

# North Bay & District Girls' Hockey Association

## Policies and Procedures

### Competitive Team Try Outs and Player Selection

NBDGHA Competitive Teams shall be categorized with the intention of maximizing/optimizing Player and Program Development. Competitive Team rosters are to be selected with the objective of choosing ideally the most skilled players available with the greatest amount of fairness.

Spring Tryouts allow Coaches the opportunity to evaluate and select players based on their optimum level of ability and skill development after a full season of competition. NBDGHA Primary Competitive Team/Program in each division will select a team at the conclusion of Spring Tryout Sessions with the intent to run a summer program.

Subsequent tiering of Competitive Programs in a Division is encouraged when player registration permits and supports such initiatives and should be considered when player interest is present.

- All tryout ice sessions will be booked, scheduled and advertised by NBDGHA
- There will be a cost per player for all sessions; all participants must pay prior to going on the ice, all funds collected are the property of NBDGHA.
- Players attending from other OWHA Associations require a valid Permission to Skate form from their current Association, prior to any participation.
- Any player wishing to try out for a Competitive Team, in a division above their registered age category, is required to request in writing, to the President, and receive approval prior to attending any on ice sessions. Please refer to NBDGHA Player Movement Policy.
- Any players with outstanding registration/team fees are not allowed to participate in tryouts until outstanding balances have been paid in full.
- Each player will receive a numbered pinnie supplied by the Association, for identification and evaluation purposes. The players will keep the same number for the entire tryouts. It is the Coach/Team's responsibility to ensure all pinnies are collected after each session and handed in at the conclusion of the tryouts.
- Coaches are required to prepare a handout for Players/Parents that has been previously approved by the Competitive Convener/Executive; the handout should include such things as, Coaching philosophy, proposed plans for the season i.e.: proposed team categorization, league play, tournament participation, team fees and proposed budget, fundraising ideas, general team over view and commitment etc., and Coaches must be available to answer any questions from Players/Parents.
- Coaches will provide on ice instructors to co-ordinate the drills and specific skills sets used for evaluations that are not associated with that particular division.

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- Coaches will provide a minimum of 3 off ice evaluators to assist in player assessment. Evaluators should be persons considered to have knowledge of player skills; assessment and evaluation experience, and not associated with the particular division.
- Coaches will provide an evaluation form for assessment to all evaluators, a form can be provided by the Association if required. The on ice evaluation is to be used as a tool to assist Coaches in appropriate player selection.
- It is a Coach's ethical responsibility to ensure the selection of the most appropriate, and ideally the most skilled players. This can be a difficult task but it is an expectation that much consideration is to be given and the utmost fairness is to be maintained during this process. Any blatant discrepancy in selection will be reviewed by the Competitive Convener/Executive.
- There may be circumstances when final decisions regarding player selection may be determined by other influencing factors including but not limited to Player attitude or commitment. These concerns should be addressed with the Competitive Convener/ Executive and even the Player/Parents when appropriate.
- The intent of maintaining fairness in Player selection based on ability for a Competitive Program is to discourage the manipulation of the process that may displace more skilled players in order to accommodate "acquaintances"; this is not considered to be an acceptable practice.
- Coaches are required to meet with the Competitive Convener/Executive Representation prior to the final ice session to discuss intended player selection.
- The final number of players and goalies permitted onto a roster will be discussed and approved by NBDGHA Executive.
- Coaches are required to meet or speak to each individual Player that has attended a tryout, and notify them if they were successful or unsuccessful in being selected for the Program. It is a good practice to provide age appropriate constructive evaluation and positive feedback to players while being sensitive to their possible disappointment.
- All Coaches must operate in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures of the OWHA and NBDGHA. Failure to do so will result in a review of your Coaching status by the Executive.

**Amended March 2015**