



St. Paul & District Minor Hockey Association

Player Acceleration Policy

In an attempt to allow players to play with and against players of similar calibre and skillset, keeping player development at the forefront of the decision making process, players may be considered to move to a higher age group upon request.

1. For a player to be considered the following applies:
 - a. Parents/Guardians of the player must fill in the form at http://bit.ly/spmha_paa which submits to SPMHA a request for upward movement to the next higher division.
 - i. There will be a **\$150** application fee, if the player is successfully selected the **\$150** fee will be refunded. No monies will be refunded if unsuccessful.
 - ii. If the player is selected, the Parent/Guardian must pay the difference in registration fees between the two divisions.
 - iii. The application must be received the week before the open skates. These skates are scheduled prior to try-outs of the division the player is applying to be a part of.
 - b. When considering the player movement, numbers for both age groups will be factored in and how it affects each division.
 - c. Only 2nd year players will be considered for acceleration to a higher division.
 - d. A committee of Board members will be formed to handle all of the player movement requests for that given season.
 - e. The player will be evaluated for the following criteria
 - i. Individual Skills
 - ii. Team Skills
 - iii. Team calibre - are they competing at the calibre of the team of their potential teammates
 - iv. Do they fit in physically, socially, emotionally and mentally? (*ie: are there any safety concerns for the player at that level and/or are they able to interact on/off ice with the group at the higher division*).
2. The player must evaluate in the top 33% (1/3) of that age group.
 - a. 1 team scenario, the player must evaluate in the top 33% (1/3) of that group of players.
 - b. 2 team scenario, the player must evaluate in the top 66% (2/3) of the players on the top tier team.
 - c. 3 team scenario, the player must successfully make the top tier team.
3. In an attempt to place players in their appropriate calibre, team sizes will play a factor but player development will stay the primary focal point.

This policy is intended to give players options within SPMHA to practice, compete and play at their calibre of play with players of similar skill-sets. If the player is evaluated and it is determined that the player meets the criteria above, this policy allows for that movement as an attempt to do what is best developmentally for the player. **Every request will be dealt with individually and all decisions are final.**