

Formation of Competitive Teams

<p>Overview</p>	<p>This policy establishes the criteria and process for the formation of competitive teams within the NGHHA.</p> <p>This policy does not apply to the Intermediate or Senior Teams.</p> <p>The Competitive Program Committee will oversee the formation of teams. The Competitive Program Committee consists of the VP Programs and both Competitive Directors. Other members of the NGHHA Board of Directors may be added to the Committee as required.</p>
<p>General</p>	<p>Teams will be formed with a minimum of 15 skaters and 1-2 goalies by the beginning of regular season play. The Competitive Program Committee can approve rostering up to 17 skaters per team.</p> <p>Players are expected to play within their age level unless otherwise approved by the Competitive Program Committee.</p>
<p>Formation of Divisions</p>	<p>Prior to the beginning of tryouts, the NGHHA will announce the proposed number and category of teams for each Tier, which will be determined based on considerations such as sufficient ice, interest and talent among its players.</p> <p>During the tryout process and prior to the beginning of the season, the NGHHA Board of Directors may decide to add, remove or recategorize teams when it is deemed in the best interests of the players and the Association.</p>
<p>Competitive Tryout Process</p>	<p>Players will be selected for competitive teams through a competitive tryout process.</p> <p>Prior to the beginning of Tryouts, The Competitive Program Committee will provide members with information on how the tryout process will be conducted.</p> <p>The selection of players for teams shall be monitored by a representative from the NGHHA, as designated by the Competitive Program Committee.</p> <p>Independent evaluators will also be used during the tryout process. In instances where the coach and independent evaluator do not agree on a player selection, the final decision will rest with the Competitive Program Committee. Final team rosters are approved by the Competitive Program Committee.</p> <p>In situations where a parent coach has been selected for a competitive team, the Competitive Program Committee has made an assessment in advance that the Coach's daughter would be appropriately placed on that level of team.</p>

	<p>It is recommended that players begin the tryout process at <u>no more than one</u> Tier higher than that for which they wish to be selected. For example, a player anticipating to be successful at Tier 1 (AA/A) would begin their tryout at Tier 1. A player anticipating to be successful at Tier 4 (C) would begin Tier 3 (BB/B). This will provide the player with exposure to the expected pace of the tryout and provided an opportunity for the player to be observed by the next Tier coach, who will be present to begin the assessment for their team. However, when a player participates in tryouts for a particular level, it is expected that they will accept a position on a team if offered a position.</p>
<p>Communications During the Tryout Process</p>	<p>The NGHA endeavours to structure the competitive tryout process so that it minimizes the pressure and stress on its players and families.</p> <p>Prior to the beginning of tryouts, the Competitive Program Committee will provide information to players and families on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How and when player releases will be communicated - The process that released players and their families can follow to receive feedback on the player’s tryout evaluation - Conduct and discretion expected of players and families during the tryout process intended to minimize the negative impact on players, coaches and staff <p>In accordance with NGHA Code of Conduct, players, families, coaches and staff are expected to communicate with each other in a respectful manner. Incivility, bullying or harassment will not be tolerated.</p>
<p>Tryout Fee</p>	<p>All players attending competitive tryouts will pay a fee, as determined each season by the NGHA Board of Directors.</p>
<p>Tryout Registration Process</p>	<p><u>AA</u></p> <p>The AA level is an open tryout at all divisions. Import and new players trying out for AA teams may register with the proper paperwork (Permission to Skate/Release) and payment at the door.</p> <p>Import and new players selected to an AA team are expected to complete all required NGHA Registration no later than 24 hours after being informed that they have been selected to a team. Failure to do so may result in a player forfeiting their position on the team.</p> <p><u>Below AA</u></p> <p>To be eligible to attend tryouts for teams below AA, players have completed two registrations:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NGHA Registration: Players must register online with the NGHA for the upcoming season and have either been accepted or placed on the waiting list as of 48 hours before the beginning of tryouts. Exceptions to this rule are at the discretion of the NGHA Competitive Committee. 2. NGHA <u>Tryout</u> Registration: Players must register online in advance for tryouts and pay the tryout fee. This is in addition to their NGHA Registration.
<p>Import Players</p>	<p>In 2019, the NGHA was pleased to join the Ottawa, Gloucester and Kanata Associations in agreeing to a common Import Policy.</p> <p>An import player is defined as a player that was registered with any ODWHA Association over the previous 2 seasons starting in 2017-2018 other than the one they are currently trying out for.</p> <p>Exceptions may be granted for players that have moved from residences outside Ottawa prior to the start of the season in question. For example if a family has moved from Brockville to Ottawa then consideration may be given to not classifying the player as an import.</p> <p>Female players who have not ever played in OWHA are not considered import players.</p> <p>As per this Policy, a maximum of six (6) imports are permitted across all Tiers of a level, outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any Peewee AA, Bantam AA and Midget AA Age and Tier Category in any Association can ONLY register up to three (3) import players in any given season; • Any Intermediate, Midget, Bantam, Peewee A/BB/B/C Age and Tier Category as a group are permitted up to three (3) import players combined. • NO Association will accept a player to play in their Association should they have received an Ontario Women’s Hockey Association enforced release. <p>There will be no imports admitted at the Atom and Novice levels.</p> <p>Import restrictions do not apply to the House league, Intermediate AA or Senior hockey programs.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the common Import policy, the NGHA is not obligated to accept registration of imports.</p>

	In addition, the NGHA can allow additional imports at the lowest tier at the Midget/Bantam /Peewee levels if a roster cannot be filled with NGHA players.
Appeal Mechanism	If any disagreement arises between coaches, parents or players regarding this policy, the Competitive Program Committee has final authority.
Declining A Position Following a Tryout	<p>A player who has been offered a spot on an NGHA competitive team and subsequently decides not to play on that team, or requests a release during the season, will not be eligible to play on any NGHA team for that season or the following season.</p> <p>For example, if a player is offered a spot on a competitive team in 2014/2015 and then decides not to play for that team, she may not play on any other NGHA team for the 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 season.</p> <p>The requirements of the Common Import Policy will also apply, if applicable.</p>
Questions	Questions on this policy can be directed to the Director of Policy, Risk and Safety (Policy@ngha.ca).

March 9th, 2019

Ottawa and District Girls Hockey Import Rule

(OGHA, KGHA, NGHHA and GCGHA)

February 5th, 2019

The development of this policy was compiled through a concerted effort between all the Associations who have signed on to this new policy. Thanks all to those who agreed to make this happen. What has become very evident was that an import policy is a difficult one to implement and understand. It's a delicate balancing act to allow enough import players able to move ensuring all Associations have enough players to ice higher level competitive teams thereby allowing as many girls to play as possible at the highest tier appropriate.

Our goal through this policy is to have our girls' hockey teams compete at the highest possible level based on the composition of the teams within our own Association and within the agreed upon import rule. In short, we pick teams and then decide where they will compete, rather than deciding where we want a team to compete and then picking the best players to compete at that level. This could mean that an Association doesn't ice teams at the AA level, even though we may have some legitimate AA players who may then leave the Association to play at the AA level in another association. On the other hand, if we open our registration to allow more AA imports, our own girls that get bumped down could end up leaving us so, either way, Associations risk losing players.

In the end, we all hope to ice all levels, based on our own Association players. Imports should ensure players are allowed to play at a level appropriate and that there are appropriate level teams within all Associations.

This policy will be in effect as of the date of signature.

Definitions:

Import – a player is defined as an import if they were registered with any ODWHA Association over the previous 2 seasons starting in 2017-2018 other than the one they are currently trying out for. Exceptions may be granted for players that have moved from residences outside Ottawa prior to the start of the season in question. For example if a family has moved from Brockville to Ottawa then consideration may be given to not classifying as an import. For the 2019-2020 seasons only, a player can request amnesty to be exempt from import status, provided that they are registering for a female Association that they had previously been registered with during their hockey history in OWHA (Request can only be made 1 time).

*Female players whom have not ever played in OWHA are not considered import players.

Rules:

Imports are only permitted for as outlined below:

- Any Pee wee AA, Bantam AA and Midget AA Age and Tier Category in any Association can ONLY register up to three (3) import players in any given season;
- Any Intermediate, Midget, Bantam, Pee wee A/BB/B/C Age and Tier Category as a group are permitted up to three (3) import players combined.
- NO Association will accept a player to play in their Association should they have received an Ontario Women's Hockey Association enforced release.

This import policy does not apply to House league, Intermediate AA or Senior hockey. There will be NO IMPORTS PERMITTED AT Novice and Atom Competitive. This import policy does not require an Association to accept registration of any imports, but only to establish maximums.