



RICHMOND JETS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM POLICY

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated June 2024

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What if I do not volunteer and need to pay the volunteer fee?

If at the end of the year, it is determined by the volunteer committee that the hours have not been fully completed, the family will be contacted and be required to pay the volunteer fee of **\$200 per player or \$300 per family** (2 or more players), via invoice from the association or via ETransfer to our Treasurer - treasurer@richmondjetsmha.com.

Please note, if payment is not received in a timely manner, then the player will not be permitted to register for the next season until the outstanding balance is paid in full.

Why are U21 Juvenile families not required to complete the volunteer hours?

We do not offer tryouts/evaluations for U21 Juvenile teams, but we would like to see U21 players volunteer as coaches or in other areas of the association.

How did you decide on the fee amounts?

We looked at programs offered by other associations both within Hockey and in other sports and found that **\$200** was a fair number to use as a fee. Many associations use a much higher amount, and we may adjust this fee in the future depending on how the program performs. We have decided in the 2024-2025 season, the **opt-out amount will be \$300 per player as a deterrent**, as well as to fully fund the costs of maintaining an opt-out option and covering shifts.

How did you arrive at 5 shifts/credits per player?

We looked at all of our required positions for the year and divided it by the amount of expected registered players, discounting those families that would be taking a full-time position?

Why does someone in a full-time position not have to also do shifts?

The commitment for a full-time position is much higher than the hours required to complete the shift requirements, with many of the positions requiring over 20+ hours of a time commitment throughout the year.

Why do families with 2+ children only have to complete 8 shifts?

We looked at the association and this is a very small part of the entire Jets organization and these parents are already paying registration fees for 2+ kids and having the extra time commitment of getting 2+ kids to and from the games, practices, etc. and we decided to give them a bit of a break.

I have 2+ players and signed up for a full-time position - do I still need to sign up for 5 shifts for the second player?

No. Because of the time commitment of a full-time position, volunteering for one of these positions will fulfill the hours required for both players.

Isn't this just another way for the association to make money?

No. The goal of the program is to ensure that we have enough volunteers for all of our events and that everyone meets their volunteer commitments. Minor hockey does not operate without the dedication of our volunteers. **Ideally, RJMHA does not want to cash any cheques during the season.** If we do happen to cash a cheque, we use those funds to pay people to staff those positions.

Does this mean that you are paying your replacement staff \$30-40/hr?

No, generally we provide our replacement staff with a \$20/hr honorarium. The extra money is to incentivize people to meet their volunteer commitment. Many associations that we spoke to found that if the deposit was too small people would simply pay funds and not complete their hours. This is not the goal of this program and we will continue to adjust the deposit amount to ensure that people are meeting their volunteer hours rather than simply opting out of their commitment.

What happens if I'm a rep parent and I'm unable to find enough time during the tryouts/evaluations?

There are a number of team official positions which are available for each team. In addition, all association members are welcome to sign-up to volunteer at any of our tournaments to complete their volunteer commitment. Finally, we have asked that anyone taking a full-time position, do not take a shift as this will ensure that we have enough positions available for everyone to meet their commitment. That being said, we **encourage all families to complete their commitment as early in the season as possible** so that you are not scrambling at the end of the year to make up your hours.