

LAKE OF THE WOODS YOUTH HOCKEY POLICY ON MODIFICATION TO PLAYERS AGE CLASSIFICATION CHANGE

MODIFICATION WILL GO INTO EFFECT STARTING WITH 2020-2021 SEASON

Minnesota Hockey announced a modification to its age classifications, which will move the starting date of each classification from July 1 to June 1 (ex: June 1, 2009 - May 31, 2011), **starting in the 2020-2021 season.**

The change is designed to provide players born in June with the ability to play with their classmates. Previously, players born in June, who started kindergarten at age 6, were forced to play in an age classification one year above their grade level and were forced to move up to high school as ninth graders. The modification will align June birthdays with July and August birthdays, ensuring more players have a positive youth hockey experience and providing a smoother transition to high school hockey.

Players may petition to “peer up” in order to play with their classmates, specifically those with June, July, or August birthdays. The parent or guardian of the player must petition the Board via the online peer-up petition located on the LOTW YOUTH HOCKEY website. The petition must be submitted prior to the last scheduled registration date of the level requesting to move up to. The “peer up” policy will go into effect in the 2019-2020 season.

Once the petition is granted by the Board of Directors to allow the July/August peer-up, the following conditions apply:

- A. This player must complete a minimum of two years of hockey at each level (2 Mites, 2 Squirts, 2 Peewee, 2 Bantam).
- B. Because of their extended eligibility, this player may choose to play three (3) years at a particular level. It will be at the player’s/player’s parent(s) discretion as to when this would be in the best interest of the player. No action is required by the parent if you choose to extend your skater at a particular level for a 3rd year.
- C. Peer-Up petitions are only good for the current level your skater is choosing to move-up to. A new peer-up petition must be filled out each year a skater is choosing to move to the next level.