

Proposed Player Movement Policy For Tryouts at Age Level Above – 2019

It is PMHC's mandate to establish and foster an environment and culture of development for players. Occasionally, it is appropriate for a player to play with an age group above the division defined by their birth year. We understand that each individual situation is unique.

According to the OMHA Rule 3.6a (attached below), Centres must establish criteria that players would be required to meet in order to play on an age-above team. The rule also states that AAA Zone organizations cannot prevent children from trying out for an age-above team.

- For Novice to Major Atom, the PMHC criteria for a player to move up is that they be clearly one of the Top 5 players (regardless of position) amongst the group trying out for the age-above team.
- For Minor Peewee to Minor Midget, the PMHC criteria for a player to move up is that they be clearly one of the Top 5 Forwards, or Top 3 Defence, or Top 2 Goaltenders amongst the group trying out for the age-above team.

Experienced, independent, non-coach evaluators will be recruited by the PMHC to evaluate players who are trying out for the age-above team. The appropriate criterion needs to be met according to the judgement of at least 2 independent (non-coach) evaluators. The decision of the evaluators will be communicated to the player, parents, and age-above coach on the Thursday morning of tryout week. If the player does not meet the criterion, the tryout for the age-above team will be considered complete and the player will continue tryouts with their own age group. If the player meets the criterion, the player may continue tryouts with the age-above group and with their own age group. The coach of the age-above team may (but is not obligated to) offer the player a position on the age-above team.

Coaches will not be involved in determining if the player meets the criterion to move up.

The steps for Player Movement are as follows:

- 1) An application form will be submitted by the player's parents to the President by January 30 prior to tryouts. This will allow PMHC time to arrange for neutral, non-coach evaluators to attend the relevant teams' tryouts.
- 2) Players will be evaluated by independent non-coach evaluators at skates between the Monday and Wednesday (inclusive) of tryout week.
- 3) Player and parents will be notified of the evaluators' decision by the President on the Thursday morning of tryouts.
- 4) Players will be responsible for payment of tryout fees at both levels. Players who try out for an older team must also simultaneously try out for the team of their own age group until they are

- a) offered a position on their own-age team, or
 - b) are eligible for a waiver from their own-age team according to OMHA tryout rules.
- 5) Regardless the decision of evaluators, players who are not offered a position on the age-above team by the coach will not be eligible for a waiver. They must continue tryouts with their own-age team (see Step 4 above).

This process must be repeated yearly if a player wishes to continue to play for the age-above team.

Any contact with the evaluators during the evaluation will void the application.

- Approved March 2019

From the 2018-19 OMHA Manual of Operations, p. 114:

3.6 Eligibility to Play in a Higher Division

- a) Centres must establish criteria that players would be required to meet in order to play on a higher division team.
- b) A player shall be eligible to try out for and, if qualified by ability, may register and play for a Representative team in the next higher division of his Home Centre or Home Centre Zone. OMHA Centres and Zones cannot prevent underage players from attending tryouts in the higher division.
Example: A Minor-age Peewee player would be eligible to try-out and sign with either the Peewee team, the Minor Bantam team or the Bantam team.
- c) For Additional Entry teams the Centre may restrict players from playing in a higher division.

PLAYING IN A HIGHER DIVISION & AFFILIATION

AGE BY DEC. 31	DIVISION	CATEGORY	PLAY IN A HIGHER DIVISION?	MAY AFFILIATE?
4 & Under	Pre-school 2018-19	HL	NO	NO
5 & 6	Initiation 2018-19	HL; LL	If deemed able by ability using parameters identified by the Association or where registration numbers require*	NO
7	Minor Novice 2018-19	HL; LL; Select	If deemed able by ability using parameters identified by the Association or where registration numbers require*	NO
8	Novice 2018-19	HL; LL; MD; Rep	If deemed able by ability using parameters identified by the Association or where registration numbers require*	YES
8	Novice Effective 2019-20	HL; LL; Rep	If deemed able by ability using parameters identified by the Association or where registration numbers require*	YES **

* Centres must establish criteria that players would be required to meet in order to play on a higher division team.

** Yes – to Minor Atom/Atom only during the Transition Season - once the Novice program has transitioned to Full-Ice.