

## **Gloucester Cumberland Girls Hockey (GCGH) Association Affiliation Policy**

### **Statement of Purpose**

The GCHA believes strongly in the affiliate program and desires to see affiliated players used as often as possible to foster the development of its players. All teams are strongly encouraged to play games with a full roster if there is an opportunity to affiliate from a lower level team. All team officials must respect this policy and make no effort to discourage affiliated players from participating with affiliated teams as a result of its implementation.

The GCHA Affiliation Policy follows the Affiliation/Pick up Regulations set out by the OWHA/ODWHA.

### **Procedure for Use of Affiliated Player**

A player's first commitment and responsibility is to the team on which she is registered. In all cases of intended use of affiliated players, the following procedure will apply:

a) The receiving coach (coach intending to use an affiliated player) will first contact and obtain agreement from the affiliate's regular head coach to approach a selected player. Permission to affiliate must be granted by the affiliate's regular head coach unless one of the following reasons apply:

- i) There is an issue with discipline involving the affiliated player;
- ii) The affiliated player is injured;
- iii) There is an event conflict; and
- iv) The affiliated player is ill

b) The receiving coach is strongly encouraged to discuss the needs of her/his team and the skill required with the lower level team's coach to determine which player(s) to affiliate. However, it is the coach of the team requiring player(s) who determines what player(s) are called to the affiliated team.

c) Permission being granted, the player in question will be contacted to confirm her willingness to play, with the advice that her team coach has approved her participation if interested. The receiving coach will immediately advise the affiliate coach of the player's decision or vice versa.

d) A pickup consent form will then be completed by the affiliate coach, or GCHA Executive, ideally the Competitive Director, when the affiliate coach is unreachable, and must be given by the pickup player to the receiving coach/manager prior to the game.

e) The receiving coach is responsible for ensuring that suspensions and other issues are known and respected and for notifying the affiliate's regular head coach following the game should injuries or suspensions occur.

## **Affiliation from GCGH House League Team to GCGH Competitive Team or another GCGH House League Team**

To affiliate players from a GCGH House League team, the same process and paperwork requirements apply with one exception. *The requesting coach shall inform the GCGH Registrar 24 hours in advance of any affiliation request for a player to play a game so that it can be officially submitted to the ODWHA Registrar for approval.* Within House League, players can only be affiliated from a House League team from the level below (ex. Bantam team would call up from Peewee not another Bantam team). Goalies will be the exception - goalies can be from the same level or the level below (ex. Bantam team may pick up a player from another Bantam HL team or any Peewee team).

**Affiliation for Exhibition or League Game:** Anytime a player is affiliated for a league or exhibition game, the GCGH/OWHA Pick-up Consent form (not for tournaments) must be completed by the affiliate coach, or GCGH Executive, ideally the Competitive Director, when the affiliate coach is unreachable, and given by the pickup player to the receiving coach/manager prior to the game. The receiving coach is responsible for ensuring that the proper paperwork is completed.

All affiliated players must be identified on the game sheet (in which the affiliate player plays), will have the initials "AP" (affiliate player) placed beside the affiliate's name as a record for the league statistician and any subsequent protests or inquiries by the ODWHA or the OWHA. The properly signed and completed Pick-up Consent form must be given to the home team to be attached to the white copy of the game sheet sent to the statistician. Keep a copy of the fully approved form.

The GCGH/OWHA Pick-up Consent form (not for tournaments) can be found at:  
<http://www.owha.on.ca/pdf/2013-2014/July2013/pdf/PickUpConsentForm-NotForTournament.pdf>

**Affiliation for Sanctioned Tournaments:** Anytime a player is affiliated for a sanctioned tournament, the GCHA/OWHA Pick-up Consent form (for sanctioned tournaments) must be completed by the affiliate coach, or GCGH Executive, ideally the Competitive Director, when the affiliate coach is unreachable, and given to the receiving coach/manager prior to the tournament. The properly signed and completed Pick Up Consent Form (for sanctioned tournaments) must be submitted to the convenor of the tournament before the player's first game. Keep a copy of the fully approved form. The receiving coach is responsible for ensuring that the proper paperwork is completed.

All affiliated players must be identified on the game sheet with the letters "AP" (affiliate player). Note that for tournaments, the pickup player may only participate with one team during the tournament and specific tournament rules may need to be followed (please ensure to check in advance of bringing the player).

The GCHA/OWHA Pick-up Consent form (for sanctioned tournaments) can be found at:  
<http://www.owha.on.ca/pdf/20132014/July2013/pdf/PickUpConsentFormForSanctionedTournament.pdf>

**Player and Game Limits and Use of Affiliated Goalies**

A team may not bring up more than three (3) affiliated players for any given game and cannot exceed the number of registered players on their team. Suspended players cannot be replaced.

|  | <b>Limit Number</b>  | <b>Forms</b>   |
|--|--|--|
| No individual player, used as pick up/affiliate for ODWHA league play is allowed to play at a higher level more than five (5) ODWHA league games during the regular and playoff season. Any player within ODWHA teams who plays more than five (5) games at a higher level shall become ineligible for further play with her original team. The player’s future status will be determined by the ODWHA Board of Directors. |  |  |
| Practice   | Unlimited  | None   |
| Exhibition Games   | Unlimited  | Pickup consent form (not for sanctioned tournaments) |
| ODWHA League / playoff game  | 5 OWDHA league games during the regular and playoff season | Pickup consent form (not for sanctioned tournaments) |
| Tournament   | Unlimited  | Pickup consent form (for sanctioned tournaments)     |

In recognition of the shortage of goalies, teams needing to bring up affiliated goalies for more than five regular ODWHA league games may request an exemption from the ODWHA Registrar. Such exemptions to the five game movement limits will only be granted in cases of injury, illness or other extenuating circumstances.

In the event that a goalie from a lower level is not available, the ODWHA Registrar may approve the use of a goalie from the same level to replace an injured or ill goalie upon provision of a medical certificate. A goalie from the same level may not play for the same team more than three (3) times, or in extenuating circumstances, upon ODWHA Board of Directors approval, exceptions may be permitted.

**Use of Affiliated Players in Playoffs**

Playoff affiliation must adhere to ODWHA playoff policy rules. Upward movement of players during playoffs, not to exceed the number of registered players on their teams, can only occur if any of the following conditions are met and officially accepted (24 hours in advance of the game to be played) by the ODWHA Executive Registrar:

- i) To replace an injured or an ill player who will provide a medical certificate indicating she cannot play in a particular game;
- ii) To replace a player who has permanently left the Ottawa District (not simply quit the team) and provided an updated OWHHA registration form had previously been submitted;

- iii) To replace a goalie due to extenuating circumstances who will not be able to play.  
.NOTE: The above permitted situations do not permit a team to simply add an additional player to the roster. Upon the return of the injured or ill player to the team, the replacement player would no longer be eligible to play. Goalie replacement applies only if there is one goalie on the team registered or where there are two registered goalies and both will be absent. In all of the above cases, pickup players cannot be used to replace a suspended roster player.

#### **Affiliation Across Association Boundaries**

While OWHA rules permit affiliation of players across Association boundaries, the GCGH does not. Under Hockey Canada regulations, The GCGH operates a Club affiliation system (Regulation E) where all players on lower level teams are automatically affiliated. While it is possible for the GCGH to make an exception - a goalie situation with extenuating circumstances for example - ANY cross-Association affiliations (even for an exhibition game) require the approval of the GCGH Competitive Committee in advance.

#### **Appeal Mechanism**

If any disagreement arises between coaches, parents or players regarding this affiliation policy, the GCGH Competitive Committee has the authority to intervene to uphold the intent of this policy.