



NGHA Affiliation for Competitive Teams

Purpose

The NGHA believes strongly in the affiliate program and desires to see affiliated players (also known as pickup or callup players) used as often as possible to foster development. This document outlines the policy and process for players affiliated to competitive teams.

General guidelines

- No player is required to play with another team and refusing a request to affiliate for any reason will not impact the player's future affiliation opportunities. Players may select to play or practice with their usual team if there is an event conflict.
- All team officials (i.e. coaches and managers) must respect this policy and make no effort to discourage affiliated players from participating with affiliated teams.
- Affiliations may only be made:
 - from teams at the same age division but lower level (e.g., U13A may affiliate from U13BB, U13B, or U13C); or,
 - from a maximum of one age division lower but at the same or lower level (e.g. U13A may affiliate from U11A, U11BB, U11B, U11C, but not any teams from U9).
- Teams may not affiliate from a higher level team or a team at the same level (e.g. in the event of multiple teams at the same level).
- Teams may not affiliate a player to replace a suspended player and a suspended player may not be affiliated.
- The guidelines in this policy may not apply to affiliation of goalies in exceptional circumstances. Any exceptions require approval from the Competitive Directors.
- **Team officials should refer to tournament rules in addition to this policy for affiliates called up to tournament games.**

Games

All teams are strongly encouraged to play games with a full roster if there is an opportunity to affiliate. The term 'games' includes any games where the ice is paid by the Association or with team fees and includes exhibition, regular league games and tournaments. As per OWSA policies, affiliation is not allowed during playdown games, playoff games, or provincial championship games.

No individual player, used as an affiliate player for OWSA league play, can play at a higher level more than ten (10) OWSA league games during the regular season. A player's regular coach (or team manager) is responsible for tracking the number of games where their player was affiliated.



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Coaches should be aware of the current OWSHA policies on eligibility for players to participate in Provincials. OWSHA has guidelines for participation in Provincials and requires a minimum number of times that the player should have played at that level before January 15.

OWSHA rules state that a team may affiliate a maximum of 3 affiliates per game. Teams may not affiliate more players than the total number of players on their roster. For example, if a team has a roster of 15, they cannot have 2 affiliated players to make a team of 17.

Procedure for Use of Affiliated Player - Competitive Team to Competitive Team - Games

The following process will be followed:

1. The requesting head coach (coach intending to use an affiliated player) must contact the head coach of the team from which they would like to affiliate to request a player that meets their needs (i.e., forward, defense, goalie, etc). The requesting coach is strongly encouraged to discuss the needs of their team and the skill required with the other coach to determine which player(s) to affiliate. **It is the requesting coach who determines which player(s) are affiliated.**
 2. The requesting coach will email the affiliate's regular head coach requesting the identified affiliate player(s) and must cc the convenor(s) of both the requesting team and the team receiving the request. The request must include the
 - o date;
 - o time; and
 - o location of the game requiring an affiliate player.
 3. The affiliate's regular head coach must offer the request for affiliation to the selected player(s) unless one of the following reasons applies:
 - o there is a discipline issue involving the affiliated player(s);
 - o the affiliated player(s) is injured or ill; or
 - o there is an event conflict.
 4. Where there is an event conflict, the following schedule of event priorities should be used and the team with the highest event priority will take precedence.
 - o League game
 - o Out-of-town tournament
 - o In-town tournament game
 - o Practice
 - o Exhibition game
 - o Off-ice team event
 5. There may be exceptional circumstances when the event priority cannot be followed. Competitive convenors must be contacted in order to determine priorities for affiliation.
 6. The affiliate's regular team coach must contact the requested player to confirm willingness and availability to play and advise the player that they approve of their participation.
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7. The regular team coach must advise the requesting coach and cc the appropriate convenors on the player's decision.
8. The requesting team must add affiliated players on the electronic game sheet and follow the appropriate processes in RAMP (or electronic game sheet system in current use by NGHA).

Procedure for Use of Affiliated Player - Competitive Team to Competitive Team - Practices

Teams are encouraged to affiliate players to practices as this provides an excellent development opportunity. Coaches are encouraged to ask coaches from the affiliate team for recommendations as to which players may have earned the development opportunity. **It is the requesting coach who determines which player(s) are affiliated based on their needs.**

There is no formal request process to be followed but event priorities should be considered.

There is no limit on the number of practices that an affiliate player can join and there is no limit to the number of affiliates that can be called up for a practice.

NGHA Affiliation Policy for House League to Competitive - Games and Practices

The following procedures and rules must be followed in order to affiliate a player from house league to competitive.

IMPORTANT: Competitive teams may not request affiliation from house league teams if house league rosters are not finalized.

1. The requesting coach must email the NGHA House League Directors (nghahldirector1@gmail.com and nghahldirector2@gmail.com) to formally make the request and copy the respective competitive convenor on the request, indicating the following information in their request:
 - Indicate the player position (ie. forward, defence, goalie) necessary.
 - Date, time and location of the event and indicate if it is for a practice or game.
2. The HL Director will review and approve the request. If approved, the HL Director will forward the request to the affiliate player's head coach and the appropriate HL convenor will be copied. The affiliate's regular head coach must also grant permission unless one of the following reasons apply:
 - there is a discipline issue involving the affiliated player(s) or the player(s) is suspended;
 - the affiliated player(s) is injured or ill; or
 - there is an event conflict.
3. If the requested player is not available, the HL convenor will suggest an alternative player.



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4. When approved, the affiliate's coach must contact the affiliate player to confirm their willingness to play, and cc the appropriate convenors.
5. If the player agrees, the requesting coach must provide details to the affiliate coach by email with the appropriate house league and competitive convenors copied.
6. If the request is for a game, the requesting coach must complete the affiliation request in RAMP (or electronic game sheet system in current use by NGHA), and the affiliate's regular coach must approve it.
7. After the game, the requesting coach must notify the affiliate's regular coach to explain any injuries or suspensions that occurred and any actions taken.

Questions

Please contact the [Director, Policy Risk and Safety](#) for any questions on this policy.