

Edmonton Federation Hockey League

Guiding Principles:

The purpose of the Edmonton Federation Hockey League Tiering Committee is to create parity throughout the Divisions and Categories under the jurisdiction of the Edmonton Federation Hockey League. This ensures the positive participation and the fair and equitable treatment of all participants through the tiering and re-tiering of teams within divisions.

The objective of tiering is to allow all participants to play at a competitive level. Therefore, the Tiering Committee places its emphasis on tiering teams, not players.

By adopting the following Tiering Principles, a more transparent and open process will result, reducing the number of times teams are re-tiered ensuring consistency of process and review across all divisions and categories. Where possible, we want to place teams in their proper tier from the outset of the season. This provides a more stable season schedule for all teams in the Edmonton Federation Hockey League and reduces the amount of movement between categories during the season. While taking player development into consideration, we want to ensure that all players are equally challenged to improve their skills and reach for the next level as the season progresses.

The Following Principles will be followed for Tiering Categories:

1. Initial Tiering for the tiering round will place teams as per the Hockey Alberta Tiering model based on the number of teams an organization will field for the upcoming season. Any deviation from such placement must be approved by League Executive in consultation with Division Directors prior to the start of the season and the reasons be document and published
2. Where an Association is responsible for entering multiple teams in the same Division and tier, those teams are required to be equally blended and balanced
3. Re-tiering consideration will take into account a guideline threshold of plus or minus six goals a game for all divisions and categories of Atom, Peewee, Bantam and Midget.
4. The EFHL guideline for all teams having cumulative goals for or against over the above threshold per game, should be moved to a higher or lower tier. Multiple tier movement would be at the discretion of the Division Directors consulting with the Association Directors at the Tiering Meeting and reasons be documented and published
5. Teams that do not exceed the above thresholds for goals for or against, should remain in the same tier regardless of request to move. Discretion will exist with the Division Directors and a tiering committee vote, which would be recorded and documented for transparency if there is reason to move outside the stated guidelines.
6. If it is determined by the Tiering Committee that smaller conferences be established in larger tiers, they will be colour coded as follows: Red, Blue, Green, Orange, Purple.

Tiering Policy

Discretionary Authority of Tiering Committee

To protect Edmonton Federation Hockey League programs from tampering or stacking of teams, or registering teams that cannot be placed competitively in any tier, the Edmonton Federation Hockey League Tiering Committee has the authority to declare a “Non-Competitive Team”. A “Non-Competitive Team” is defined as a team that cannot be re-tiered competitively. It is the responsibility of the Association to provide scheduled ice for such teams.

1. Once a team has been declared Non-Competitive, the Association from which the Non-Competitive team was formed is responsible for providing opposition for the team or restructuring the team to ensure it can be tiered competitively within Edmonton Federation Hockey League
2. The Edmonton Federation Hockey League Tiering Committee; deals only with their tiering as it relates to U9, U11, U13, U15 and U18 that are not part of the Hockey Alberta AA Model.
3. Appeals regarding decisions of the Edmonton Federation Hockey League Tiering Committee are heard by the EFHL Appeal Committee

Edmonton Federation Hockey League Tiering Committee

The Edmonton Federation Hockey League Tiering Committee is comprised of a Chairperson (non-voting), the Division Director of the Division and one designated representative from each Association participating within Edmonton Federation Hockey League. Decisions of Tiering and Re-Tiering are done by the consensus of the designated representatives. (U9 example: Chairperson, Novice Division Director, NWZ, SWZ, SEZ, NEZ, KC, EGHA, St. Albert, Beaumont, Spruce Grove, Strathcona, Stoney Plain and Sturgeon)

Association Team Formation Directives for Mandatory Team Numbers:

Districts and Interlock Associations assume responsibility to ensure thresholds for team formation have been met and align with Hockey Alberta Tiering Grid, EFHL Operating Directives and Board Motions.

1. Associations who fail to form the Requisite Number(s) of Teams must adhere to the process below; The Association **MUST** apply to EFHL Executive if they are proposing not to the field the required number of teams as set out by Hockey Alberta Tiering Grid, EFHL Operating Directives and Board Motions

The EFHL President with the assistance of Division Directors shall review the requests and provide a recommendation to the League Commissioner who will rule on behalf of the Board.

Tiering Policy

2. The Association request **MUST** submit a development plan outlining the changes to their program to ensure they will be able to field the mandatory number of teams based on registrations the following season
3. If the Association receives approval, the team will compete in the next highest category of play, however, the right to participate in QEMHW, Provincial Championships and City Championships at the level mandated by the Hockey Alberta Mandatory Team Placement. (Teams may be moved during tiering at the discretion of the Division Directors and Association Tiering Representatives)

Associations who do not receive approval to reduce or do not field the correct number of teams may face the following sanctions:

1. Offending Teams **WILL NOT** participate in Edmonton Federation Hockey League play, City Championships, QEMHW, or represent Edmonton Federation Hockey League in Provincial Championships