



HUDSON HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PLAYER PLAY UP POLICY

Hudson Hockey Association (HHA) strongly recommends players play at their appropriate age level but has a policy for exceptions. Ultimately, the Board of Directors will determine if a player play up is in the best interest of the player and HHA.

Hudson Hockey Association requires players to play at their level as determined under the age brackets set forth by USA Hockey. Our belief in adhering to USA Hockey's age bracket is in part that youth hockey especially at the younger levels (Mite/U8 & Squirt/U10) is developmental, along with our HHA Mission Statement "Providing and promoting equal opportunities and positive experience for all Hudson area youth in skating and related activities," and supporting the development of all players to enhance players skills and abilities.

Determinations for play ups must fulfill either a roster/goaltending need or elite player determination as defined below:

ROSTER NEED

Based on the number of eligible players, the Player Coach Development Committee (PCDC) may determine that a need exists to move a player(s) up from the next lower level in order to fill out rosters.

In the event the PCDC makes such a determination that move ups are necessary to fulfill "roster needs" to the Squirt/10U level, players will be moved up, based upon the Mite Evaluation sessions at the beginning of the season, need for goalie, as well as birth year. These players will not go through the tryout process and will be assigned to the lowest configured team.

GOALTENDING NEED

In the event desired team configurations present a need for additional goaltenders, which will be determined PRIOR to tryouts beginning for such level of play, a move up spot will first be filled by a qualified goalie, as determined by the PCDC. In the event one or more such goalies exist, priority will be given to the player in the highest grade first, then birth date. There will

not be any goalie move ups to place 2 goalies on any team at any level unless there are a sufficient number of qualified goalies at the level below to ensure one goalie per team.

ELITE PLAYER REQUEST

Move Up to Squirt/U10

Please refer to the WAHA form for U8 player requests to move up (<https://tinyurl.com/y5hklplc>). Player must score in the top 1/3 of the “A” Squirt or U10 team through the association’s formal tryout process. For Example, if the PCDC determines the Squirt “A” team to have 13 skaters (excluding goalies) the player would need to rank number 1-4 in the final tryout evaluation.

Move Up to PeeWee/U12 or Higher Level

Any family wishing to request a play up to a higher level must submit a request to the Hudson Hockey Association Board of Director President before August 1st of the upcoming season or as allowed by the Board Executive Committee for extenuating circumstances including but not limited to, new to association, moving back into the association, injury/medical, etc. These requests will be evaluated on an as-needed basis. The player must include their previous coach’s recommendation with their request. The Board Executive Committee will review the request and determine the eligibility of such request and move the application to the PCDC for further determination. The Executive Board of Directors Committee and PCDC will work together to determine the eligibility of request using the following criteria:

1. Team sizes at both age levels
2. Determination of eligibility will be based off of previous coach’s recommendations and may possibly require an on ice dynamic skating and skills session.
3. Player move up is only allowed to move up one birth year. For example, a first year Squirt would not be allowed to move up to PeeWees.
4. Player must register at their appropriate age level and tryout level per the HHA Tryout Policy. For registration fees or refunds please refer to the HHA Tryout Policy.
5. Player must score in the top 1/3 of the “A” Team of the requested level. For example, if the PCDC determines the “A” team to have 13 skaters (excluding goalies) the player would need to rank number 1-4 in the final Tryout evaluation.

If the player does not score in the top 4, such player will be placed on their appropriate age level team using the criteria established in our player Injury/medical or unable to attend tryout policy.

After consulting with the previous year's coach and the applicable PCDC which may include current age level coaches and coaching coordinator(s), the Tryout Committee will determine team placement at the conclusion of tryouts. A player placed on a team pursuant to this provision will not displace a tryout player ranking in the top 75% of that team's initial roster based on evaluations, but may displace a player ranking in the bottom 25% of that team's initial roster based on evaluations, e.g., in the example set forth in #5 above, with a roster of 13 skaters, it is possible that a player placed pursuant to this provision may displace a player that initially ranked between positions 11-16 after the on-ice evaluation process, but shall not displace a player ranked 1-10.

The final decision is at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors and the decision will be final. HHA Board of Directors reserve the right to do what is in the best interest of the association and player development. There is no appeal process.