

## **OVERAGE ( Minor )**

Acknowledging that Hockey Alberta's current policy is to endorse overage in Minor Divisions, the question of how to implement fair and equitable criteria needs to be addressed. This criteria, which includes a uniform and consistent process for approving overage applications by the Zone Manager of Operations, when factoring in the upcoming Age Change for the 2002-2003 season, is a concern.

The existing guidelines for overage approval as well as the criteria for continued overage status need to be reviewed and also applied consistently across all 9 Zones.

### **Proposal for Consideration:**

1. There should be a pre-requisite, comprised of specific criteria per Division, that has to be met before overage status in an age division, would be considered for final approval by the Zone Manager of Operations
2. There should be a separate guideline for the Zone Manager of Operations to follow when considering the final approval of an application to play overage, once the pre - requisite for obtaining overage status has been met and the application has been made to Hockey Alberta.
3. The current criteria for maintaining overage is not manageable. As well there are real questions as to who is supposed to be managing it. If overage is allowed, then monitoring it through the year should not be a major consideration for HA. The Leagues would be responsible to set guidelines for maintaining overage status and monitor same within their own respective Leagues. Also Leagues may strengthen the HA criteria for overage approval within their own Leagues.
4. The existing application form should be modified to contain more relevant information on the player.

The issue of risk management has to be considered, when reviewing the overage application, but more importantly the granting of overage status should be fair to everyone, not only the player and the Association. It should be fair to every other team that has to play that particular player and team. Overage in a Division should be the exception and not the rule, also for the betterment and not to the detriment of the player and the team/game.

## **PRE REQUISITES FOR OBTAINING OVERAGE STATUS**

**Limited skill** - would mean: noticeable lack of basic hockey skill such as skating and balance for his/her age. Including limited aptitude for the game in the Pee Wee and higher Divisions.

**Verification** – would mean a letter (s) confirming the lack of skill and ability to play in the proper age Division from the Association, Coach of respective team, including evaluation report if possible.

### **Only 1<sup>st</sup> year Players (by birth-date) in a Division will be eligible for Overage**

**Novice to Initiation** - At discretion of LMHA

**Atom to Novice** -  
- Player has limited skills  
- Beginner player (1<sup>st</sup>–2<sup>nd</sup> year of hockey)  
- Health reasons – supported by letter from doctor

**Pee Wee to Atom**  
- Player is of small and frail structure combined with limited skills – written verification of ability  
- Player has limited skills – written verification of ability  
- Beginner Player (1<sup>st</sup> year of hockey)  
- Health reasons – supported by letter from doctor

**Bantam to Pee Wee**  
- Player has limited skills- written verification of ability  
- Beginner Player (1<sup>st</sup> year of hockey)  
- Health reasons – supported by letter from doctor

**Midget to Bantam**  
- Player has limited skills – written verification of ability  
- Beginner Player (1<sup>st</sup> year of hockey)  
- Health reasons – supported by letter from doctor

**Junior to Midget**  
- To be reviewed on an individual basis by the Zone Manager of Operations in consultation with Minor Council Chairperson.  
- May be approved when:

- Association does not have enough players to make a team ( 12 ) without applicant. “ If more players register later increasing size of team, overage may be revoked”
- No registered team, other than Midget within 50km of place of residence.
- Health reasons – supported by letter from Doctor
- Must be in School – supported by letter from School
- No goaltender available – would not be able to register ( ice ) a team

**- Must meet 3 of the above, before approval would be considered.**

**Goaltenders -** To be reviewed/approved by Manager's of Operation on an individual basis.

Exceptions may be reviewed on an individual basis per Criteria for HA Final Approval

Once the pre – requisites have been met, final approval by Hockey Alberta Zone Manager of Operation's, will be based on the HA criteria for approval as an overage player in a Minor Division.

### **CRITERIA FOR HOCKEY ALBERTA FINAL APPROVAL**

**“Overage in a Division should be the Exception and not the Rule”**

Final approval by the Zone Manager of Operations to be based on the following:

- 1 Approval from Parent - outlining reason
- 2 Endorsement/Approval by LMHA President
- 3 Approval by League President
- 4 Applicant meeting the HA pre – requisites
- 5 Application form “ information provided “
- 6 Conditions of Overage “general”

#### **Exceptions**

Exceptions would be reviewed on an individual basis, in consultation with and approval of Minor Council Chairperson.

In addition to the above criteria for overage approval the following exception may be considered:

Association does not have enough players to make a Team without applicant

**Overage may not be approved for the following reasons:**

- Dislike of coach and team members
- Ice times
- Parents wish

**HOCKEY ALBERTA may revoke overage status at any time**

## **OVERAGE CONDITIONS**

All steps for approval by HA must be followed and in writing.

All approval for overage play is for games within Alberta only. You must secure additional approval for any activity outside the Province of Alberta.

You must never play an overage that has not been approved by Hockey Alberta.

Overage players can participate in League play.(depending on League approval).

Overage players may play in Exhibition and Tournament games, but must receive approval from the Tournament Committee.

All coaches are responsible to let teams that they are playing know they have an overage player. The overage player must be clearly marked on every game sheet (OA) beside the players name.

Overage players are not eligible to play Provincial Zone Play Downs, Provincial Championship Tournament and the Alberta Winter Games.

Overage status will be granted for one year only.

Overage players are not eligible as affiliates to a higher Division or Category.

Hockey Alberta can revoke overage status at any time.(for valid reasons).

Application acceptance critical date is December 01.

Final Approval for overage status must be obtained from the Hockey Alberta Zone Manager of Operations.

Exceptions must be reviewed in consultation with and approved by Minor Council Chairperson.

Exceptions from Junior to Midget must be reviewed in consultation with Minor Council Chairperson.

Leagues may strengthen criteria.

Each application should be reviewed independently and carefully.

## **HOCKEY ALBERTA RESPONSIBILITY**

Please note that with having been approved for special overage status with Hockey Alberta there are some conditions that must be adhered to:

- 1 Overage players are not eligible to play Provincial Championship Zone play-downs or the Provincial Championship tournament, including participating in any Winter Games play-downs or tournament.
- 2 Overage players are not eligible as affiliates to a higher Division or Category
- 3 Overage Players must not participate in any Hockey Alberta sanctioned event, until overage status approval has been given by Hockey Alberta.
- 4 Overage approval is for games within Alberta only. Additional approval must be secured for any activity outside the Province of Alberta, from the respective Branch

## **HOCKEY ALBERTA MAY REVOKE OVERAGE STATUS AT ANY TIME**

Hockey Alberta may revoke overage status at any time, when it has deemed that the actions of the overage player are not in the best interests of those affected by those actions.

## **LEAGUE RESPONSIBILITY**

Leagues may strengthen the HA criteria for obtaining overage status within their respective Leagues.

Leagues may set criteria for maintaining and monitoring overage status within their respective Leagues.

The League may revoke the status of a player from participating in their League based on their maintaining overage status criteria.



# OVERAGE PLAYER APPLICATION

Application Deadline: December 1

**NOTE: HOCKEY ALBERTA MAY REVOKE OVERAGE STATUS AT ANY TIME.**

Prior to this applicant participating in any Hockey Alberta Sanctioned Event,  
Final Approval must be granted by Hockey Alberta. Part A and B must be completed in full

**OVERAGE PLAYER --- NOT ELIGIBLE FOR AFFILIATION --- NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PROVINCIAL PLAY**

## PART A

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ SEX: MALE FEMALE Ht. \_\_\_\_\_ Wt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Day Month Year

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ ENROLLED IN SCHOOL: Yes No SCHOOL GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

MHA LAST PLAYED FOR: \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS PLAYED: \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM: \_\_\_\_\_ LEAGUE CATEGORY: \_\_\_\_\_

POINTS LAST SEASON: G \_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_ GP \_\_\_\_ PENALTY MINUTES LAST SEASON: \_\_\_\_\_

MAJOR PENALTIES LAST SEASON: \_\_\_\_\_ SUSPENSIONS LAST SEASON: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE DIVISION DESIRED: INITATION NOVICE ATOM PEE WEE BANTAM MIDGET

TEAM: \_\_\_\_\_ LEAGUE CATEGORY: \_\_\_\_\_

REASONS FOR THIS PLAYER TO PLAY BELOW THE PROPER AGE DIVISION:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED: Medical  School  Other

## PART B

1. PARENT/GUARDIAN: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PH: \_\_\_\_\_

2. ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PH: \_\_\_\_\_

3. LEAGUE PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PH: \_\_\_\_\_

4.	<b>MANAGER OF OPERATIONS, USE ONLY</b>
APPROVAL:	YES NO REASONS: SIZE NUMBERS ABILITY OTHER
COMMENTS:	_____
SIGNATURE:	_____ DATE: _____