**What is an AP player?**

* An affiliated player (AP) is a player who is eligible to play on their own registered team, plus one other team.
* A player can affiliate for no more than one other team; once they have been rostered as an AP they cannot switch to affiliate for another team in that season.

**Who can affiliate for a given team?**

* Affiliate players where at all possible should be the same age category.
* Affiliated players can come from either the same age division and lower category, the same category and lower age division or same age division and same category.
* For example:
	+ A Competitive U13 player can AP from Recreation U13 team (same age; lower category)
	+ A Competitive U13 player can AP from Rep U11 team (same category, lower age)
	+ A Recreation U13 player can AP from another Recreational U13 team within their Minor Hockey association (Port McNeill & Port Hardy)
* U7 players are not to be used as AP’s unless approved by VIAHA Officers.
* No U11 Development players may AP to a U13 Recreational team.
* A carded player may not be affiliate to a recreation team.
* **NEW** U9 players may affiliate to a U11 team provided they are no more than one year out of the U11 category.

**AP paperwork**

* In order to participate in the AP program, a player must first be on an approved rostered with their registered (primary) team.
* In order to play as an AP in a game, a player must be rostered as an AP for that team.
* A **TriPort Player Affiliation Form** must be completed and signed by all of the following individuals: the coach offering the AP position, the coach of the player’s registered team, the player, the player’s parent and the TriPort Coach Development Coordinator.
* The player is then added to the affiliating team’s roster.
* In order to be used as an AP in a game situation, the player must be on the approved roster of the affiliating team as an AP prior to the start of game.
* The deadline for rostering an AP is **January 15th**

**Guidelines of AP positions**

* AP positions provide assistance to teams to fill in for injured or absent players
* The TPMHA requires the signing of APs such that it maximizes opportunities for all players, and recognizes that teams have access to different pools of players dependent upon their division
* With this goal in mind, where a Recreation team exists, the TPMHA encourages coaches of Competitive teams to consider selecting APs from the Recreation team in the same division as a primary source.  A secondary source of APs would be the team from the lower division.
* This approach will help to ensure that Rep teams have reasonable access to local league players should they also require the assistance of APs.
* APs are to be used to fill gaps, not to augment lineups
* The primary use of APs is to fill in for absent or injured players

**Participation in practices**

* All Ap’s are to attend all their registered teams’ practices.
* The AP shall be permitted to attend the affiliating teams practices ***only*** when it does not interfere with AP’s registered team practice times.
* Special considerations can be made if an AP player needs to practice prior to a game or tournament if both coaches have agreed ahead of time.

**Participation in games**

* Competitive Teams will only be allowed to call up APs to match the number of players listed on their approved roster sheet.
* Recreational teams will only be permitted to use AP’s when they have 13 or fewer skaters, only bringing their numbers to 14 skaters.
* AP’s are not to be used until the first Wednesday after Thanksgiving weekend.
* Teams may not use an AP when the AP’s team is playing, except in emergency situations. Such as:
	+ - Injuries
		- School Activities which supersede hockey; or
		- Suspension/Disciplinary action
* Recreational and Competitive AP players can only play a maximum of 10 games
* Exhibition and/or Tournament games, which are not part of regular League games or play-off games, are excluded from the maximum number of games.
* If a Goaltender serves as backup and does not participate in the game, this does not count toward the 10-game limit.

**Game Day Process for using an Affiliate Player**

* Prior to using the player in the game, you must contact the coach of the affiliate’s team to notify them that you are requesting the player. This is to make the requesting coach aware of any issues or suspensions which may prevent them participating in a game.
* You must sign into the HiSports (Spordle Play) system and be sure that you add the affiliate to the game roster for that game.
* Affiliated players must be designated on the official game sheet by the symbol “AP” after their name on the player’s line-up roster.
* After the game, the requesting Head Coach must notify the affiliate’s regular coaching staff of any injuries or suspensions

For Hockey Canada and VIAHA rules on Affiliate Players please see the attached links.

**2020-2021Hockey Canada By-laws, Regulations and History** (F. Affiliation)

<https://cdn.hockeycanada.ca/hockey-canada/Corporate/About/Downloads/2020-21-bylaws-e.pdf>

**2022-2023 VIAHA Constitutions By-laws and Regulations** (5.25 Affiliate Players)

<http://www.viaha.org/administration/2022-2023%20-%20VIAHA%20Handbook.pdf>

**2022-2023 VIAHA Policy Manual** (4.09.04 Affiliation)

<http://www.viaha.org/administration/2022-2023%20-%20VIAHA%20Policy%20Manual.pdf>