



RICHMOND JETS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

AFFILIATE PLAYER POLICY

1) Introduction:

- 1.1 In accordance with our mission and mandate, it is the intent of this policy to provide direction in terms of the use of Affiliate Players (AP) within our Association.
- 1.2 The definition of an **Affiliate Player** is a skater or goalie that is irregularly called upon to maintain a minimum number of rostered players of a higher based team. A higher based team is defined as a team either skill based (rep and the qualitative levels within) or by division (age). The AP is NOT a member of the higher quality-based team. They are a "rental player". If a team is down a forward/defence skater, or goalie, they will affiliate a like position player -forward/defence/goalie - to give them a pre-required number of line pairings, or back-up goalie as per PCAHA rules and regulations.
- 1.3 Being designated an affiliate player is a privilege, not a right. Player performance and attitude are important factors in the selection of affiliate players. It also follows that being called up to play with a higher-level team is also a privilege and not a right.
- 1.4 All affiliate playing rules of HC, BC Hockey and PCAHA are to be recognized as part of this policy unless specifically recorded as amended by RJMHA.

2) General:

- 2.1 All Affiliate Players **MUST** play with their own originally rostered team as their **first priority** should a conflict occur in game scheduling. At no time should the use of an AP conflict with the original lower teams practice except under exceptional cases that will be reviewed by both teams Head Coaches (and the Division Manager if necessary).
- 2.2 All affiliate players will be approved by the division manager of their respective divisions prior to initial contact being made by the higher team coach to the player/parents (guardians) and current coach of the prospectus AP.
- 2.3 It is the duty of the coach of the higher based team to explain in full, the rules and ramifications for this Affiliation to the parents (guardians) of the proposed AP.
- 2.4 All Affiliate Players, and their parents (guardians), with full knowledge, will agree to their affiliation to the higher based team via email to the division manager prior to being officially rostered, or called up, as an AP to that higher based team.
- 2.5 All Affiliate Players will be eligible to play at the highest possible level in relation to their skills and capabilities.

- 2.6 Affiliation requests must be approved by the lower based team head coach before speaking with the parents or player and will not be unreasonably denied.
- 2.7 The affiliated player will be designated on the official game sheet with an “AP” behind their name.
- 2.8 Multiple Affiliations (players), from various lower-level teams (if possible) for the same position should be made to:
- a) avoid team game conflicts. See point 2.1
 - b) ensure enough players are available to comply with the PCAHA affiliate player rules and regulations.
 - c) Team Managers (of both teams involved), need to keep track of AP games played and fully understand the PCAHA AP rules and permitted number of games.
- 2.9 Affiliation is not a perfect practice and often happens on very short notice. It is important for all coaches, parents and players to be respectful and make it a positive experience for all parties involved. ***The team and parents the AP players are affiliating with, also need to be respectful and welcome the AP onto the teams as if they are a regular member of the roster.***

3) RECREATIONAL “C” U11 – U18 Affiliation

- 3.1 Affiliate Players are done on a game-by-game basis. AP’s must be drawn from recreational “C” teams in a lower division.
- 3.2 The PCAHA affiliate player rule (Section 30), shall only be applied in situations in which a team has fewer than 12 skaters or no goaltender available for a particular game, in order to be eligible. No player may play as an AP unless permission has been obtained from the PCAHA League Manager for each division.
- 3.3 When the AP rule is utilized, the team can only apply for permission to draw AP’s to bring the playing roster for the game in question to the original roster size or a maximum of 13 skaters and 1 goalie.
- 3.4 It is recommended if available, that AP players are drawn from the second year (older aged) pool of players on the lower based team.

3.5 **Affiliate Player - Goalies.** No replacement can be made for any ill or injured player in competition within the PCAHA, except the goaltender. See Section 22 of the PCAHA Rules and regulations and Section C(24). All Affiliate goaltenders must be approved by the League Manager and in the event that registered goalies in a particular division are at a level where multiple teams are carrying one or no goalies, they may apply for a multi-game replacement exemption. The above procedures must be followed however the request may cover a series of games rather than game by game.

4) RECREATIONAL "C" INITIATION U7-U9

4.1 Please refer to the PCAHA Rules & Regulations on Affiliate players section 30.

4.2 **U9 players** may only be drawn as AP's in U11 C for a maximum of 3 league, playoff, tournament/jamboree or exhibition games or if they have not played any league, tournament/jamboree, or exhibition games the AP may play one (1) complete sanctioned tournament per PCAHA regulations section 30 (c).

4.3 For **U6-U9**, the AP rule shall be as follows:

- (i) U9 teams shall draw Affiliate Players from U8 teams within the Association, unless there are no U8 teams within the Association, in which case U9 teams may draw Affiliate Players from U7 teams within the Association.
- (ii) U8 teams shall draw Affiliate Players from U7 teams within the Association.
- (iii) U7 teams shall draw Affiliate Players from U6 teams within the Association or first-year players on other U7 teams within the Association.

Any player playing as an Affiliate Player in U6, U7, U8, and U9 shall be permitted to play a maximum of 3 league, playoff, tournament/jamboree or exhibition games or if they have not played any league, tournament/jamboree, or exhibition games the AP may play one (1) complete sanctioned tournament per PCAHA regulations section 30 (c).

5) REP "A"

As this level of hockey is highly competitive, the AP process has several guiding factors over and above the "general" rules outlined previously. A Hockey Canada/BC Hockey rep team may affiliate up to 19 players, 2 of which MUST be goalies. No player is permitted to be part of more than one (1) AP list at any time during the current season.

- 5.1 Consideration for affiliation to a higher-level rep team will be given to the following players, based on approvals by the Division Manager:
 - a. Last REP release(s) depending on whether multiple releases were made at the same time
 - b. Players who have dropped themselves to "C" (self-releases before rep rosters are formed)
 - c. Players from the age division below

- 5.2 Rep teams will select affiliate players in the following order:

Within the divisions, the "A1" coach will have the right to pick their affiliate players first, the "A2" coach picks second, and the "A3" coach selects next, etc. By way of examples, the A1 team selects affiliate players from the A2, A2 selects affiliate players from A3 and A3 selects affiliate players from A4 or from 'C' teams in the same division if there is no A3 or A4 teams.

- 5.3 Coaches wishing to AP a player per PCAHA rules, must first receive permission from the players' coach, then the players parents and player and then notify the division manager (who will approve all AP's), prior to adding the player to the roster as AP. **The player must give priority to the team the player is rostered with.** When a coach requests a player to AP for a game from a lower division, the player's coach must be notified and give his/her approval prior to any game.
- 5.4 Where possible, players called up to AP for an upcoming game should be invited to at least one or two of the higher-level teams' practices prior to being called up, but the AP's are not permitted to attend practices on a regular basis.
- 5.5 The association has mandated that an affiliate player may be used from a lower-level team such that the higher-level team may dress a MINIMUM number of 15 skaters and 2 goalies or to their **normal roster size. Affiliate players or goalies cannot be used to add to a full roster to give their team a competitive advantage.**
- 5.6 U15A1 and U18A1 teams can affiliate position specific skaters, to have available a three (3) line rotation whether forward or defense for a maximum 16 skaters. This will allow for a team that has 10 forwards, none of which are position specific to defense, to affiliate a defenseman to give three full defensive lines.
- 5.7 Generally, AP's when called up to a game are to have a regular shift at the discretion of the coach, but AP's are not to take ice time away from rostered players that have earned their position on the higher level teams roster.

5.8 U21 - Juvenile is considered one category; therefore, the A1 team is not permitted to select Affiliate players from the A2 team.

6) DESIGNATION OF AFFILIATE PLAYERS

6.1 The designation of Affiliate Players will be done according to the following:

- a) The higher based team will validate that the AP has completed a valid body checking clinic for affiliating players in the U15 and above divisions.
- b) Divisional Rep teams will make every attempt to list affiliate players from the lower category of the like rep hockey division. For example: U15 - Bantam A1 pulls from Bantam A2 and U15 - Bantam A2 pulls from Bantam A3 or U15 C.
- c) First year players of the recreational "C" league are not eligible to affiliate to a Rep team of a higher division as the discretion of the board. For example, a first year U13 - Pee wee aged "C" player cannot affiliate to a U15 - Bantam Rep lowest tier team (A2/A3).
- d) To avoid game conflict times, the teams head Coaches need to have meaningful dialogue amongst themselves before submitting their AP lists for approval.
- e) Generally, the older aged player of the division should be affiliated before a younger aged player if skill levels are equal. This is to benefit the player called up for the continuation of the competitive development.

All parental (guardian) approvals for affiliation of their children, is to be recorded, using an email confirmation of the same, by the higher based team. This confirmation is to remain with the team and copied to the division manager and be available for viewing at any time throughout the current season by the RJMHA Board.