

## **GCGH Policy Directive**

### **Competitive Tryout Process**

#### **General**

- 1- All players must register and pay for competitive tryouts by the established deadline.
- 2- Fees will be established by the Board every year prior to registration opening.
- 3- Tryouts will consist of a series of skill sessions and/or scrimmages, as determined by the applicable coach. Players will be evaluated based on skills such as skating, passing, puck control, shooting, hockey IQ, positioning as well as their overall score in gameplay in scrimmages.
- 4- All players are to wear an official GCGH tryout jersey with a unique number that is registered to them. Jerseys can be purchased from the association at time of registration, or a player can purchase a used jersey.
- 5- Where a player changes their tryout jersey from the number identified during the registration process, they must inform the Competitive Registrar immediately.
- 6- Players registered with another OWHA-affiliated association in the previous season, must have a signed Permission to Tryout (PTT) or a formal release from their previous association. Before their first tryout session, documentation must be emailed to the Competitive Registrar. Players coming from minor hockey do not require a PTT.
- 7- Prior to each level commencing, the parents will receive a document outlining the team's expectations in terms of time commitment and approximate costs. By continuing with that specific tryout you are agreeing to those expectations.

#### **Attendance**

- 8- To be eligible for a competitive team, players must officially be registered by the deadline and attend a minimum of two thirds of the number of competitive tryouts at the desired level.
- 9- Where a player will be absent from some or all of the tryout, they must provide to the Board, a written explanation detailing the reason for the absence at least two (2) weeks prior to the first tryout session. Board approval must be secured in writing.
- 10- If the absence is health related, a health care provider's note must accompany the written request. For concussion related situations, refer to Hockey Canada guidelines.



- 11- If a player is to miss a tryout session, an email must be sent to the VP Comp, Senior and Junior Comp Directors 48 hours in advance. They will provide more info regarding any impacts the absence may cause.
- 12- If the Board approves a player's absence, the player will still be responsible for the registration fee and payment.
- 13- Medical limitations or absence will impact tryouts and placement as this is a very competitive process. The absentee player will not be guaranteed a spot on a competitive team. The GCGH Competitive Committee evaluation team will use past performance, coaching evaluations, previous season statistics and other pertinent information to place the injured or absent player at the most appropriate level.
- 14- In the case of an exceptional circumstance, the Board reserves the right to waive the requirements identified in paras 8 through 13.
- 15- Any placement by the evaluation team is not appealable.

#### Tryout Levels

- 16- The Board will determine the preliminary level for the upcoming season prior to the commencement of the tryouts. These levels will be subject to change to reflect the skill-levels of the players.
- 17- Players are expected to tryout within their age level, unless under exceptional circumstances. If a player wishes to try out at a higher age level, a formal request must be made to the VP Competitive, Director Sr. Comp or Director Jr Comp for their review and board approval. Players below the U13 age level will not be permitted to move up age levels.
- 18- Exceptional circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. The player is an exceptional player based upon all skills at their current level;
  - b. The player would be rated as a top 3 player in the above age group and level within the association;
  - c. The above age group is missing positional players (eg; goalies); or
  - d. The player is a AA level player and that age group does not have enough skilled players to field a team at that level.
- 19- When the Board runs a concurrent session (i.e. AA/A), players will need to declare which level they want to be considered for before the first session commences.
- 20- If a player participates in all sessions allocated to a specific level and declines an offered spot, they will be dropped 2 tiers below the current tryout level. For example: a player attends the A tryouts and is offered a spot but refuses it. That player will then be considered for a team two (2) tiers lower,



ie: the B level.

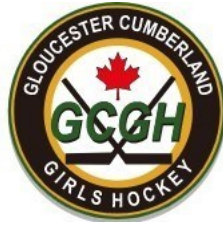
### Team Selection

Team selection will be based on a combination of the tryout sessions and the player evaluations from the previous season. The previous season evaluations will be the formal team evaluations and in some cases independent evaluations done via direction of the competitive VP and Directors.

- 21- Each division will have a “Selection Committee” consisting of but not limited to:
  - a. Head Coach of the team in that division plus one helper appointed by the coach. These individuals cannot be a parent or related to anyone trying out at that age level.
  - b. Up to 4 paid/non-paid non-parent evaluators with hockey backgrounds. Could be coaches from other divisions or associations.
  - c. A Board Member to act as an observer.
- 22- The goal for tryouts is to have separate evaluators for forwards, defense, and goaltenders for U13 and above. At the senior age divisions and levels (U15 & U18) they may also be done by specific position. i.e. RW, LW and C.
- 23- When a conflict exists after a session, where the ratings and total score seem to differ, the VP Comp and/or President or another designee will review against the in-season data and other information.

### Composition of Competitive Teams

- 24- The U18 AA and A teams may consist of 16 players and two goalies. All other competitive teams will be restricted to a maximum of 15 players, and a minimum of 13 players excluding goalies. At the upper levels (AA, A and BB) the association will strive to roster full teams. Any exceptions must be approved by the Board.
- 25- The Board must approve a competitive team for a given division and category providing there is sufficient interest and talent among its players to do so, in consultation with the coaches.
- 26- Where a level has not been determined at the beginning of the tryout process, i.e., BB/B, a determination will be made and communicated as soon as possible to all remaining players prior to the final tryout session.
- 27- The final three (3) to five (5) players amongst the top twenty (20) ranked players at a particular level to make a team will be at the coach’s discretion subject to approval by the Tryout Committee.
- 28- GCGH will only be accepting a maximum of 6 imports at each age level, with a maximum of 3 at the AA level.
- 29- Imports will need to be ranked/evaluated in the top 50% of their position. For example, the import would need to be ranked as either a top 5 forward or a top 3 defense to be offered a position on the



team. In the case where an import is tied with a GCGH player, the GCGH player must be offered the position.

- 30- The selection of the team will be monitored by the VP Competitive.
- 31- All releases will be done via email or posting on the GCGH website and will be communicated to the registrants prior to the process commencing.
- 32- Parents must observe the 24-hour rule on the day after these announcements. On the second day after these announcements, parents can contact the VP Comp and request a “Feedback Exchange” meeting. All feedback meetings will be scheduled after all tryouts have been completed.
- 33- The meeting will include the board rep, VP Comp, the player, and one neutral person to observe the exchange of information.

#### Commitment to and of Competitive Team

- 34- Competitive hockey comes with a certain level of commitment. The expected level of participation in team functions are fully at the discretion of the coach.
- 35- All competitive players are expected to be available for all league & playoff games, provincial play down games and tournaments.
- 36- Where a player cannot meet the expectations of a competitive team and is missing too many practices, games, or activities, that player may be replaced and moved to a lower tier subject to a decision by the board.
- 37- All competitive teams are expected to go through the qualification process for the Provincial championships and expected to participate in the Provincial championships if they qualify.

#### U9 Tier 1 (Competitive)

- 38- To play U9 Tier 1 (Competitive) hockey, a player must be of major age meaning that the players will be the age of 8 by 31 Dec of the calendar year the team is formed.
- 39- Where there are not enough major U9 age players, minor U9 age players will be considered by board approval only.
- 40- U9 Tier 1 (Competitive) will only be open to players that have completed at least one year of house league hockey with an accredited Hockey Canada association.