

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ACCELERATION POLICY</b>
<b>POLICY #</b>	Operational - 8.12
<b>APPROVED DATE</b>	April 25, 2024
<b>REVISED DATE</b>	
<b>OWNED BY</b>	Executive Committee

**1.0 OVERVIEW**

To provide the opportunity for a hockey player who has demonstrated exceptional ability in the past, to play above their normal age level. To maximize the development of their abilities by advancing the player to the division which best enhances their development as a hockey player. BMHA will align this policy with the Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations with respect to Acceleration. In all cases a league policy will supersede the BMHA policy.

**2.0 POLICY**

This policy will apply to U11, U13 and U15 second year players and the U15 second year female players within BMHA. The policy must be applied to all instances of player acceleration, without exception. The same procedure will apply with regards to assessment, including the division's ability/need to have additional players and the players' ability. These assessments will be made by the Acceleration Committee and the outcome and decision will be presented to the Executive Committee (EC).

**3.0 ELIGIBILITY**

To be considered for player acceleration, in U11, U13 or U15, a player must demonstrate "extraordinary attributes" compared to their peer hockey group and be able to make the highest-level team in the higher division or if other extenuating circumstances exist as approved by the board.

For all players aged U11, U13 and U15 being considered under the Acceleration Policy, the committee will assess:

- Hockey Skills
- Physical Maturity
- Psychological and Emotional Maturity
- Attitude
- Desire

#### **4.0 ACCELERATION PROCESS (U11, U13, U15 or U15 Female)**

**4.1** Players register in their proper division.

**4.2** Written Request to the Executive Committee by August 1st.

Underage players must inform the EC and BMHA staff in writing if they wish to be assessed to play in a higher division prior to August 1st. The written request must include:

- Rationale for the assessment
- A written letter of recommendation from the previous seasons Head Coach and Division Coordinator
- Available statistics
- Indication if the player will stay with BMHA even if they don't make the higher team.

A fillable Player Acceleration Application is available on the BMHA website under Forms.

#### **5.0 OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES**

If a player begins evaluations in their appropriate age category and an BMHA Executive Subcommittee determines it is appropriate to move the player into the next higher age category based on input from the evaluators the above application procedure will be waived.

The player may be returned to their appropriate age division anytime during the evaluation period.

In addition, the player **MUST** attend their age-appropriate ice times so BMHA can evaluate them in their age category as well, if they are not accelerated.

Additional registration costs due, to the advancement, are to be paid in full at the time of placement on a higher-level team.

The BMHA Executive Committee may waive this procedure if required to accommodate special circumstances, such as small registration numbers in a particular age category.

## **6.0 Decision**

The recommendation for acceleration must be a unanimous decision from both the BMHA EC and the Head Coach. If the decision is not unanimous, the player will be returned.

If the player cannot make the highest team in the higher division, then they will have to go back to their division. For example: Trying out for U15 AAA as a U13 they would go back to U13 AA.