



Player Assistance Fund Policy

1. Purpose

This policy ensures that all youth have equitable access to minor hockey by offering financial assistance to families facing economic barriers. It supports skill development, community engagement, and the growth of hockey in Cole Harbour.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all minor hockey levels (U7 to U18) within Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association, including recreational teams and competitive teams.

3. Types of Financial Assistance

Eligible participants may receive support in the following areas:

- **Registration Fees:** Partial coverage of association membership fees.
- **Equipment Costs/Loans:** Subsidies for essential gear such as skates, sticks, helmets, and pads and evergreening of loaner equipment.
- **Player Banks:** Assistance to meet team budget requirements.
- **Revised Payment Schedule:** A flexible payment schedule may be sufficient to enable the family to cover the costs of hockey.
- **Family Discount:** For families with three or more children playing hockey in Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association, the youngest player can receive a \$150 discount on registration.
- **Let's Try Hockey:** For U9 or U11 players new to hockey who attend the Try Hockey sessions at the start of the season can receive a \$150 discount on registration.

4. Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must meet the following conditions:

- Be under the age of 18 and registered in minor hockey within Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association.
- Demonstrate financial need through documentation (e.g., income verification, government assistance, or current-year qualification for a third-party assistance programme such as KidSport).
- Maintain regular attendance and active participation in team activities.
- Exhibit good conduct, sportsmanship, and commitment to the sport.

Priority may be given to:

- Families with multiple children in hockey.
- Athletes from underrepresented or marginalized communities (e.g., Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian, or newcomer communities).

5. Application Process

- Applications must be submitted via email to the President and Treasurer of the Association.
- Required documents include proof of income, program registration, and a brief personal statement.
- Referrals may be made by Head Coaches or Team Managers if they observe a family is in need of support.

6. Review & Approval

- A Hockey Financial Assistance Committee chaired by the Treasurer will review applications confidentially and based on need, merit, and available funding.
- Decisions will be communicated within 2 weeks of the deadline.
- Appeals may be submitted in writing within 10 days of a decision.
- Funding approvals are applicable to one season and applicants must reapply each season

7. Funding Sources

Financial assistance may be sought through other channels:

- Corporate sponsorships (e.g., local businesses, hockey brands).
- Fundraising events (e.g., charity games, auctions).

- Grants from provincial or national hockey bodies (e.g., Hockey Canada, Sport Nova Scotia).

8. Accountability & Reporting

- Recipients must use funds solely for approved hockey-related expenses.
- Applicants have a responsibility to ensure that their financial obligations are met (e.g., team fundraising) where funding does not cover the full amounts required.
- Applicants are expected to continue to participate in team fundraising activities. Failure to do so may result in consequences on a case-by-case basis.
- A report will be provided at the Annual General Meeting to summarize disbursements, impact, and future recommendations.

9. Privacy and Confidentiality

- All applications are treated as confidential and will be retained for 3 years after the application;
- All applications that have reached their retention limit will be shredded.

10. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to reflect changing needs, funding availability, and feedback from players, families, and coaches.

Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association Financial Assistance Program

Making Hockey Affordable for Every Family

Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association believes every child deserves the chance to play, grow, and thrive on the ice—regardless of financial circumstances. Our Financial Assistance Program helps families cover the costs of registration, equipment, and travel so kids can focus on the game they love.

What's Covered?

- Registration fees for Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association
- Player bank assistance
- Essential equipment (skates, helmet, pads, stick)
- Travel costs for tournaments or away games
- Skill development camps and goalie clinics hosted by Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association

Who Can Apply?

- Families with children under 18 registered in Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association
- Those experiencing financial hardship or receiving government assistance
- Priority given to families with multiple players, newcomers, and underrepresented communities

How to Apply

1. Complete the application form (see below or visit chbawings.org)
2. Include a short statement about your child's interest in hockey
3. Send your application to: treasurer@chbawings.org

Cole Harbour Bel Ayr Minor Hockey Association Financial Assistance Application Form

Player Information

- Full Name: _____
- Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY): _____
- Age Level: _____

Parent/Guardian Information

- Name: _____
- Phone: _____
- Email: _____
- Address: _____

Financial Information

- Total Household Income: _____
- Have you applied KidSport or the Hockey Canada Assist Fund? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are you receiving government assistance? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Number of children in hockey: _____

Support Requested

- ☐ Registration Fee or other fees (e.g., Player Bank)
- ☐ Equipment

Personal Statement

Please share a few sentences about your child's interest in hockey and why this support would help your family:

Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____