



Hockey Calgary Operations Manual

Section: Community
Sub-Section: Registration

OVERAGE PLAYERS

Players must register within their proper category as described in *Rules and Regulations 1 – Ages for Competition*. Those players wishing to register for a category younger than their age as of December 31 of the current playing season must apply for Overage Player Status.

When reviewing an Overage Player Application there are several criteria that are considered. “**Limited skills**” describes a noticeable lack of basic hockey skill such as skating and balance for his/her age. This also includes limited aptitude for the game in the Pee Wee and higher Divisions. “**Written Verification**” refers to a letter confirming the lack of skill and ability to play in the proper age Division their Association or Coach, including an evaluation report where available. It should be noted the instance of Overage Status is more prevalent in rural leagues and many of the criteria are more appropriately applied to rural players. The number of teams and divisions in the Calgary leagues provide a better opportunity for beginner players or those with limited skill to participate within their proper age category. On average, Hockey Calgary approves one (1) or two (2) overage players every season, generally for health related reasons.

Approval Guidelines

Novice to Initiation (Timbits), Atom to Novice, Pee Wee to Atom, Bantam to Pee Wee, or Midget to Bantam

Must meet at least three of the following criteria:

- Player is of small and frail stature (written verification required)
- Player has limited skills (written verification required)
- Beginner player (1st year of participating in organized hockey)
- Health reasons – supported by a letter from doctor
- Only 1st year (by birth date) players in a Division may apply
- Player needed to field a hockey team in the Division applying for

Junior to Midget

Must meet at least three of the following criteria:

- Association does not have enough players to make a team (15) without applicant. If more players register later increasing the size of team, overage may be revoked.
- Health reasons – supported by a letter from doctor
- Limited skills – written verification of ability required
- Must be in High School – supported by letter from School
- No goaltender available – would not be able to register (ice) a team

Applying for Overage Status

The Overage Player Application must be completed and emailed to beth.long@hockeycalgary.com along with any supporting documents. A visual assessment of the player within his proper age category may be requested at the discretion of Hockey Calgary and a suitable time to view the player will be arranged. Only after final approval is granted by Hockey Calgary is the player permitted to participate in any tryout, practice, exhibition or league game with the team in the lower age category.

The deadline for Overage Player Applications is December 1.

Overage Conditions

The following conditions must be adhered to in order to maintain Overage Player Status. Overage status may be revoked at any time when it is deemed that the actions of the player are not in the best interests of those affected by those actions.

1. Approval is for games within Alberta only. Additional approval must be secured for any activity outside the Province of Alberta, from the respective Branch or Ice Hockey Federation.
2. Overage players are not eligible to play Provincial Play Downs or Provincial Championship Tournament games.
3. Overage players who receive a match penalty or a major suspension will have their Overage Status reviewed.
4. Overage players are not eligible to be an affiliate to a higher Division or Category.
5. Overage players are eligible for league, ESSO Minor Hockey Week and playoff games. For exhibition or tournament games, Coaches are responsible for letting the team and/or tournament organizer know they have an overage player.

Junior C

An Overage Player Application is not required for overage Junior C players. A maximum of four (4) players aged twenty-one per Hockey Canada Regulation B.3 and players must have played in the Junior C league in the previous season.