

Player Move-Up Policy

The intent of this policy is to provide the RLHA Board of Directors with clear direction for the moving of a player up to a higher level than would be otherwise dictated by the player's age.

Process for Player Move-Up

The RLHA has definitive differences in the criteria and process for the movement of a player from mites to squirts vs. the movement from squirts to peewees or peewees to bantams. These processes are explained below.

1. Mites to Squirts

- a. Player(s) who display “exceptional” ability with respect to his/her teammates will be considered for move-up to the squirt level.
 1. “Exceptional ability” is defined as the ability for the player to control the game with little or no opposition or participation from the other players on the ice. In addition, it should be understood that you cannot have more than 1-2 “exceptional” players.
 - ii. Parents must fill out a “Petition to Move-Up” form and submit it to the RLHA board Registrar two weeks before the start of tryouts.
 - iii. The Hockey Operations Committee will approve or deny the petition based on the following criteria:
 1. Player does or does not meet criteria of “exceptional” ability
 2. The addition of more players is detrimental to team formation at the squirt level
 - iv. Players must try out at the squirt level
 1. Team placement will be based on evaluation by coaches and outside evaluators. Evaluation criteria will be consistent for players playing-up and players in their proper age classification. In the event of a tie, the older player will be given preference.
- b. The RLHA Board may, at it’s discretion, waive the criteria for exceptional players and allow, for the sake of team splitting, players who may not meet the criteria as stated to move up and play at the squirt level. This may be done prior to or after the tryout process.

1. Squirts to PeeWees and PeeWees to Bantams

- a. Player(s) who display “exceptional” ability with respect to their teammates and players from surrounding opponents at the same level will be considered for move up at the squirt and peewee level

1. "Exceptional ability" is defined as the ability for the player to control the game with little or no opposition or participation from the other players on the ice. In addition, it should be understood that you cannot have more than 1-2 "exceptional" players.
 - i. Parents must fill out a "Petition to Move-Up" form and submit it to the RLHA board Registrar two weeks before the start of tryouts.
 - ii. The player must also obtain a recommendation letter from their previous season's coach
 - iii. The player must be in their final year of eligibility at their age-designated level
 - iv. The Hockey Operations Committee will approve or deny the petition based on the following criteria:
 1. Player does or does not meet criteria of "exceptional" ability
 - v. The player must try out at both their age-designated classification and the higher classification they are attempting to move-up to.
 1. Players will be rated by outside evaluators
 2. Player must rank in the top 1/3rd of total players (regardless of position) at the age classification they are attempting to move up to.
 - vi. In the event of a tie, preference will be given to the older player
 - vii. Players who try out and are unsuccessful will move back to their age-designated classification
 - viii. Successful players are granted permission to move up for one season only. Should a player want to move up again, they must complete the process at the next level as well.
- b. At the discretion of the parent(s) and the acceptance of the coaches at the higher level B team, players may "roster up" to a higher level B-team.
- c. The association may, at its discretion, offer roster up opportunities in cases where additional players may be needed to supplement a B-team. This may be done at any time during the season, however, in order for players to qualify for the state tournament, players must be included on team rosters and participate in games consistent with WAHA and USA Hockey guidelines.