

# **GCGH Policy Directive**

# Player Affiliation

1- The GCGH believes strongly in the affiliate program and desires to see affiliated players used as often as possible to foster the development of its players, both for its Competitive and House League Program. All teams are required to play games and conduct practices with a full roster if there is an opportunity to affiliate from a lower level/age (same level) team. All team officials must respect this policy and make every effort to affiliate players as much as possible. The GCGH Affiliation Policy follows the Affiliation/Pick up Regulations set out by the OWHA.

# Procedure for Use of Affiliated Player

2- In all cases of intended use of affiliated players, the following procedure applies:

- a) The requesting coach (coach intending to use an affiliated player) will email the affiliate's regular head coach, cc'ing the appropriate competitive director, to discuss the needs of their team and the skills required to determine which player(s) to affiliate. However, it is the requesting coach who determines what player(s) are called to the affiliated team. Permission to affiliate must be granted by the affiliate's regular head coach unless one of the following reasons apply:
  - There is an issue with discipline involving the affiliated player
  - The affiliated player is injured
  - There is an event conflict (see Para b below)
  - The affiliated player is ill
- b) Where there is an event conflict, the following schedule of event priorities should be used. The team with the highest event priority will take precedence. Where the event priorities are the same, the highest tiered team will take precedence.
  - 1. League game
  - 2. Out-of-town tournament (where roster is depleted)
  - 3. In-town tournament game
  - 4. Practice
  - 5. Exhibition game
  - 6. Off-ice team event
- c) Permission being granted, the player in question will be contacted by their regular team coach or with permission from their coach, by the requesting coach to confirm their willingness to play, with the advice that their regular team coach has approved their participation if interested, cc'ing the appropriate directors. The requesting coach will immediately advise the affiliate's regular head coach and appropriate director of the player's decision or vice versa.



d) If the player is willing, a "Pickup (AP) Player Request" must then be completed on the RAMP Games Portal. (see below for procedure)

3- The requesting coach is responsible for ensuring that suspensions and other issues are known and respected and for notifying the affiliate's regular head coach following the game should injuries or suspensions occur.

4- Despite receiving permission from her regular coach to affiliate with another team, no player is obligated to play with another team. It should be recognized and respected that some players and parents feel that their loyalty and focus is with their regular team for the season, and some may not be comfortable missing their own team event or joining a team that they were not initially selected to play on. Players will not be penalized for their decision and will continue to be provided opportunities to affiliate in the future.

# Affiliation for Exhibition or League Game

5- Anytime a player is affiliated for a league or exhibition game, the requesting head coach must complete the OWHA pickup (AP) player request through the RAMP Games portal. Instruction can be found at the following link (<u>click HERE</u>). The requesting coach is responsible for ensuring that the proper paperwork is completed.

6- No official OWHA paperwork is required to affiliate players for practices.

7- To affiliate players from a GCGH house league team to a GCGH competitive team, the same process and paperwork requirements as outlined above apply.

8- To affiliate players from one GCGH house league team to another GCGH house league team, the same process and paperwork requirements as outlined above apply.

### **Affiliation for Sanctioned Tournaments**

9- Anytime a player is affiliated for a sanctioned tournament, the OWHA Pick-Up Consent form (for sanctioned tournaments) must be completed by the affiliate player's regular head coach, or GCGH Executive, ideally the Competitive Director, when the affiliate player's regular head coach is unavailable and given to the requesting coach/manager prior to the tournament. The properly signed and completed Pick Up Consent form (for sanctioned tournaments) must be submitted to the convenor of the tournament before the player's first game. Keep a copy of the fully approved form. The requesting coach is responsible for ensuring that the proper paperwork is completed.

10- All affiliated players must be identified on the game sheet with the letters "AP" (affiliate player). Note that for tournaments, the affiliate player may only participate with one team during the tournament and specific tournament rules may need to be followed (please ensure to check in advance of bringing an affiliate player).



11- The OWHA Pick Up Consent Form (for Sanctioned Tournaments) can be found at:

https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/whaontario/files/Forms%20and%20Policies/Doc-14 PICKUP\_CONSENT\_FORM\_for\_SANCTIONED\_TOURNAMENT.pdf

12- A team cannot bring up more than three (3) affiliated players for any given game and cannot exceed the number of registered players on their team. Suspended players cannot be replaced. This policy does not supersede the OWHA policy or rules on pick-up players.

# **Use of Affiliated Goalies**

13- In the event that a goalie from a lower level is not available, the OWHA Registrar may approve the use of a goalie from the same level to replace an absent goalie (OWHA approval may be required). A goalie from the same level may not play for the same team more than three (3) times, or in extenuating circumstance, upon OWHA Board of Directors approval, exceptions may be permitted.

### Use of Affiliation Players in Playoffs or Playdowns

14- Playoff and Playdown affiliation must adhere to OWHA playoff policy rules.

### Use of Affiliation Players for practice

15- There are no limits to the number of players permitted to attend a higher levels teams practice and no official paperwork required. The same process and agreement as detailed above is to occur between both the requesting coach and affiliated player coach before any player is permitted to attend.

### **Appeal Mechanism**

16- If any disagreement arises between coaches, parents or players regarding this affiliation policy, the Hockey Operations Committee has the authority to intervene to uphold the intent of this policy.