation period per the rules which are outlined in section 5.2.

5.5.3 Each team may only add one franchise tag to a player's contract during that contract's life cycle. If a team wishes to add a franchise tag to the same player more than once, they will need to acquire that player again in a future season through pre-season or in-season bidding.

5.5.4 If a player with a franchise tag is traded, the franchise tag is dissolved and the player's contract will expire at the end of the current season, regardless of the amount of seasons remaining on the contract. Extension contract and franchise tag refunds will not be handed out and the trades will not be reversed in the event that managers were unaware of these rules. It is highly recommended that team's request approval to speak with franchise tagged players before agreeing to trade for them.

5.5.5 A team may never have more than one active franchise tag on their roster at any time.

5.5.6 A player who has had a franchise tag terminated via a trade or via the contract term may not be resigned per their PBR.

Section 6 – Salary Cap

1. NHL

6.1.1 No NHL team is allowed to go over the salary cap limit at any time.

6.1.2 NHL teams will have a total of \$32,500,000.00 cap space.

6.1.3 Each Owner and NHL captain will be given a salary appointed the VGHL Staff. Salaries will range from \$2,500,000.00 to \$6,500,000.00 and will be determined by PBR logic, along with staff input.

6.1.4 The NHL minimum player salary is 500k.

6.1.5 Players with a one way contract who clear waivers and are sent to the AHL will have their salary reduced by 50%. The AHL team will pay the remaining 50% of the player's contract until the player is returned to the NHL.

6.1.6 Playoff teams that exceed the salary cap must adjust their rosters to adhere to all salary and roster guidelines once the regular season has ended before advancing to the playoffs. If an owner is unable to adjust their roster, a NHL commissioner will present them with a plan of action that must be followed. Owners will be expected to have all changes submitted to the commissioner by the opening of the next office day for approval. Any owners refusing to adjust their rosters will be removed before the start of the playoffs. An NHL commissioner will then make all necessary adjustments

6.1.7 If any franchise names a replacement owner at any time during the season, ECU's, reschedules, and fine totals are subject to review and adjustment by the NHL Commissioners.

2. AHL

6.2.1 No AHL team is allowed to go over the salary cap limit at any time.

6.2.2 AHL teams will have a total of \$17,750,000.00 cap space

6.2.3 AHL captains and assistants will be given a set salary of \$2,000,000.00 for the captain and \$1,000,000.00 for the assistant.

6.2.4 All 2-way players called up to the NHL will be removed from the AHL active roster and as such their salary will not be applied to the AHL salary cap. If a 2 way player is to return to the AHL and the AHL team does not have enough roster space and or salary cap, that player will be placed on AHL waivers and the NHL team will be forced to carry 50% of the players salary for the remainder of their contract.

3. PHL

6.3.1 No PHL team is allowed to go over the salary cap limit at any time.

6.3.2 PHL teams will have a total of \$9,000,000.00 cap space.

6.3.3 PHL owners and PHL captains will be given a set salary of \$500,000.00

6.3.4 If any franchise names a replacement owner at any time during the season, ECU's, reschedules, and fine totals are subject to review and adjustment by the PHL Commissioners.

Section 7 – Injured Reserve

1. General

7.1.1 The injured reserve is for players that will not be able to participate in league play for a limited amount of time. Teams may place an inactive player on IR, but they must report inactive players to the VGHLPA for removal.

7.1.2 All teams that wish to place players on the IR must post their requests in the Manager Control Panel

7.1.3 Players placed on Injured Reserve must stay there for a minimum of 7 days.

7.1.4 Players must contact the PA if they require the use of the IR for 3 weeks or more. Team owners will be held accountable if a player has been placed on the IR for 3 weeks or more and the PA has not been notified. Improper use of the IR will result in a penalty at the discretion of the VGHLDC.

7.1.5 Players placed on the Injured Reserve will not count towards a team's salary cap or as a filled Roster Spot.

7.1.6 Teams may not place a player on the IR if it puts them below the minimum roster requirements.

7.1.7 Teams must have enough salary cap space and roster space for a player on the IR to return to the roster.

7.1.8 Players that are removed from the IR are required to play one game before being placed back on the IR.

7.1.9 If a player is improperly placed on the IR and is able to play teams will face a penalty at the discretion of the VGHLDC.

7.1.10 Players placed on the IR that are eligible to return must be returned to the roster. Team that do not have enough roster space and or salary cap to do so must place the player on waivers. The team will be forced to pay 50% of the players salary for the remainder of their contract.

7.1.11 Players placed on the IR may not be traded.

7.1.12 Team Management may not be placed on the IR during Regular Season.

7.1.13 NHL can not place a AHL TWC player on the NHL IR. If the player needs to be placed on the IR, he must be returned to the AHL and placed on the AHL IR.

7.1.14 Players that remain on the IR at the end of a team's season will be removed from the IR and placed on the team's roster. Teams that do not have enough roster and or salary cap to return the player will be forced to buy out the player and pay 50% of the players salary for the remainder of their contract.

7.1.15 Players on IR can not play for their team or ECU for any other team until they are removed from the IR. Any game played would result in an invalid roster for the offending team.

Section 8 – Free Agents & Waivers

1. NHL Waivers

8.1.1 The NHL Waiver order will be based on Standings. Teams will be sorted based on the fewest amount of points. In the event of a tie, the following tie breakers will be applied:

1. Wins: Least to Most
2. Games Played: Most to Least
3. Goal differential: Least to Most
4. Goals for: Least to Most

The new waiver order will be posted after Thursday night games by Sunday at 6pm EST. Once a team claims a player they move to the bottom of the waiver order. Once a team places a claim, the claim may not be cancelled.

8.1.2 NHL Waivers take 24 hours. The time starts from the moment the player has been sent down. The Team at the top of the Waiver order will not have to wait 24 hours for their claim to be approved.

8.1.3 All 1 way contracts sent to the AHL must clear Waivers. The dropped player will be put onto a waiver list for 24 hours. Teams will be able to place a claim on this player for 50% of their current salary. After 24 hours, if no teams have claimed the player, they will be added to their AHL roster and may continue to play at the AHL level.

8.1.4 Players claimed for 50% of their salary off of waivers must continue to finish their current contract. The NHL team that put the player on waivers must continue to pay 50% of their contract for the remainder of the contract. This includes multi-season contracts.

8.1.5 No NHL team is allowed to send a 1 way player down to the AHL if their AHL team does not have enough roster space.

8.1.6 NHL Waiver Drops (AHL re-assignment) are not allowed to be made Thursday (9pm) to Sunday at 6pm EST. All ongoing NHL and AHL Waivers do not close during off hours.

8.1.7 NHL Waivers are closed at the Trade Deadline.

8.1.8 Once a player is placed on waivers, their contract is bought out and they are removed from the roster.

8.1.9 Once management places a player on waivers, the player is ineligible to play for that team.

2. AHL Waivers

8.2.1 The AHL Waiver order will be based on Standings. Teams will be sorted based on the fewest amount of points. In the event of a tie, the following tie breakers will be applied:

1. Wins: Least to Most
2. Games Played: Most to Least
3. Goal differential: Least to Most
4. Goals for: Least to Most

The new waiver order will be posted after Thursday night games by Sunday at 6pm EST. Once a team claims a player they move to the bottom of the waiver order. Once a team places a claim, the claim may not be cancelled.

8.2.2 AHL Waivers take 24 hours. The time starts from the the time the waiver was posted. The Team at the top of the Waiver order will not have to wait 24 hours for their claim to be approved.

8.2.3 Players placed on AHL waivers will remain on the waiver list for 24 hours. Teams will be able to place a claim on this player for 50% of their current salary. After 24 hours, if no teams have claimed the player, the player will be sent to free agency.

8.2.4 No AHL Drops may be made Thursday (9pm) to Sunday at 6pm EST. All ongoing AHL Waivers do not close during off hours.

8.2.5 AHL Waivers are closed after the Trade Deadline. AHL teams will still be allowed to buyout players for 50% of their contract after the Trade deadline but these players will go to free agency.

8.2.6 Once a player is placed on waivers, their contract is bought out and they are removed from the roster.

8.2.7 Once management places a player on waivers, the player is ineligible to play for that team.

3. PHL Waivers

8.3.1 The PHL Waiver order will be based on Standings. Teams will be sorted based on the fewest amount of points. In the event of a tie, the following tie breakers will be applied:

1. Wins: Least to Most
2. Games Played: Most to Least
3. Goal differential: Least to Most
4. Goals for: Least to Most

The new waiver order will be posted after Thursday night games by Sunday at 6pm EST. Once a team claims a player they move to the bottom of the waiver order. Once a team places a claim, the claim may not be cancelled.

8.3.2 PHL Waivers take 24 hours. The time starts from the first claim.

8.3.3 Players placed on PHL waivers will remain on the waiver list for 24 hours. Teams will be able to place a claim on this player for 50% of their current salary. After 24 hours, if no teams have claimed the player, the player will be sent to free agency.

8.3.4 PHL Waivers are closed after the Trade Deadline. PHL teams will still be allowed to buyout players for 50% of their contract after the Trade deadline but these players will go to free agency.

8.3.5 Once a player is placed on waivers, their contract is bought out and they are removed from the roster.

8.3.6 Once management places a player on waivers, the player is ineligible to play for that team.

4. In-Season Free Agency

8.4.1 All bidding will be done on MVG website. If a player you want to bid on is missing from the list and is registered for the VGHL, then let a VGHL staff member know so he can add the player for you.

8.4.2 All bids will be extended 12 hours after the last bid. Bids may not be cancelled.

8.4.3 All bids at the NHL level for FA1s must be made in 500k increments. Bids for FA2s at the NHL level must start at \$2,500,000.00. A \$500,000.00 increment must be placed if an NHL team wishes to outbid an AHL team who has an active bid on a FA2 equal to or greater than \$2,500,000.00.

8.4.4 NHL bids have precedence over AHL bids. Any time an NHL bid is placed on a player, an AHL bid may NOT be placed. If an AHL bid was placed before the NHL bid, the NHL bid overrides the AHL bid and all AHL bidding ends. NHL bids that override AHL bids will begin at 500k.

8.4.5 All bidding for FA1s, FA2s and FAAs at the AHL level will begin at \$250,000.00.

8.4.6 NHL Free agent bidding is only allowed from the start of the Season to the Trade Deadline.

8.4.6 AHL free agent bidding is allowed during the regular season and during the playoffs.

8.4.7 AHL Teams will not be able to bid on PHL players that have graduate to PHL2 status after the trade deadline.

8.4.8 All bidding for FAAs at the PHL level will begin at \$125,000.00

8.4.9 PHL free agency does not close after the trade deadline. Players may be acquired through PHL free agency during the regular season and during playoffs.

8.4.10 The VGHLPA has the ability to randomly check if a free agent player is active or inactive. A VGHLPA member will message the player and if the player fails to reply in seven days it will result in the player receiving a retired status.

8.4.11 Any team suspected of placing players on IR illegally to place bids on free agents will be subject to review by the Disciplinary Committee. Penalties may include, but are not limited to, reversal of bids, fines, and suspensions to management.

5. Emergency Call-Ups

8.5.1 Emergency Call-Ups must be announced in the Manager Control Panel. There are no salary or roster restrictions on Emergency Call Ups. Emergency Call-Ups will be listed on My Virtual Gaming as ECU in the player roster with **ALL THEIR STATS**. Managers must then list PSN of the player used in the Game Comments Box.

8.5.2 Each NHL Team may use a maximum of four ECUs per week. Teams may only use up to two ECUs in one game. Each AHL player may only play a maximum of four ECU games per season, per team. All ECU's must be made from the NHL team's AHL affiliate. AHL Captains and Assistants can be used as an ECU.

8.5.3 Each NHL Team may use a maximum of six ECUs during the final week of the regular season. Teams may only use up to two ECUs in one game. Each AHL player may only play a maximum of four ECU games per season, per team. All ECU's must be made from the NHL team's AHL affiliate. AHL Captains and Assistants can be used as an ECU.

8.5.4 Each AHL Team may use a maximum of eight ECUs per week. Teams may only use up to two ECUs in one game. All ECU's can be made from AHL Free Agency, AHL Waiver List, or from the PHL. PHL Captains and Assistants can not be used as an ECU. Each AHL FA/AHL/PHL Waiver player may only play a maximum of four ECU games per season, per team.

8.5.6 Each PHL Team may use a maximum of eight ECUs per week. Teams may only use up to two ECUs in one game. All ECU's must be made for players from PHL Free Agency and the PHL Waiver List. Each PHL FA/PHL Waiver player may only play a maximum of four ECU games per team, per season.

8.5.7 Management needs to post ECU's in the Manager Control Panel within 12 hours of the scheduled game time for which the player was used or the team will be fined.

8.5.8 Illegal use of an ECU in a game will result in a forfeit for invalid roster,

Section 9 – Pre-Season Bidding Procedures

1. General

9.1.1 All bidding will be done on MVG website. If a player you want to bid on is missing from the list and is registered for the VGHL, then let a VGHL staff member know so he can add the player for you.

9.1.2 All bids will be extended 12 hours after the last bid. Bids may not be cancelled.

9.1.3 All bids must be in \$500,000.00 increments at the NHL level.

9.1.4 All bids must be in \$250,000.00 increments at the AHL level.

9.1.5 All bids must be in \$125,000.00 increments at the PHL level

9.1.6 You can start bidding or outbid another team with more than \$500,000.00/\$250,000.00 but all bids have to be in \$500,000.00/\$250,000.00 increments.

9.1.7 No team may bid with more money than their available salary cap.

9.1.8 At the end of the pre-season bidding cycle any team that does not meet the 10 player roster requirement will be under review by the VGHL Disciplinary Committee.

2. NHL Entry Draft

9.2.1 Each NHL team in the VGHL will be given two draft picks.

9.2.2 Current Two-Way contracted players, AHL managers and FA2 winners without any previous NHL contracts may be selected for an NHL One Way Draft Contract (OWDC) . The value of the contract will be determined by their order in the draft selection.

9.2.3 Current Two-Way contracted players, AHL managers, FA2 Winners, AHL Only contracted players , PHL contracted players and PHL Only contracted players without any previous NHL experience may be selected for an AHL Two Way Draft Contract (TWDC). The value of the contract will be determined by their order in the draft selection.

Minimum Salary by Draft Selection:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| #1 Overall Pick | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Picks #2 through #5 | \$2,000,000.00 |
| Picks #6 through #14 | \$1,500,000.00 |
| Picks #15 through #20 | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Picks #21 through #30 | \$750,000.00 |
| Picks #31 through #60 | \$500,000.00 |

9.2.4 NHL Entry Draft selections will be based on the standings of the previous season. Draft selection will be determined by a weighted lottery selection.

9.2.5 Team Owners are allowed to opt out of the draft. Any team that does not have a representative present for the draft will be skipped, and will not receive a draft pick.

9.2.6 All players selected from the NHL Entry Draft are not allowed to receive extension contracts to their draft contract during the contract negotiation period. Drafted players are eligible for a re-sign per their PBR value once their draft contract expires. Drafted players are eligible to receive contract-extensions once they have received their first eligible contract re-sign.

9.2.7 Teams may only carry a maximum of four total draft picks during the season.

9.2.9 The VG NHL trade office will open during the VG NHL Entry Draft and will close during VG NHL pre-season bidding.

Section 10 – Playoff Section

1. Format

10.1.1 For the NHL and AHL, the Division winners will be seeded 1-3 and the remaining teams in the top eight of their conference will be seeded based on standings.

10.1.2 For the PHL, the Division winners will be seeded 1-2 and the remaining teams in the top four of their conference will be seeded based on standings.

10.1.2 Each series will consist of a best of 7 series that will last one league week.

10.1.3 Tie breaker procedures are as followed:

1. Wins
2. Games Played
3. Season series
4. Goal differential
5. Goals for

*Please note: Ties will not be broken past wins until the season ends.

10.1.4 Home Ice is determined by Regular Season records.

10.1.5 Playoff schedule will be as follows:

Sunday

Game 1 9:30 PM EST

Game 2 10:30 PM EST

Monday

Game 3 9:30 PM EST

Game 4 10:30 PM EST

Wednesday

Game 5 9:30 PM EST

Game 6 10:30 PM EST

Thursday

Game 7 9:30 PM EST

Emergency Slot 10:00PM EST

**only used if 3 games are due thursday*

Reschedule Slot 10:30PM EST

**would become game 7 if used*

Games MUST BE played in sequential order.

Example: You CAN NOT play game 3 before playing game 2.

**examples are in VGNHL time slots. VGAHL and VGPHL time slots will apply for each respective league.*

10.1.7 If teams decide to play more games in one night than are originally scheduled, the series will advance accordingly and the next official time will become the next game in the series.

2. Rules

10.2.1 All teams will receive 1 reschedule per round. When a reschedule is used the league will push all games back by one slot (ie game 6 9:30, game 7 10:30). If both teams use their reschedules resulting in 3 games on thursday, the official league times will be 9:30, 10:00, and 10:30. Reschedules may not be used on Thursday for any reason. The opposing team will receive credit for their players showing up if the guidelines are followed as stated in section 4.7.7. **Teams do not need to accept reschedules in the MCP as all games follow the above timeline.**

10.2.2 If teams decide to play more games in one night than are originally scheduled, the series will advance accordingly and the next official slot will become the next game in the series. **The league will not lock-in games if teams try to play early, and no reschedules are burned.**

10.2.3 Forfeited games will still count as a game played for the winning team as long as the guidelines are followed as stated in section 4.1.13

10.2.4 Teams may call up players during the playoffs, but they cannot sign them to an ELC.

10.2.5 NHL teams may use up to 2 emergency call ups per playoff round from their AHL affiliates. Emergency call ups will not affect a team's salary cap or roster space. Emergency call ups may be made at any time.

10.2.6 AHL teams may use up to 4 emergency call ups per playoff round from the AHL free agent list and PHL. Emergency call ups will not affect a team's salary cap or roster space. Emergency call ups may be made at any time.

10.2.7 PHL teams may use up to 6 emergency call ups per playoff round from PHL free agency. Emergency call ups will not affect the team's roster space. Emergency call ups may be made at any time.

10.2.8 All NHL team management and all players on each roster (minimum of 10 players) must play at least 1 game by the end of the 4th game of the series. If a player has not played 1 game and the 4th game is played then that game will be forfeited.

10.2.9 All AHL teams must utilize a minimum of 10 different players by the end of the 4th game of the series. ECUs will count towards the 10 player minimum. If 10 different players have not registered a minimum of 1 game and the 4th game is played then that game will be forfeited.

10.2.10 All PHL teams must utilize a minimum of 10 different players by the end of the 4th game of the series. ECUs will count towards the 10 player minimum. If 10 different players have not registered a minimum of 1 game and the 4th game is played then that game will be forfeited.

10.2.11 Teams will be forced to forfeit games consecutively if they are out of re-schedules.

10.2.12 During the Playoffs transactions may be done, but they must stay within these guidelines:

- *Once a NHL team has been eliminated they may drop below the minimum roster requirements but may not exceed the maximum.*
- *Once a NHL team has been eliminated they may not exceed the salary cap.*
- *Once a NHL team has been eliminated they may not call up TWCs.*
- *Once an AHL team has been eliminated they may drop below the minimum roster requirements but may not exceed the maximum.*
- *Once an AHL team has been eliminated they may not exceed the salary cap.*
- *Once an AHL team has been eliminated they may not sign free agents.*
- *Once an AHL team has been eliminated they may not buy out any players.*
- *Once a PHL team has been eliminated they may not sign free agents.*
- *Once a PHL team has been eliminated they may not drop any players.*

10.2.13 The Winning Conference of the All-Star Game will host the Finals unless The Regular Season Winner advances.

10.2.14 Managers may be placed on the IR during the playoffs.

Section 11 – Blacklist

1. General

11.1.1 Players that do not finish out the term of their contract, break rules repeatedly, do not report to the team that has signed them, or members that the VGHLDC deem to be insubordinate will be placed on the appropriate Blacklist.

11.1.2 All Blacklisted players will lose their VGHL status and must return as FAP's once they are eligible to play if they wish to continue.

11.1.3 Players who receive a BL3 during the regular season will have to sit out the remainder of that season plus the next full season before being eligible to appeal. Players who receive a BL3 after the regular season will have to sit out a minimum of two full seasons before being eligible for an appeal. Players who have been blacklisted more than once will automatically receive BL3 status. The VGHL reserves the right to give a player BL3 status at any time for violating any of the VGHL rules and guidelines.

11.1.4 Players Blacklisted before the trade deadline will receive BL1 status and are not allowed to continue play in the season that they are blacklisted in. Players Blacklisted after the trade deadline will receive BL2 status and must miss the remainder of the season which they were blacklisted in along with the following season.

11.1.5 Repeat offenders and certain members deemed unworthy will receive a BAN status and will not be allowed to return to the VGHL.

11.1.6 NHL Owners, AHL captains and PHL Owners that quit will receive a BL2 status and must miss the remainder of the season which they were blacklisted in, along with the following season.

11.1.7 The VGHL may hold a vote to change a player's status to BL1, BL2, BL3 or BAN at any time if said player has acted in anyway which violates our code of conduct and/or our rules.

Section 12 – Transaction Schedule

1. General

12.1.1 Transactions may be processed outside of office hours if the transactions team has the opportunity to do so, otherwise they will be processed during office hours which are between 6pm-9pm EST on league nights (Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday).

12.1.2 The Office is closed from Thursday 9pm until Sunday 6pm for all transactions.

2. Trading

12.2.1 The Trade deadline will be posted on each season's Timeline. The deadlines will occur approximately two weeks before the end of the season.

12.2.2 Trades are not allowed after the Trade Deadline until the Trade Office Opens in the Off-Season.

12.2.3 No trades will be processed during "Off Hours" on game nights.

12.2.4 The VGNHL trade office will open during the VGNHL Entry draft and it will close once the draft has ended. Only draft picks from the current season may be traded

12.2.5 The VGNHL, VGAHL and VGPHL trade office will open for the regular season during the first week of the regular season.

3. Free Agency & Waivers

12.3.1 Players with 1-Way contracts are not allowed to be sent to the AHL after the Trade Deadline.

12.3.2 AHL teams will still be allowed to buyout players for 50% of their contract after the Trade deadline, and throughout the playoffs. Players bought out after the trade deadline will go straight to free agency and may not be re-signed.

12.3.3 Waivers in the NHL, AHL and PHL will begin 1 week after the start of their Season. No Waivers are allowed after the Trade Deadline in the NHL and AHL.

12.3.4 PHL teams will still be allowed to buyout players for 50% of their contract after the Trade deadline, and throughout the playoffs. Players bought out after the trade deadline will go straight to free agency and may not be re-signed.

12.3.5 NHL free agency is only allowed from the start of the Season to the Trade Deadline. AHL and PHL free agency does not close after the trade deadline.

12.3.6 Emergency Call-Ups are allowed at any time.

12.3.7 The VGHL Waiver office closes Thursdays at 9pm EST. through Sundays at 6pm EST. Any ongoing waivers during off hours will still continue as normal, and teams may continue to out claim. Teams are not allowed to send down or call up players during off hours.

4. Contracts

12.4.1 Off-season Entry Level Contracts are allowed during the off-season. In-season Entry Level Contracts may only be given out once the contract negotiation period has started up to the end of the regular season.

12.4.2 Contract re-signs, contract extension buyouts and franchise tags are to be done during the Off-Season Contract Period.

12.4.3 All contract extensions must be given out by the contract extension negotiation period deadline.

Section 13 – All Star Game

1. ASG Format

13.1.1 The VGHL will have an All-Star Week consisting of the NHL, AHL, and PHL All-Star Games.

13.1.2 The All-Star Games will consist of two lines of the top players in their respective leagues as voted in by their peers.

13.1.3 All-Star Game Times will be announced During the Season.

13.1.4 The Winning Conference of the All-Star Game will host the Finals unless The Regular Season Winner advances.

Section 14 – Free Agent Premier Game

1. FAP Format

14.1.1 FAP will occur every week at 8:30 PM EST on Sundays.

14.1.2 FAP will include all FA players at all levels. (FAP, FAA, FA2, FA1)

14.1.3 Rosters for the FAP will change every week and will be determined by the VGHLPA. However it is possible for the same player that played last week to play the following week.

14.1.4 If a FA player is constantly not involved in the FAP and wishes to the player should message a VGHLPA member.

Section 15 – Relocations

1. Guidelines and Order of Execution

15.1.1 Owners who have been approved to return for the upcoming season may relocate franchises within their existing division if another franchise is available. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.2 Owners who have been approved to return for the upcoming season may choose to swap franchises with other interested owners within their existing division. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the teams involved in the swap.

15.1.3 Owners who have been approved to return from playoff franchises may relocate their franchise to one of the other divisions within their existing conference if a franchise is available. A relocation donation of \$50 CAD must be made and a relocation fee of \$2,500,000.00 will be deducted from the franchise's upcoming season salary cap. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.4 Owners who have been approved to return from playoff franchises may choose to swap franchises with other interested owners from one of the other divisions within their existing conference. A relocation donation of \$25 CAD must be made per team and a relocation fee of \$2,500,000.00 will deducted from both franchise's upcoming season salary cap. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.5 Owners who have been approved to return from playoff franchises may relocate their franchise to a conference outside of their existing conference if a franchise is available. A relocation donation of \$100 CAD must be made and a relocation fee of \$5,000,000.00 will be deducted from the franchise's upcoming season salary cap. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.6 Owners who have been approved to return from playoff franchises may choose to swap franchises with other interested owners from a conference outside of their existing conference. A relocation donation of \$50 CAD must be made per team and a relocation fee of \$5,000,000.00 will be deducted from both franchise's upcoming season salary cap. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.7 Owners who have been approved to return from non playoff franchises may relocate their franchise to one of the other divisions within their existing conference if a franchise is available. A relocation fee of \$2,500,000.00 will be deducted from the franchise's upcoming season salary cap. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.8 Owners who have been approved to return from non playoff franchises may choose to swap franchises with other interested owners from one of the other divisions within their existing conference. A relocation fee of \$2,500,000.00 will deducted from both franchise's

upcoming season salary cap. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.9 Owners who have been approved to return from non playoff franchises may relocate their franchise to a conference outside of their existing conference if a franchise is available. A relocation fee of \$5,000,000.00 will be deducted from the franchise's upcoming season salary cap. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.10 Owners who have been approved to return from non playoff franchises may choose to swap franchises with other interested owners from a conference outside of their existing conference. A relocation fee of \$5,000,000.00 will be deducted from both franchise's upcoming season salary cap. All existing NHL and AHL assets and fines will move with the franchise.

15.1.11 Owners may only relocate their franchises once per NHL release.

Section 16 – Staff Eligibility

1. Guidelines

16.1.1 Staff department heads may not own a franchise team unless it is an in-season emergency.

16.1.2 Staff department heads may not be NHL or AHL managers with the exception of PHL commissioners or in an in-season emergency.

16.1.3 Team owners and managers may work in staff departments under the following conditions:

- Player's Association and Disciplinary reps do not handle cases from their own conference
- Transaction reps do not handle transactions involving their own franchise

Section 17 – NHL Owner Selection Process

1. Order of Operations

17.1.1 The NHL owner selection process is as follows:

- 1.** Current Owner who wants to stay and is voted by staff to return may keep his or her team.
- 2.** Current NHL Captain who wants ownership and is approved by staff for ownership.
 - a.** If the current owner is leaving, the approved Captain gets the choice to take over the current team as the new owner.
 - b.** If the current owner is staying, OR the approved captain doesn't want the current team in the event that the existing owner was not returning, the approved captain gets placed into the candidate ranking order for team selections with 0 team priorities.

- 3.** AHL Manager who wants ownership and is approved by staff for ownership.
 - a.** Candidate must go into the ranking system.
 - b.** If the approved AHL Manager's NHL franchise is available (meaning neither the current Owner or NHL C keeps team) and the AHL Manager makes the cut of top candidates for available teams (aka top 10 and there are 10 available teams), the AHL Manager gets first priority to keep the current franchise
 - d.** If the approved AHL Manager's franchise is available but they do not want the current franchise, they will be placed into ranking order for team selections with 0 priorities.
- 4.** All remaining eligible candidates will be placed into ranking order. If they make the cut of top candidates for available teams, they will be placed in ranking order for team selections with 0 team priorities.

Section 18 – Booster Guidelines

18.1.1 Boosters are available in the pro shop to upgrade status as stated by the current VGHL timeline.

18.1.2 Partial donations can be made during the offseason to meet graduation requirements. The partial amount will be calculated by comparing the graduation minimum with recorded games played from the previous season.

18.1.3 Players who use the BL2 booster are not eligible for VGHL management positions during the current season. Eligibility is restored the following season.