



North Bay & District Girls Hockey Association Player Movement Policy

Policy

Permission for a competitive player to play above their age level will be granted only in exceptional cases and with due regard for:

The player's demonstrated hockey skill, game understanding, and ability to compete safely and effectively at the higher age level;

The player's physical maturity, emotional readiness, and social development;

The player's long-term development in alignment with Hockey Canada's Long-Term Player Development (LTPD) model;

The impact on team composition and competitiveness in both the player's current age division and the requested higher age division;

The potential displacement of age-eligible players from competitive roster positions;

The ability of NBDGHA to field balanced and competitive teams across all age divisions;

Recommendations from independent evaluators, coaches, and/or other members as deemed appropriate by the Player Movement Committee.

Procedures

Players and parents/guardians requesting consideration to try out for a Tier I competitive team in a higher age category must comply with and acknowledge the following procedures:

- 1. Prior Approval Required**

No player shall attend a tryout for a competitive team in a higher/older age category without receiving prior written approval from the NBDGHA Executive.

- 2. Written Request**

All requests for consideration of player movement must be submitted in writing to the NBDGHA President prior to the commencement of tryouts. The President will forward the request to the Player Movement Committee for review and consideration.



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3. Tryout Participation Requirements

In order to be considered for approval, a player must have competed on a Tier 1 team within their current age category as a minor* (first year within the age group). Upon receiving approval, the player may attend tryout sessions for the Tier I competitive team in the higher age category. The player must also attend at least one Tier I competitive tryout session within their registered age category.

*The Player Movement Committee reserves the right to consider the special circumstances of players (for example, a player requesting consideration to tryout at an age level above their current age that competed outside Women's hockey the previous season)

4. Tier Restriction

Consideration for movement to a higher age category shall be limited to Tier I competitive teams only. Requests for movement to compete at a higher age category on Tier II, Tier III, or lower-tier teams will not be considered under this policy.

5. Performance Evaluation Criteria

To be considered for movement, the player must be evaluated by the higher age group's head coach and evaluation staff as:

One of the top three (3) forwards; **or**

One of the top two (2) defense players; **or**

The top goaltender.

6. Physical and Social Maturity Assessment

It is the responsibility of the higher age group's Head Coach to assess whether the player demonstrates the physical readiness, emotional maturity, and social development required to safely and effectively compete at the older age level. The Head Coach may consult with the player's parent/guardian and/or any other individuals deemed necessary to support this assessment.