



## Affiliated Player (AP) Policy

### AP Policy Overview

The purpose is to allow teams to provide enough players to play a better game rather than operating with a short bench and to allow higher skilled players from a lower division to experience a more competitive level. This process was designed in keeping with the GVMBHA fair play approach and is not meant to improve a team's overall performance or provide any sort of advantage for the AP requesting team. It is expected that everyone will use common sense and fairness as we grow and improve this process. The rules laid out below will be strictly adhered to and any deviation from the process will result in a team losing their AP request privileges or the AP being disqualified from the process.

### General Rules

AP player requests are limited to one division higher than the player's current division. The following are the allowable AP requests:

- U7 (Tyke) to U9
- U9 to U11
- U11 to U13
- U12 to U15
- U15 to U17
- U17 to U20

### Exceptions

If a U9 team is in a position where they are below 10 runners and all the U11 teams are playing at the same time at another arena, in consultation with the U9 Division coordinator the team can AP from another U9 team that is not scheduled to play. If players are borrowed laterally from U9, they must be of similar strength to the players that are missing.

If a U20 team is in a position where they are below 10 runners, the Coach in consultation with the U20 Division Coordinator can AP from Major and/or from the U20 team that is not scheduled to play. If players are borrowed laterally from U20, they must be of similar strength to the players that are missing.

### Games

**A team can request players to bring their roster to 10 runners.** i.e. if the team is down to 7 runners they can AP up to 3 runners. If before a game a team roster exceeds 10 runners (e.g. a player thought to be unavailable shows up) then all players are allowed to participate.

- The AP player must play with his/her own team if there is a game conflict (at the same time).
- There is no limit on the number of games for AP players/goalies.
- There is no limit on the number of practices for AP players (runners or goalies)
- AP players (runners and goalies) are allowed for regular season practices and games only (no playoff games).
- A player can play for any team in the higher division and is not restricted to one team.
- A team can request specific AP players or request players by position.
- Requests are fulfilled on a "first come, first served" basis and the division manager (of your division) will attempt to stratify the players generally equally.

### Practices

Teams can request as many players as needed to practice with them at any time. We expect teams to use good judgement and not request players that are not really needed or would prevent their regular players from getting instruction/floor time at the practice.

The same rule applies for conflicts with the AP's regular practices or games (i.e.: no interference with regular team practice/games).

### Initial Setup

Each division coordinator and the executive develop a list of players (within their division) that could play up one level- based on assessment scores, coaches' recommendations, AND THE PLAYERS WILLINGNESS TO BE AVAILABLE. This includes preferred position (e.g., defense, center, goalie). Each division coordinator will provide this list with contact information and team number to the division coordinator in the next highest division. For example, the Peewee Division Coordinator provides a list of Peewee AP players to the Minor Division Coordinator.

The division coordinator operates and keeps track of the available AP list for their own division and provides players as requested for teams within their division. E.g. teams in Major looking for players would contact the Major Division Coordinator to get AP players from Minor. In case of any conflicts or concerns the division coordinators are supported by the executive as required.

### Process

All player requests must be for a specific game date. **The request must go through the Division Coordinator of the division you play in** and come from the Team manager or head coach.

The division coordinator will ensure there are no schedule conflicts. The division coordinator will contact the player/player's parents (depending on age group) to seek availability for the specific AP opportunity and relay the answer back to the requesting team.

If a team is short players on very short notice (game day), a Coach or Team Manager can approach players directly and ask if they are available to AP.