

## Affiliate Players (AP) Policies and Procedures:

For the purpose of this Policy Document, Affiliated Players are any player in the U9 division through U18 divisions. Hockey Canada recommends that for proper physical and social development, players should be assigned and play with players from their own age category, except in very limited and exceptional circumstances. Affiliation of U9 players to U11 is only allowed by prior consultation with OMAHA, strict procedures, guidelines and limits.

A properly rostered AP in U9 through U15 divisions shall be allowed up to 4 practices with their Affiliate team per calendar month. The purpose of this is to give the player time to develop with the affiliated team and to learn the higher affiliated team's team structures and systems. The amount of practice time is to limit potential of injuries and/or fatigue that could burn the player or parents out as well as ensuring fairness to other families who have paid the same registration dues. In the case of a player being registered as an AP with another Association, the players primary team, and primary responsibility shall be to his or her Chase Minor Hockey team.

If the Affiliate player's Home or Primary team has a game or team function, the AP shall not join their affiliate team that day. This is an OMAHA/BC Hockey Rule. The Affiliate Players may play up to maximum of 10 scheduled League games with their affiliated team in the season, the exception being Tournaments and Exhibition games. Affiliate Players may only exceed 10 games if their home team is eliminated from Playoffs and the affiliate team is still playing. It is the responsibility of the higher or secondary team to keep accurate count of the number of games the AP plays in.

In order to be an affiliate player, the home coach, parent/custodial guardian (s) must give consent for the player to play on an affiliate team. If one or the other decline then the player remains on their home team and will not become an affiliate player. Even when implied consent is given to an affiliate player the affiliate coach or manager will continue to communicate with the affiliates home Coach to ensure it is permissible that the player can still attend. (Affiliate Player could be serving suspension, injury or another justifiable reason could limit the player from game action).

Beginning the 2023-2024 Season, Chase Minor Hockey Association will initiate an assessment team to ensure the player that is being asked to affiliate is capable of safely playing at a higher level. The spirit of this is to protect the player from injury, fatigue and protect the player's mental health. This panel will consist of a minimum of 1 (association safety coordinator) and 2 non-related people of capable ability to assess a player. Capable meaning that the assessors have a history in the game to some extent. Coaching, experience or hockey knowledge as a player or Official. The assessors also can not be the coach/assistant coach of the home team or affiliate team requesting the player. If the Safety Coordinator can not attend due to outside obligations or follows under as a relation to player or coaches then another board member will take his place on the assessment. The decision is final, but subject to Appeal to CMHA Executive, who shall render a final decision.

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