

KGHA Affiliation/Pick Up Policy

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The KGHA Affiliation Policy is guided by the Affiliation/Pick up Regulations set out by the OWH/ODWH and Hockey Canada.

This policy applies equally to regular season games, exhibition games, tournament games and practices. It also applies to all KGHA teams from Novice to Intermediate AA.

A player's first commitment and responsibility is to the team on which she is registered.

In all cases of intended use of affiliated players, the following procedure will apply:

a) The coach requesting the affiliation of a player will first contact and obtain permission from the affiliate's regular head coach to affiliate a player. Each time a coach requests the use of an affiliated player, the requesting coach must ask the affiliate's regular head coach. The requesting head coach or any member of the requesting team is not to ask any affiliate to play prior to receiving the proper permission. It is recommended that the regular head coach communicate the request to the requested player. The KGHA recognizes that providing players with the opportunity to play-up levels can be a positive development opportunity that is supported on a case by case basis. Permission to affiliate must be granted by the affiliate's regular head coach unless one of the following reasons apply:

- The affiliated player is injured
- There is a team event conflict
- The affiliated player is ill
- There is an issue with discipline involving the affiliated player
- The requested player has reached her maximum number of affiliated games

b) The requesting coach is strongly encouraged to discuss the needs of her/his team and the skill required with the lower category team's coach to determine which player(s) to affiliate. Requesting coaches should also consider affiliation priority at some time during the season to the final releases for those tried out for the team above. However, other players who were not in the final releases or did not try out can also be called up. However, it is the coach of the team requesting the player(s) who determines what player(s) are called to the affiliated team.

c) Permission being granted, the player in question will be contacted by her regular coach to confirm her willingness to play. The regular coach will immediately advise the requesting coach of the player's decision. 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 for all affiliation opportunities.

d) A pickup consent form will then be completed by the requesting coach, and forwarded to the regular coach for signing and be returned to the requesting coach prior to the game. The receiving 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.

e) Teams should affiliate players from more than one team so game conflicts can be avoided. When requesting players, the requesting coach should check the team schedule of any potential affiliate to avoid asking for an affiliate when there is a conflict.

Teams are only allowed to affiliate players from the same age group (for example Bantam can affiliate from Bantam) and from one age group below (for example Bantam can affiliate from Peewee). Teams are not permitted to affiliate from two age groups lower (for example Intermediate cannot affiliate from Bantam). A player from two age groups below may only affiliate in extenuating circumstances and requires the permission of the VP Competitive, the VP House and the President.

It should be noted that a maximum of three affiliates only, to the maximum of the team's original roster size, can be used for a game.

While OWHA rules permit affiliation of players across association boundaries, the KGHA does not promote this. The KGHA promotes internal association player development opportunities as its priority. Under Hockey Canada regulations, the KGHA operates a club affiliation system (Regulation E) where all players on lower category teams are automatically affiliated. While it is possible for the KGHA to make a rare exception of support, so that a game can be played- a goalie situation with extenuating circumstances for example - any cross-association affiliations (even for an exhibition game) require the approval of the KGHA VP Competitive, VP House League and President in advance. Such rare cross-association requests should be elevated and initiated between a senior Executive Member of the association requesting the players to the KGHA VP Competitive, the VP House and President of the KGHA. KGHA policy is that cross-association affiliation is not a coach to coach only decision.