



RETURN TO HOCKEY SUBSTITUTE GOALKEEPER GUIDELINES

As a result of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, Teams are not able to access affiliate players during the 2020-2021 season. The following guidelines have been established to provide direction to teams on how to manage a situation when their registered goalie(s) are unavailable.

Within the Divisions of Senior and Junior, as well as the AAA and AA categories of U18, U16, U15 and U13 the following process(es) will be in place:

- When a team only has one goaltender available for a scheduled League game and is seeking access to a back-up goaltender:
 1. Teams should consult with each other to determine whether or not the opposing Team will have a properly registered back-up goaltender available. If so, that goaltender should be used as a Substitute should either Team's goaltender become injured or ill; or
 2. If each Team only has 1 properly registered goaltender available for a game, Teams have the ability to apply for access to a Substitute Goalkeeper through the normal application process outlined within the Regulations.
 - Only one Substitute Goaltender will be considered for a pair/ group of Teams within a 'Competition Cohort';
 - If approved, the Team(s) must ensure that all protocols for using a Substitute Goalkeeper (as outlined below) are adhered to;
 3. Or, If an eligible Substitute Goalkeeper is not able to be found or approved, and a goaltender becomes injured or ill, Teams have the ability to dress a player or play the remainder of the game with 6 skaters (as per the Hockey Canada Playing Rules).
- When a team does not have any goaltenders available for a scheduled League game:
 1. Consideration should be given to rescheduling the game; or
 2. If not possible, Teams have the ability to apply for access to a Substitute Goalkeeper through the normal application process outlined within the Regulations.
 - If approved, the Team must ensure that all protocols for using a Substitute Goalkeeper (as outlined below) are adhered to.

Within the 'Tiered Minor Hockey' (U7 – U18) the following process(es) will be in place:

- U11, U9, U7 - The Regulations do not require the designation of goaltenders at the U11 Division, nor the Intro to Hockey levels, and therefore no Substitute Goaltenders will be approved for any Teams within these Divisions.
 1. If a Team's goaltender is unavailable, or becomes injured or ill during play, a Team has the option to:
 - If the opposing Team has a back-up goaltender dressed, request to have that goaltender complete the game for the other Team; or
 - Dress any other player from your Team to complete the game as a goaltender.



- U13, U15 & U18 – When a Team does not have any goaltenders available for a scheduled League game:
 1. Consideration should be given to rescheduling the game; or
 2. If not possible, Teams should consult with each other to determine whether or not the opposing Team will have a properly registered back-up goaltender available. If so, that goaltender should be used as a Substitute should either Team's goaltender become injured or ill; or
 3. If not possible, dress any other player from your Team to complete the game as a goaltender; or
 4. If not possible, Teams have the ability to apply for access to a Substitute Goalkeeper through the normal application process outlined within the Regulations.
 - If approved, the Team must ensure that all protocols for using a Substitute Goalkeeper (as outlined below) are adhered to.

NOTES

- ✓ Substitute Goalkeepers will only be considered for 'Tiered Minor Hockey' (Male and Female) when a Team has no available goaltenders. Requests will not be approved for a Substitute to act as a back-up goaltender.
- ✓ It is recommended that Teams in the U11, U13, U15 & U18 Divisions encourage players to practice the position of goaltender throughout the season in order to prepare for a potential scenario where a replacement is needed.

Protocols for Using an Approved Substitute Goalkeeper

Goaltenders approved to be used as a Substitute Goalkeeper are not considered part of a 'Competition Cohort' and must follow these guidelines leading up to and during play:

- If traveling with the team on a bus, the goaltender must physically distance and wear a mask when physically distancing is not possible;
- A private dressing room should be procured for the Substitute Goalkeeper whenever possible. If this is not possible, the Team must ensure that all Players and Team Officials in the dressing room wear masks at all times and that the Substitute Goalkeeper be positioned with a physical distance of 2 metres from all other participants at all times while in dressing room.
- For Senior, Junior, AAA or AA, if a Substitute Goalkeeper is approved to be a back-up, it is recommended that the Substitute not be on the players bench. If the Substitute is on the players bench, he/she must wear a mask and be positioned with a physical distance of 2 metres from all other participants.
- If a Substitute Goalkeeper is approved to be a back-up, they are only eligible to enter game play due to an injury or illness to the properly registered goaltender.