
**Policies & Procedures
of the
Vancouver Thunderbird
Minor Hockey Association**

P-23

**BURSARY
PROGRAM POLICY**

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Vancouver Thunderbirds is in a financially sound position and the cost of hockey is becoming unaffordable for some members. The intent of this Bursary Program Policy is to create a program for Vancouver Thunderbirds that provides a credit towards base registration fees for players that qualify based on their family's financial situation.

1. Initially this program is intended to be funded through the annual Thunderball event, with 100% of the proceeds from Thunderball going into the bursary pool. Accordingly, the accounting for Thunderball must be completed before the bursary applications are processed. The board may allocate additional funds to the bursary pool from time to time.
2. KidSport (Vancouver Chapter) has agreed to serve as the program administrator for the 2020/21 season on a pilot project basis. Vancouver Thunderbirds will fund KidSport as to \$500 per bursary recipient, and Vancouver Thunderbirds will top up the remainder of the bursary award from its own resources.
3. In order to qualify, applicant families must meet a gross income test approved by the board.
4. Bursary award allocated to any one player will be equal to 80% of that player's base registration fee. Exception: If Hockey 1 base registration fee is less than \$500, then a Hockey 1 recipient will receive 100% of H1 base registration fee.
5. The goal is to deplete all monies allocated towards the program in any given year, without maintaining reserves. However, any unallocated monies will be carried over to the subsequent year.
6. Applications are sent directly by an applicant to KidSport and KidSport evaluates all applications to determine which players qualify.
7. KidSport follows a defined set of criteria when to determine which players will qualify. This includes family gross income and total amount of funds available for bursary pool.
8. KidSport will then provide the Executive Director with names of players who qualify. Players who receive a bursary will receive \$500 from KidSport plus required top up directly from Vancouver Thunderbirds. Each bursary award recipient will receive a unique code from Vancouver Thunderbirds that is to be used during online registration resulting in a credit equal to the bursary award.
9. Financial information provided to KidSport by any applicant will not be provided to Vancouver Thunderbirds.
10. Qualification of a player for a bursary in any given year does not guarantee that player will qualify in a subsequent year.

11. Total monies available for the bursary pool in any year is to be publicized on Vancouver Thunderbirds website and by membership notice as soon as possible. KidSport to start accepting applications for the next upcoming season by no later than March or April. Vancouver Thunderbirds will also publicize when all bursary monies in a given year have been awarded.
12. This program is not intended to prohibit recipient families from obtaining additional financial assistance in connection with other Vancouver Thunderbird costs as may be permitted in accordance with other Vancouver Thunderbird policies.