

Affiliate Player Policy - CMHA – Development Focus

Purpose:

The purpose of this process is to allow players an opportunity to practice at the next level within CMHA to help foster further development of the player as seen fit through communication of the coaches involved.

Problem:

CMHA Board has recognized an area of weakness in the development of players when it comes to allowing players to join teams at the next level(s) after the evaluation process is completed in September. It is widely known there are players who are not quite at the level of the Rep Team so are released to the development team or house but are very close to playing at that level. Through discussions with players and families it has been communicated that some players feel stuck at the lower level and lose motivation for that year which stalls their development.

Proposal:

Once teams are formed at the beginning of the year through the evaluation process and players are released to the Development/Recreational levels, coaches can communicate to these players and families the skills they need to work on and that there may be opportunities throughout the year to join the higher level team again in practice. This should give the players motivation to work on those skills at a level where they can succeed with a chance to demonstrate those skill when the opportunity to practice with the higher level team exists.

This process will start at the U11 age group and up.

AP Development Process:

1. Coaches at the Rep Levels create a development mindset for all player at that level, not just the players on her/his team.
2. Coaches within the age group, 1 level up, and 1 level down have contact information to communicate about players and schedules where bringing players may work for both coaches.
3. This process is not designed for every player, but players who are moving to that next level and/or are close to playing at that level and have shown a determination and compete level to have an opportunity to play at the higher level.
4. The decision on which players is up to the coach of the lower level based primarily on **work ethic, willingness to learn, leadership, compete level and attitude**. We use these traits as they are the basis of what is needed to develop players.
5. Coaches are encouraged to use this AP process to not have a practice with less players than a full roster, if there is an opportunity to bring up a player you should. Coaches are also

encouraged to bring up, for example, 3 players to fill an entire line so you run a practice with 4 forward lines to allow for variation of drills or special team practices.

6. As the majority of development occurs in practices, this process is designed to AP players for practices only. If a player has shown enough development or is needed on an emergency basis the BC hockey AP process must be followed in order for a player to be utilized in a game.
7. The recommended guideline for which players are able to be affiliated for which teams are as follows:
 - a. The player has the **ability** and potential to play for that particular team this year or the following hockey season.
 - i. For example: U15 B Development 1st year being called up to U15 AA Rep Team. Allowed.
 - ii. U13 AA 2nd Year called up to U15 AA Rep Team. Allowed
 - iii. U13 Recreational Player 2nd year called up to U13 AA Rep Team – Not Recommended.
 - iv. U13 Recreational 2nd year to U13 B Development – Allowed.
8. The sole purpose is to develop players and putting players in a place to succeed at every level. Using this AP process and bringing up a player without the ability to succeed at the higher level is not recommended at any time.

