



## COMPETITIVE TEAM SELECTION

### OVERVIEW

This policy establishes the criteria and process for the formation of competitive teams within the SGHA.

- The Competitive Committee will oversee the formation of teams.
- The Competitive Committee consists of the Vice President, Director of Development, and the Competitive Convenor. Other members of the SGHA Board of Directors may be added to the Committee as required.

### GENERAL

- Teams will be formed with a minimum of 15 skaters and 1-2 goalies by the beginning of regular season play.
- The Competitive Committee can approve rostering up to 17 skaters per team.
- Players are expected to play within their age level unless otherwise approved by the Competitive Committee.

### FORMATION OF DIVISIONS

- Prior to the beginning of tryouts, the SGHA will announce the proposed number and category of teams for each tier. This will be determined based on considerations such as sufficient ice, interest and talent among its players.
- During the tryout process and prior to the beginning of the season, the SGHA Board may decide to add, remove or re-categorize teams when it is deemed in the best interests of the players and the Association.

### COMPETITIVE TRYOUT PROCESS

Players will be selected for competitive teams through a competitive tryout process. Prior to the beginning of tryouts, the Competitive Committee will provide members with information on how the tryout process will be conducted.

- The selection of players for teams shall be monitored by a representative from the SGHA, as designated by the Competitive Committee.
- Independent evaluators will be used during the tryout process. In instances where the coach and independent evaluator do not agree on a player selection, the final decision will rest with the Competitive Committee.
- Final team rosters are approved by the Competitive Committee.
- In situations where a parent coach has been selected for a competitive team, the Competitive Committee has made an assessment in advance that the Coach's daughter would be appropriately placed on that level of team.



- It is recommended that players begin the tryout process at one tier higher than that for which they wish to be selected. This will provide the player with exposure to the expected pace of the tryout and provide an opportunity for the player to be observed by the next tier coach, who will be present to begin the assessment for their team.
- When a player participates in tryouts for a particular level, it is expected that they will accept a position on a team if offered a position.

## **COMMUNICATIONS DURING THE PROCESS**

The SGHA endeavours to structure the competitive tryout process so that it minimizes the pressure and stress on its players and families.

Prior to the beginning of tryouts, the Competitive Committee will provide information to players and families on:

- How and when player continuations will be communicated.
- The process that released players and their families can follow to receive feedback on the player's tryout evaluation.
- Conduct and discretion expected of players and families during the tryout process intended to minimize the negative impact on players, coaches and staff.
- Feedback will not be provided until the end of the tryout process for that division.

In accordance with SGHA Code of Conduct, players, families, coaches and staff are expected to communicate with each other in a respectful manner.

## **TRYOUT FEE**

All players attending competitive tryouts will pay a fee, as determined each season by the SGHA Board of Directors prior to the opening of Tryout Registration.

## **TRYOUT REGISTRATION PROCESS**

To be eligible to attend tryouts players must have completed:

- SGHA Tryout Registration: Players must register online in advance for tryouts and pay the tryout fee. This is in addition to their SGHA Registration.
- Registration is done through the SGHA RAMP Portal

## **APPEAL MECHANISM**

If any disagreement arises between coaches, parents or players regarding this policy, the Competitive Committee has final authority.

## **DECLINING A POSITION**

A player who has been offered a spot on an SGHA competitive team and subsequently decides not to play on that team, will not be eligible to play on any SGHA competitive team for that season.



## **INJURY OR ILLNESS IN TRYOUTS**

If a player is unable, because of illness or injury, to participate in tryouts according to the published schedule, or if they incur an injury or illness during the tryout period and are not able to complete the tryouts:

- In all cases, a medical certificate must be provided to the Competitive Committee as evidence that a player cannot participate in team tryouts. In addition, the nature of the injury and the expected return date of the player are also required. Upon returning from injury, each player must provide a medical certificate stating that the player has been cleared to return to play.
- To determine the subsequent tryout status of the returning player, the Competitive Committee will consult with a variety of sources to obtain sufficient information about the player so that a reasoned decision can be made that considers both what is best for the player as well as the affected team or teams. The sources will include, but not be limited to, the current coach, previous coach, lower-level coach, and any other appropriate source deemed relevant by the Competitive Committee.
- If, at the start of the season, a coach feels that the skill level of a player that has been placed on their team through the above-stated process is not adequate for the level, they may approach the Competitive Committee to seek the re-evaluation, and potential release, of the player in question.