



**YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES  
& BENEFITS**



**BE A MEMBER OF**

**HOCKEY**



**CANADA**



RICK NASH 2007 IIHF World Championship MVP

## WHY SHOULD YOU BE A MEMBER OF HOCKEY CANADA?

Hockey Canada, through its member Branches, is committed to providing the best services possible to our members from coast to coast.

Our Mission Statement - *Lead, develop and promote positive hockey experiences* doesn't refer strictly to our on-ice capabilities but also to our commitment of excellence to our members. We have compiled this information to highlight the programs we offer and the overall benefits of being a member of Hockey Canada.

Our Hockey Canada programs are the benchmark by which other hockey programs and leagues are measured. In fact, many of these organizations use our materials, such as our playing rules and manuals in their programs.

Hockey Canada is indeed the measuring stick for hockey programming in this country. Why would you not want to be a member of the leading hockey organization in Canada?

## NATIONAL SPORT GOVERNING BODY OF HOCKEY

When you register with your local minor hockey association and Branch, you become part of a family in excess of 700,000 members nationwide, all of whom share a passion for our great game.

Hockey Canada is the national governing body for hockey in this country and is the only recognized organization based in Canada that is a member of the International Ice Hockey Federation.

Hockey Canada is respected around the world, not only for our expertise in the game of hockey, but also for our volunteer structure and our administration of sport in general.

As a member of Hockey Canada, you are connected with the organization that selects, trains and operates Canada's national hockey teams at all levels, both male and female.





**PAUL KARIYA 2002 WINTER OLYMPICS - FORMER BC HOCKEY MEMBER**

## BC HOCKEY

### WHO WE ARE...

BC Hockey is a non-profit organization and member Branch of Hockey Canada in charge of governing amateur hockey at all levels in British Columbia and Yukon Territory. Approximately 150 minor hockey associations, 55,000 players, 4,500 referees, 20,000 official volunteers and countless others make our great game possible here in Pacific Canada.

### OUR PURPOSE...

To foster, improve and perpetuate the game of Amateur Hockey in the Province.

To secure the enforcement of the rules of the game as adopted by the Society.

To supervise and carry out the competitions for the championship of British Columbia.

To promote, advance and conduct the operation of Insurance Plan as a means of members injured in play.

To emphasize and encourage the involvement of those volunteers who put the interests of the game ahead of their personal interests.

To elevate the awareness of the responsibilities of the hockey public in ensuring the game is played in a positive environment.

To assist members in their pursuit of excellence by providing effective programs and services through available resources.

To monitor and review services, benefits and programs available to members in order to meet their ever changing needs.

To present a common voice on behalf of the members in all discussions that could affect them at the local, provincial, national, and international level.

The Society dedicates itself to the advancement of Amateur Hockey for all individuals in British Columbia through progressive leadership by ensuring meaningful opportunities and enjoyable experiences in a sportsmanlike environment.

To actively promote and support equal access to hockey programs and services for all regardless

of gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, racial origin or religion.

### BRANCH HISTORY...

Organized hockey in British Columbia began at the turn of the twentieth century. BC Hockey (formerly British Columbia Amateur Hockey Association, or BCAHA) was formed in 1919. The constitution was modeled after that of the Saskatchewan Amateur Hockey Association, and the first meeting was held in November of 1919.

Due to the very limited access of artificial ice (there were only three rinks in all of BC) teams played with seven players apiece to give more players the opportunity to play. However, the following year the organization adopted the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA, now Hockey Canada) regulations which called for six players per side.

Throughout the 1920s, the organization steadily grew and became a leader in hockey both within the province and in the country, a role that continues to the present day.

Originally focused on senior hockey, in 1932, the organization voted to begin registering midget and juvenile age divisions. Unfortunately minor hockey registration didn't begin until 1934 due to financial difficulties in 1933. In the late thirties, the popularity of minor hockey grew, foreshadowing that it would eventually serve as the foundation of the Association.

Minor hockey and the Association continued to grow and evolve, and in 1951, registration reached 2,368 (this did not include house teams).

Membership expanded into the USA in the fifties and the Association implemented the Mutual Aid Fund to assist minor hockey players who were injured during play. BCAHA also brought forth the idea to the CAHA of holding a nation-wide Minor Hockey Week, which was adopted and exists to this day. During this time, BC also became the first province to ban body checking in minor hockey, which was permitted under CAHA rules.

In the 1960s, it became evident that the popularity of senior hockey was decreasing. But, minor hockey was continuing to grow, with 108 registered teams.

The sixties also saw the creation of a referee organization. Minor hockey registration surpassed 15,000. Helmets became required and the golf shot (known today as the slap shot) was banned in minor hockey.

The late sixties and early seventies saw the rise of Junior B, including a team in Spokane, WA.

In the seventies, the Association also began to not only be considered a leader in the development of hockey but also in sport, in general, by other organizations in the province.

A position within the Association was formed with the specific job of overseeing the development of players, coaches and officials. As the organization grew, the offices were moved from the basement of the Secretary Manger to an office space on Fort Street in Victoria.

Registration continued to grow, forcing the creation of a regulation that declared that any member Associations with more than 250 players in any age division in minor hockey would be required to register two teams in such division.

A tier system was later adopted for Midget, Bantam and Pee Wee divisions, and the "Best Ever" (now called "High Performance") Player Development Program, initially financed by the provincial government, was implemented and remains to this day.

In the 1980s, it became apparent that the Association had become a full fledged business operation. And in the nineties Hockey Canada implemented a nation-wide insurance program for minor hockey.

#### **TODAY...**

BC Hockey oversees approximately 55,000 players, 4,500 referees and well over 20,000 volunteers with a commitment to excellence in providing a safe and fun learning experience for all members. With current programming augmented by exciting events such as the 2010 Winter Olympics slated for Vancouver, BC Hockey will continue to be at the forefront of bringing exposure and opportunity to amateur hockey in British Columbia.



**KYLE TURRIS** 2007 CANADA/RUSSIA SUPER SERIES  
FORMER BC HOCKEY MEMBER

## ROLE OF YOUR LOCAL MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION/LEAGUE

Your local association is your point of contact where you register to play hockey in your jurisdiction. The local association/league organizes leagues, schedules, teams, financing, sweaters and in some cases equipment on behalf of its membership. The local association usually has a seat on a zone or regional association which in turn has a seat at the BC Hockey Board level. This ensures the ability

for your input to be heard at all levels of the hockey structure. The local association has its own constitution that it controls and the members of the association/league can effect change locally through the powers entrenched to them in their constitution. Issues of dispute are to be addressed in this manner with appeal capabilities to BC Hockey and even in certain situations to Hockey Canada.

## UNIFORMITY OF RULES, REGULATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

Hockey Canada's playing rules are the accepted standard for play in this country regardless of the league you compete in. Our members have the ability to influence and develop our regulations within a set process. We are flexible enough to

allow for some regionalization of these regulations while maintaining a national system of discipline. A suspension in one area of the country will be upheld from coast to coast.

## HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Our development programs are the envy of many sports. Hockey Canada works hard to ensure our programs are new and exciting and we take pride in providing our volunteers with the most innovative tools to allow them to succeed on a daily basis. We develop and distribute, through our Branch partners, programs to assist our coaches, officials and trainers, covering such topics as parent education and skill development.

We also mandate the education of our volunteers in these programs, which ultimately helps our members on the ice. Why should you settle for hockey programs, or any sport or recreation programs, that fail to provide minimum standards of education for your son or daughter?



## HOCKEY CANADA SAFETY PROGRAMS

Although hockey is a contact sport, our investment in safety and risk management ensures we provide your son or daughter with the safest possible environment in which to participate. We continually review our regulations, invest in hockey research and liaise with Canadian and international safety organizations in an effort to make sure we do everything possible to make our sport as safe as it can be.

Our commitment does not end at the rink boards either – our Speak Out! program is recognized worldwide and our Parent Education programs, such as Chevrolet Safe and Fun Hockey, aim to make the arena atmosphere a positive experience for the entire family.

## INSURANCE PROGRAMS

Hockey Canada insurance coverage for athletes, officials, directors and volunteers is recognized by all sporting groups as the best in Canada.

We provide our members with comprehensive accident insurance, high limit accidental death and dismemberment insurance, sexual misconduct liability insurance on a retroactive basis, commercial general liability insurance and directors and officers liability insurance.

There is no better financial safety net for you or your family. Hockey Canada covers every individual member for their exposure while participating in our events. Most other hockey programs will not insure your son or daughter, they will however take care of themselves!

Do yourself a favour and compare our policies to other sports or other hockey programs; we are confident you will appreciate your membership in Hockey Canada even more so afterwards.



**PRINCE ALBERT MINTOS**  
2007 TELUS Cup Champions



**AURORA TIGERS**  
2007 RBC Royal Bank Cup Champions

## HOCKEY CANADA EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Hockey Canada is proud to be an international leader in coach education and player development. As a complement to our player, parent, coaching, officiating and safety development programs, Hockey Canada's printed and electronic educational resources are available to meet the needs of everyone involved in hockey.

- State of the art hockey development instruction breaks down the most important skills of hockey for coaches and players.
- Checking resources provide visual reinforcement and illustrated content to support the understanding of the proper techniques of checking.

- Curriculum based coaching manuals strive to make coaching more enjoyable & rewarding.

- Administrative reference materials provide Hockey Canada's By-Laws and Regulations.

- Officiating support tools reinforce the rules of the game, their interpretation and their implementation.

- Risk management resources provide information about the prevention and response to harassment and abuse situations as well as how to implement and execute an Emergency Action Plan in the event of serious injuries.

- And much more...

## HOCKEY CANADA REGISTRY

Hockey Canada has recently developed a national database of all of our members. The database complies with our Privacy Policy while at the same time providing a sophisticated administrative tool. Access to this system is free with membership. Hockey Canada is only beginning to realize the full benefits of this system in the administration of hockey in this

country and we are confident that our members will find this to be an invaluable resource.

The ability to track players, suspensions, volunteer education, team statistics and the demographics of our members is an administrative advantage you simply cannot get anywhere else without paying a substantial fee.



## HOCKEY CANADA BY THE NUMBERS

- 35 000 registered officials
- 110 000 registered coaches
- 545 000 registered players
- Olympic, Paralympic and World Championship medals all time 92, 53 Gold
- 20% of households in Canada are involved in hockey
- 4.5 million Canadians involved in Hockey Canada programs
- Organize in excess of 1.5 million games and 2 million practices
- Overall attendance at Hockey Canada run regional, national and international events: 250,000, including the IIHF World Women's Championship.

## THE BEST COMPETITION IN THE WORLD

Hockey Canada membership offers competitive opportunities in numerous age divisions and levels of competition including league play and thousands of sanctioned tournaments which in many cases lead to regional and national playdowns and championship events. In addition, membership grants access to sanctioned activities in all International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) member countries, including the United States.

The club and competitive system available through Hockey Canada is a key reason for our continued leadership role in the game worldwide.

In addition, our tournaments and events help to raise millions of dollars that remain as legacies to support the continued growth of community, Branch and national hockey programs administered by our members.



Europphoto Finland / HHOF-IIHF Images

TEAM CANADA 2008 IIHF World Junior Champions

# OVERVIEW OF HOCKEY CANADA MEMBER BENEFITS

As a member of Hockey Canada, here are a few of the programs members can access:

## OFFICIATING PROGRAM

Annually certifying 35 000 officials

## INITIATION PROGRAM

World renowned entry level learn to play program

## COACHING PROGRAM

Competency based educational training for 110 000 coaches

## CHEVROLET SAFE AND FUN PROGRAM

Parent education programs

## HOCKEY CANADA SKILLS PROGRAM

Fundamental skill development program

## UNIFORM RULES, REGULATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

Why not play within the organization that develops the rules?

## HOCKEY CANADA REGISTRY

Participant tracking system provides the foundation for numerous technological capabilities and functionalities

## APPEALS PROCESS

Process allows due process and dispute resolution

## INTER BRANCH AND INTERNATIONAL TRANSFERS

Facilitates player movement across Canada and the globe

## NATIONAL EVENTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Successfully manage between 7-10 regional, national and international events annually

## ADULT RECREATIONAL HOCKEY PROGRAMS

New Hockey Canada initiative providing hockey opportunities to adults in Canada

## SPEAK OUT! PROGRAM

Internationally recognized abuse and harassment prevention program

## COACHES CLUB

Access to leading edge resources and drills for hockey coaches

## OPPORTUNITY TO BE SELECTED FOR NATIONAL TEAM PROGRAMS

Hockey Canada operates Canada's National Hockey Teams

## NUMEROUS EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Even non-members recognize our resources as the best

## NATIONAL SPORT GOVERNING BODY

Why would you play anywhere else?

## HOCKEY CANADA SAFETY PROGRAM

National program to educate safety management people. We take our safety seriously, why register in an organization that does not?



## MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL ICE HOCKEY FEDERATION

Your membership in Hockey Canada entitles you to participate anywhere in the world or to host any teams from other IIHF Member Federations such as USA Hockey.

## INNOVATIVE E-LEARNING AND EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

Hockey Canada's mission statement is *Lead, develop and promote positive hockey experiences*. Membership in Hockey Canada provides access to innovation and cutting edge programs and resources you will not find anywhere else.

## MEMBERSHIP IN A DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL ORGANIZATION WHICH ALLOWS FOR REGIONAL DISPARITY

Hockey Canada produces national playing rules and regulations but allows for regional flexibility as well.

## SLEDGE HOCKEY

Hockey Canada governs the sport of Sledge Hockey in Canada and is proud to coordinate hockey programs for Canadians with a disability.



**BE A MEMBER!  
SEE THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP  
[WWW.BCHOCKEY.NET](http://WWW.BCHOCKEY.NET)**



**LEAD, DEVELOP AND PROMOTE  
POSITIVE HOCKEY EXPERIENCES  
[WWW.HOCKEYCANADA.CA](http://WWW.HOCKEYCANADA.CA)**



**HOCKEY CANADA BRANCHES**

