

OAHE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

PLAYER MOVE REQUESTS TO HIGHER LEVEL OF PLAY (PLAY UP REQUESTS)

OHA encourages players to play at their assigned age division. While there may be exceptions to this policy, those will be determined on individual, as well as, per season basis.

OHA realizes, although a player may be skilled enough to play up a division, there are legitimate concerns the player may not be prepared mentally or socially. These aspects should be considered by the player and family prior to requesting application to play up.

The procedure to initiate a request to higher level will be as follows:

An application form for Play up Request can be obtained from the Coaching Director or downloaded from the OHA website. The form must be completed by either parents or guardian; the finished form must be submitted prior to team splits and establishment of rosters, accompanied by a check for the difference in fees, to the Coaching Director. Players who move into the community after the season begins may make a late play up request.

The Coaching Director upon receipt of written request will contact Head Coaches at both levels involved with each player request. Coaches will be excused if the decision is concerning their own children, and Assistant Coach contacted. Both Coaches must agree to have the Play up Request Review process started.

The coaching sub-committee, consisting of the Coaching Director, Director of League Play and both coaches will then evaluate the player. The player's skills, while more objective and an important indicator of the player's ability, is not the only criteria used to evaluate the request. The player must be capable to play at the higher level, beyond hockey skills.

The request considers all of the following criteria:

1. The player's skill level is advanced when compared to others in their age group and comparable to the level requested;
2. Games and practices from past years' performance will be considered as a measure of how the player reacts in team, and individual situations;
3. The player is in their second year of their current team division;
4. Movement is not to exceed one school grade level below fellow teammates; and
5. Attitude of the player towards their teammates, competitors, officials and coaches, as well as the players' enthusiasm at practice, and player must have a firm team concept of the game;

If the coaching sub-committee and both coaches deem the player is proficient beyond their age level, the proposal will then be submitted to OHA Board for final approval. Board members on the coaching sub-committee are not allowed to vote, and Board members will be excused if the decision is concerning their own children. Notification will be given to the players parents with the final decision.

The decision to allow, or not allow the change will be decided by majority vote of the OHA Board and the decision is final.

Once a player has moved up a division, the player must remain at the upper age level for the remainder of that season and may not apply for another play up until after completion of two seasons at that level.

The player cannot move back to the lower age level without OHA Board approval.

OHA Board Adopted August 5, 2008

OHA Board Amended October 20, 2014

OHA Board Amended March 16, 2015

OHA Board Amended November 21, 2022