



GTHL POLICY

Team Names and Logos

Approved by:	Board of Directors	Date Approved:	November 2021
		Date Effective:	Immediate
Responsibility of:	Chief Operating Officer	Date of Last Revision:	N/A
		Date Initially Issued:	April 2016

Introduction

This policy shall also be known as the “GTHL Team Names Policy”.

Policy Statement

The Greater Toronto Hockey League (“GTHL”) is dedicated to providing a sports environment that is respectful, inclusive, and non-discriminatory. Therefore, the names and logos used by GTHL Teams should be reflective of such an environment and should also comply with other suitability criteria.

Definitions:

“GTHL Organization”: A Club, Division, Division member or Affiliated Group as defined in GTHL Regulations.

“Indigenous”: As identified by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the Government of Canada, is a general term referring to all individuals identifying as and descended from First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples.

“Indigenous Images”: Includes symbols, names, logos and imagery/themes on clothing, equipment, banners, trophies, plaques, signs, and murals that pertain to Indigenous culture.

“Team”: Any group of individuals who gather for a sanctioned hockey activity, including but not limited to players, Team Officials, on-ice instructors, volunteers, or Organization Officials.

Policy

The following Policy has been adopted and will apply to team names, and team logos, insignia, and designs (collectively referred to herein as “logos”) used by GTHL Organizations and/or by their Teams.

1. GTHL Organizations and/or their Teams shall not use names and/or logos containing words or symbols that:
 - (i) are in violation of law,
 - (ii) infringe existing trademarks or trade names,



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- (iii) are so similar to names or logos of other existing teams with which they compete that the name or logo would cause confusion,
 - (iv) have been deemed discriminatory based on race, ethnicity, national origin, or other grounds which are protected under applicable human rights legislation,
 - (v) are not in compliance with the provisions of Section 2 of this Policy, or
 - (vi) are otherwise considered by the GTHL Board of Directors, on reasonable grounds, to be inappropriate.
2. GTHL Organizations and/or their Teams shall not use Indigenous names and/or Indigenous Images that either depict or refer to identifiable Indigenous nations, groups, bands, or individuals.
 3. Any GTHL Organization and/or its Teams not currently in compliance with this Policy must comply by June 1, 2022.
 4. Any GTHL Organization that fails to comply with this policy will not have its membership renewed.