

Specific dates for registrations of tryouts will be set each season in accordance with Hockey Canada regulations on start dates. Registrations will not be accepted after the First night of AA tryouts for the Association. All players must be fully Registered and have paid the required fees as well as any fees owed from the previous season before they will be allowed on the ice. ALL BMHA PLAYER REGISTRATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED THROUGH HOCKEY CANADA REGISTRY (HCR) using Credit or Visa Debit, this will guarantee the first two (2) scheduled tryout sessions at AA. (Please see the BMHA Registration and Refund policy for further information.)

An online registration will also be utilized for NRP player payments as well, players will then be responsible to bring their Passport to the BMHA tryout table prior to tryouts. Players that do not have their NRP passport at the first skate will not be allowed on the ice. NRP players are required to sign their Letter of Commitment upon the completion of Tryouts if Selected for the team.

Once a player has been selected for the team and has accepted this position they must immediately sign the Letter of Commitment should they be unable to remain with the signed team they have until Aug 31 to request a refund. **Players that are cut from AA and A will automatically return to the House League registration and payment balances will be adjusted in the office, if you do not wish to play House League you must notify us after the final tryout for your division.**

Representative team tryouts will consist of a minimum of 4 practice/scrimmage skates at AA and 3 at A. The first two tryout sessions are generally used to select players of the most developed skill level within that age group. Players tend to 'sort themselves' into 3 tiers during tryouts. The assessors are usually able to identify the tiers so that they can then spend the last sessions focusing their evaluation on the middle tier. Releases will be allowed after the second scheduled tryout.

This objective enables the association and its members to put forth competitive teams for all levels of play. Players should give careful consideration to their desired level of play and be prepared for the team tryouts at that level. **Should a player be released from the AA level, it is important to understand that he/she will remain in competition for the team at the next level of play (A).**

All BMHA Representative Teams are required to **carry at least of 15 skaters and 2 goaltenders.**

Expectations

As a rule of thumb, a realistic goal would be to move up one skill level in the second year of an age group, and drop one skill level when moving up an age group. This is just a guideline as player skill development rates differ and player numbers vary at each level. While teams are



never pre-selected and no spots are reserved on a team, there is often a core group of athletes who consistently earn a position at the AA level. This is a reality in all sports. At the time of Registrations players are expected to pick a position, players are expected to then remain in this position throughout the tryout process. (Player or Goalie)

Time Commitment

Competitive teams (AA-A) normally register for 3 tournaments, 2 may be out of town. The team will also purchase extra ice sessions in addition to those provided by the BMHA scheduler, plus other sessions designed to develop conditioning/ strategy. So, players may be involved in hockey activities three to four times per week. Most competitive coaches expect players to attend all games and practices and to make hockey their primary sports focus during the winter season. Each team will be required to complete a mandatory 8 Development Sessions. League and Playoff Schedules can and may extend through holidays and March Break, by signing your letter of commitment you need to be aware that schedules are not adjusted for vacations.

Financial Commitment with the Team

Competitive players can expect to pay anywhere from \$1500-\$2500+ above Registration fees for additional ice time, tournament play, etc. A portion of these funds are often fundraised by the team but parents should be aware that these fees can be in parent contributions. These additional funds are team based and set by the Team Management Staff. All teams are required to submit a budget to the BMHA Treasurer by Sept 15th of each season, this budget is to be discussed and approved by the parents of all players. Monthly summaries of the teams financial standing will be sent to team manager each month, which must then be forwarded to the parents as part of their team membership.

Player Selection Process

At the tryout session volunteers, will take attendance and 2 jerseys will be provided to each player for use during the tryouts. Session formats are determined by the Coach.

All releases after the second scheduled session will be communicated through a list to be posted on the BMHA website by player code. Releases will then continue on a predetermined schedule and may be done verbally or by letter until the final 5. Releases made after the Final away game are not to be done on the road. The final 2 players cut will automatically be signed as AP players.

Parent Coaches

It is the goal of the BMHA to ensure through a thorough and unbiased coaching selection process that all coaches have the necessary skills and abilities to assess players and coach at or above the standard of coaching at the level in which they are assigned. On this basis, the



BMHA has every confidence in the informed judgment of each coach, operating within the tryouts polices and guidelines set forth by the BMHA, in the final roster selections for each team.

Please note that all parent coaches must pre-qualify for the coaching selection process and establish through independent assessors that their child's skill level is up to the standard of play of the level of hockey intended before being eligible to interview for any AA coaching position. Such evaluations are required to take place in December and January of the previous season. This also applies in situations where the proposed parent coach is from a minor hockey association outside the BMHA. In instances where the proposed coach has a child playing at a level below the coaching position being sought within the BMHA system, it is expected that the player is rostered as an affiliated player (AP) with the appropriate AA team. If a suitable coach cannot be selected under this process the BMHA will consider coaching candidates that do not meet these criteria with agreement from the Representative Operations Chair and the Executive.

It is the responsibility of the BMHA to its players to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process so the BMHA reserves the right to make adjustments to the tryout process once underway if required.

It is also a requirement that each coach adhere to BMHA tryout policies. In situations where it is determined that a tryout policy has been violated the coach could be subject to discipline by the BMHA up to and including removal as coach.

The BMHA will be happy to provide names of individuals who are willing to work with the coach to independently assess for each tryout as a resource for coaches to provide additional information to consider in evaluating players and in making final roster selections. If assessors require payment this will be billed to your team account.

Please refer to the OMHA Manual of Operations for rules regarding

- Releases**
- Right of Choice**
- Residential Qualifications**
- Player Eligibility**
- Eligibility to Play**
- Exemption to play in another center**
- (pg's 80 – 87)**

Please contact the BMHA office for any clarification of the OMHA Policies.

