



North Bay & District Girls Hockey Association Player Movement Policy

The NBDGHA promotes and supports the guiding principle that players should participate in divisions within their registered age category. This is generally in the best interest of both the player's skill development, social maturity, and team competitiveness.

However, the Executive does recognize that there may be rare exceptions to this stand of practice, and that a player may demonstrate an exceptional level of skill development for their particular age division and shall be provided the opportunity for players/parents to request that consideration be given to try out for a COMPETITIVE TEAM in a higher/older age category.

This is a very sensitive and complex circumstance. Much consideration will be given to the overall effects this may have on player and program development, including the displacement of legitimate age players from a Competitive program in their age category and the ability to ice the most competitive team in their current age group. Decisions will be made for the overall well-being of the Association and any requests for such consideration shall be evaluated and determined on an individual basis by the Executive.

Requests for players to play above the age levels must be made in writing prior to tryouts.

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

- i) The welfare of both teams
- ii) The welfare of the player
- iii) The perceived exceptional ability of the player. Players who played above their age levels in any season must re-apply for permission to play above their age level in future seasons.

Players/parents who would like such consideration must comply with the following procedures:

- No player is permitted to attend a tryout for a competitive team in a higher/older age category without receiving prior approval/permission from the Executive.
- All requests for consideration of player movement are required to be submitted in writing to the President, who will forward to the Player Movement Committee
- Upon obtaining permission, the player may attend the tryout session for the competitive team in the higher age category and must also attend at least one Primary competitive tryout for their proper age group.

*Please Note that any other player movement between age categories and house program (required or requested) is at the authority and discretion of the Executive committee and may



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be required in some circumstances to facilitate Association registration numbers and/or create teams. Other requests may be submitted and will be considered on an individual basis. Accommodating requests may not be possible and are dependent on player registration, numbers in divisions and on teams etc.

*Special requests for player movement down an age category may be considered at the request of parents including but not restricted to facilitate skill development or to accommodate special needs of a player. In general, player participation in a lower age category is not recommended or supported by the OWHA, therefore players/parents need to be fully aware that such movement may restrict the players' ability to participate fully with their team in OWHA events outside of league participation.

