



**Waterloo Minor Hockey Association**  
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**SELECT GUIDELINES**  
(Updated June 2019)

**Divisions:**

Waterloo Minor Hockey Association (WMHA) will have House League Select teams in each division from Major Novice through to Major Midget. Select teams will follow the same guidelines as per WMHA Recreational League Rules and Guidelines unless noted otherwise below.

**Coach Selection:**

Coach selection begins in spring and continues into the summer and is undertaken by the Recreational League Management Committee. The selection process tends to unfold rather than follow a prescribed formula. A consensus-building format is used but voting takes place when necessary. Like any selection process, subjectivity is involved. However, the Committee places the greatest emphasis on the applicant's qualifications as both a coach and mentor, and also on his or her ability and desire to promote and implement the goals of the Association. A staff is not excluded because it is comprised partially or entirely of parents. Of particular concern to the Committee though, is the evaluation of a coaching staff that has children trying out for the team being applied for. In an effort to prevent any real or perceived conflicts of interest, prior to the approval of such a coaching staff, every effort is made to ensure that the parents' children have both the ability and desire to play on the respective team.

Not every applicant is interviewed. If the Committee believes that there is a good applicant for a given team, interviewing frequently adds little to the process unless a competing applicant has expressed an interest in a different team. That does not mean, however, that applications are ignored. All are reviewed and re-reviewed in the hopes of finding superior applicants or applicants suitable for teams without coaches. The Committee endeavours to complete its Head Coach selections for each team by July 31<sup>st</sup> of each season. The Board of Directors will have the final approval on all coaching staff selections. Coaching staff list for each team must be submitted for approval following final team selections. No games shall be played until the staff approval has been given.

All Head Coaches and other members of the coaching staff must have the requisite qualifications as mandated by Hockey Canada, the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) and ALLIANCE Hockey, as applicable. All teams must have a certified trainer.

At the end of each season, all coaches must re-apply. There are no guaranteed positions. This does not mean however, that all staff are automatically dismissed. Our coaches, trainers and managers are a very dedicated group of volunteers and they must be treated with respect. If a staff is doing a good job, then removing it and replacing it with a new staff would be of no benefit to the Association. Regardless, there is usually turnover and some who have coached in previous seasons are not awarded teams.

**Player Eligibility:**

All WMHA registered players are eligible to tryout.

**Player Selections:**

There will be open tryouts. There will be a minimum of three (3) tryout ice times per division at a cost to be determined by WMHA. Advertising for tryouts will be posted on the WMHA website.

Each team must roster a minimum of seventeen (17) players, two (2) of which must be goaltenders, within the limits mandated by applicable Hockey Canada, OHF and/or ALLIANCE Hockey rules.

In addition, a team can roster up to nineteen (19) affiliated players (two (2) of which must be goaltenders) within the limits mandated by applicable Hockey Canada, OHF and/or ALLIANCE Hockey rules. However,

Head Coaches are encouraged to only add the number of affiliated players who have a realistic opportunity to play in a Select game. Affiliated players used in a game shall be designated on the official gamesheet by the use of the symbol "AP" after their name.

**Players registered and approved on Select (or House League) teams may affiliate to a team at Minor Development or higher classification for a maximum of five (5) games per season. In order to participate as an affiliated player with a Minor Development or higher classification team, a player must be eligible for that team by age and residency.**

**HOUSE LEAGUE PLAYERS MUST FULFILL THEIR COMMITMENT TO THEIR HOUSE LEAGUE TEAM BEFORE PLAYING FOR A SELECT TEAM OR AS AN AFFILIATED PLAYER FOR A SELECT OR HIGHER CATEGORY TEAM.**

**Schedule:**

WMHA will provide fourteen (14) scheduled ice sessions to be used by teams for games and/or practices. In addition to the minimum WMHA provided ice sessions, teams are permitted to arrange up to twelve (12) additional ice sessions. Ice sessions are used for exhibition games and practices as described below. At least four (4) of the WMHA ice sessions must be used for practices. Exhibition games are to be scheduled so as not to interfere with the recreational game schedule and must be played on ice in Waterloo. No officials will be sent out of town.

**Game & Practice Limits:**

The total number of games played by a Select team during a season **cannot exceed** the ALLIANCE Hockey limit of thirty (30) exhibition games per season, including tournaments. The ALLIANCE Select Championships are not included in the thirty (30)-game total. If a Select team surpasses the thirty (30)-game limit, a \$200.00/game over the limit will be assessed to the team and the Head Coach will be suspended five (5) games for every 1 game over the thirty (30)-game limit.

Teams may schedule up to twenty (20) exhibition games, preferably split as ten (10) home and ten (10) away games, or other combination of home and away games not totalling more than twenty (20). In addition, teams have a five (5)-game allowance for each of their tournaments, bringing the maximum total games to thirty (30) games. In the event that a team does not play five (5) games in a tournament, such team may not include or add these games to their WMHA maximum of twenty (20) exhibition games.

**Permits:**

No Select team shall play any game unless there is an approved travel permit issued by ALLIANCE Hockey and WMHA for that game. Permits need to be submitted to the applicable Convenor for approval at a minimum of two (2) weeks in advance of the scheduled game date to allow for scheduling of officials. Last minute requests may be denied.

Teams are also required to submit practice permits to their Convenor for any additional practices arranged by the team to the maximum of fourteen (14) practices.

**Tournaments:**

Teams may enter up to two (2) tournaments subject to the thirty (30)-game limit as set forth above. All teams are restricted to a maximum of two (2) tournaments outside of a 100km radius of Waterloo. **HOUSE LEAGUE GAMES WILL NOT BE RESCHEDULED TO ACCOMMODATE SELECT TOURNAMENTS.** Select teams will be required to schedule their tournaments exclusively on open weekends where no house league games are scheduled.

Tournament dates must be submitted to the Ice Scheduler and the applicable Convenor by September 30<sup>th</sup> of each season at the latest. WMHA reserves the right to pre-schedule House League and Select team tournament dates.

**Alliance Championships:**

Teams for divisions where there are ALLIANCE Select Championships must attend such events. This is in addition to the two (2)-tournament and thirty (30)-game limits as stated above.

**Cost:**

Select Fees are determined by, and payable to, WMHA. Make cheques payable to "Waterloo Minor Hockey Association".

Team fees will be based on the team budget (tournament, extra practices, etc.) to a maximum of \$10,000 per team. Each team is responsible for their own budget which MUST be made known to and approved by parents/players prior to the season beginning. All team budgets must be approved by the appropriate Recreational Director prior to being submitted for parental approval. See attached Team budget.

**Player Suspensions:**

If a Suspension per OHF minimum suspension rules occurs to a House League/Select Player or team official during an exhibition, league or tournament game, such suspension must be served in the next scheduled House League or Select exhibition, house league or tournament game. In no case will a team be allowed to schedule a game after a suspension has been assessed to lessen the severity of a suspension. Head Coaches are responsible for ensuring that team official(s) and player suspensions are served properly and in accordance with ALLIANCE, OHF and Hockey Canada Rules. WMHA shall have the power to suspend or discipline any Player, Coach, Manager, Trainer, Referee or other official connected with any team.

**Changes to these Rules:**

No amendment, change or exception to, or waiver of, all or any portion of these Guidelines shall be permitted without the approval of the Recreational League Management Committee.