



OPERATIONAL POLICY: MINOR HOCKEY OVERAGE PLAYERS
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POLICY STATEMENT

Providing opportunities for players to access Minor Hockey when there are no other relevant options within their respective age division is a priority for Hockey Alberta.

CRITERIA

A player that is of first year in a division, by date of birth, may be permitted to register and participate with a team of a lower age division provided they meet the criteria outlined herein:

- (a) AA and AAA Teams are not eligible to register Overage Players;
- (b) Players are only eligible for Overage status if they are one birth year older than the maximum age for the Division and have a date of birth between November 1 and December 31 of that year;
- (c) Eighteen-year-old (18) Players are only eligible for Overage status if they are still enrolled full-time in high school.
- (d) Players that were rostered to AA or AAA teams the previous season will not be eligible to over age in tiered hockey.

Exceptions may be considered for entry level Players that have limited skills, or if there is not a Team of the appropriate age Division for the Player to register with. Submissions for exceptions must be submitted to Hockey Alberta through the online form.

PROCESS FOR EXCEPTION REQUESTS

Approval for any Overage Players that do not meet the criteria outlined above must be obtained through an application made by the Minor Hockey Association (MHA) to Hockey Alberta through the online application form.

- If an MHA does not support and submit the request, an application will not be considered;
- Applications must be made no later than **October 31**;
- Prior to a formal decision, Hockey Alberta may use an evaluation or “trial” period to determine the correct division of hockey for the applicant.

OVERAGE PLAYERS IN INTRO TO HOCKEY LEVELS

- Hockey Alberta may allow a Player that is in their first year in the U11 Division, by date of birth, to register and participate in an MHA’s Intro to Hockey Program.
- MHAs are permitted to register U9 aged participants in the U7 division should they deem it appropriate for the participants development. Notification must be made to the Minor Administration Coordinator.



USE OF AN APPROVED OVERAGE PLAYER

- Overage Players may be placed on any level of Team (except AAA and AA Teams) that the MHA deems to be appropriate for the participant's development;
- Overage Players are eligible to participate with their registered Team in all exhibition, tournament, League and Provincial games;
- Overage Players are eligible to affiliate to a team of their appropriate age division;
- Overage Players must be marked as "OA" on all game sheets;
- A maximum of three (3) Overage Players can be registered to any one team;
- Overage Players may have their overage status revoked at any time within the season up to and including December 31 should it be deemed the player is strengthening the Team, or no longer meets the respective prerequisites;
- Overage Player approvals are valid for the current season only.