

# YELLOWKNIFE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## PLAYER MOVEMENT

### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

17 November 2009

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Yellowknife Minor Hockey Association (Association) is subject to and governed by the Regulations and policies of Hockey Canada (HC) which are administered by Hockey North. The following statement is intended to clarify the policies and procedures relating to the potential movement of players between teams under various circumstances.

#### 2.0 KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 HC Regulation No. F29 stipulates that a player may not register and play under a second registration in the same season unless properly released from the initial registration in accordance with Regulation H.
- 2.2 The authorities responsible for approving player movements are as follows:
  - between our Branch and another Branch: Hockey Canada
  - between associations in the Branch: Hockey North
  - between teams within the Association: Executive Committee or delegated officers
- 2.3 Some NWT communities do not have sufficient players to establish a division or an age-appropriate team within a specific division.
- 2.4 Hockey North endorses the *ad hoc* (case-by-case) movement of players between communities where there are insufficient players to form a team in the host community.
- 2.5 The Association is committed to providing enhanced playing opportunities for all NWT players; subject to the regulations and policies of Hockey North.
- 2.6 The Association is also committed to providing enhanced playing opportunities for its own members as opportunities arise.

#### 3.0 INTER-ASSOCIATION OR INTER-COMMUNITY MOVEMENT

Hockey North generally does not approve the *ad hoc* movement of players between teams in different associations and/or communities. Clause 2.4 exceptions will be addressed as follows:

- Association players may participate on a non-Yellowknife team, subject to the following conditions:
  - There are insufficient age-appropriate players available<sup>1</sup> within the host community;
  - There are insufficient age-appropriate players available within the host HNWT region;
  - An official request for players is made to the Association Executive Committee through HNWT;
  - The official request addresses the above-noted conditions.
- Non-association players may participate on an Association team, subject to the following conditions:
  - There are insufficient age-appropriate players available within the Association;  
(Yellowknife is considered as a region by HNWT)

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<sup>1</sup> The test is availability of age-appropriate players regardless of their individual skill level

- An official request for a non-Association player(s) is made to the Association Executive Committee;
  - Both the Executive Committee and President, HNWT approve the request.
- An Association player (skater or goaltender) is not permitted to participate on a Yellowknife Adult Recreational League team pursuant to HC Rule No. F29.

### 3.0 WITHIN-ASSOCIATION MOVEMENT

#### 3.1 League Program Players

##### 3.1.1 Within the Same Division

**Skaters** may not play on another League Program team within the same division unless:

- The requesting coach has established that his team will have ten skaters or less for a particular game.
- The lack of sufficient players to form an effective team is an isolated incident and not a regular occurrence. If it becomes a regular occurrence, the team could be disbanded.
- Different players are selected for each request so that the added opportunities for playing time are distributed equitably among available players.
- The Governor has approved the request in advance of the game.

**Goaltenders** may not play on another League Program team within the same division unless:

- The requesting coach has established that his team will not have a goaltender for a particular game.
- The lack of a goaltender is an isolated incident and not a regular occurrence. If it becomes a regular occurrence, the Governor shall recommend a permanent solution to the Executive Committee.
- Different goaltenders are selected for each request so that the added opportunities for playing time are distributed equitably among available players.
- The Governor has approved the request in advance of the game.

##### 3.1.2 Between Divisions

The first choice for replacement players shall be from within the division. Players may be “called up” from the next lower division only if there are no available players within the age-appropriate division.

The “call-up” of a player from a lower division must be approved in advance by the governors of both divisions.

#### 3.2 Development Teams

The “call-up” of a player shall be limited to age-appropriate League team players who are formally affiliated with the Development team.

#### 3.3 Under-age Players

Under-age players may play on a League and/or Development team in the next higher division if they qualify according to the player evaluation policy and other Association policies. However, once registered with a team in the next higher division, they can no longer participate in any age-appropriate activities within or outside the Branch. (The AWG is an exception to this rule because it is governed by rules relating to international events.)

### 3.4 Midget Goaltenders

The midget teams which play in the Adult Recreational League present a unique challenge with respect to replacement goaltenders.

- The choice of a replacement goaltender should follow the process outlined in section 3.1. The order of selection would be: 1) a goaltender from another Midget team; 2) a goaltender from the Bantam Development Team; 3) a goaltender from a Bantam League Program team.
- If an Association goaltender cannot be obtained, the next order of selection would be: 3) a juvenile-age goaltender registered with the Recreational League; 4) an adult goaltender registered with the Recreational League.

The Midget Governor shall approve the request in advance of the game.

### 3.5 Adult Recreational League

Players who are participating on Association teams that play in the Adult Recreational League are also subject to the Recreational League bylaws and policies.

## 4.0 UNREGISTERED PLAYERS

Players who are not registered with Hockey Canada invalidate the Hockey Canada insurance for all players who are on the ice. This is a serious matter which could have significant negative implications if a serious incident occurred during the activity. It is Hockey Canada and Association policy that all players must be fully insured (through registration) with Hockey Canada before they step on the ice.

## 5.0 COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the coach(s) to ensure that:

- all players in their charge are properly registered with Hockey Canada;
- player movement is undertaken in a manner consistent with Hockey Canada rules and Association policies.

## 6.0 PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of all players to understand and respect Hockey Canada rules and Association policies. If in doubt, they should seek guidance from their coach and governor.

## 7.0 SANCTIONS

Sanctions may be applied, to both coaches and players, according to following process:

### 7.1 Oral Reprimand

The offending member(s) will be reminded of this statement and other relevant policies. A written record of the incident will be provided to the Chair, Discipline Committee.

### 7.2 Letter of Reprimand

The second offence will result in a letter of reprimand which will be forwarded to the relevant member(s) and retained by the Chair, Discipline Committee.

### 7.3 Suspension

The third offence will be subject to review by the Discipline Committee and could result in a suspension from Association programs.

As the Minor Hockey and Recreational Hockey associations are both governed by Hockey Canada, they are required to respect the suspensions arising from the other association. Accordingly a Hockey Canada member is suspended from all Hockey Canada sanctioned games, until his/her suspension has been served in the league in which it has occurred.

The associations will develop a formal notification process if circumstances warrant it.