



North East Minor Hockey Association 2025-26 Minor - Call-Up Policy

This document is intended to provide an overview of the Call-Up Policy for the NEMHA Minor Division.

General Guidelines

An Alternate Player (AP) is an affiliated player from a lower-tier team who may be called up to a higher-tier team when necessary. Call-ups are intended to ensure full rosters when regular players are unavailable and to support player development. APs are not to be used for the purpose of increasing a team's competitiveness.

Roster Integrity

- A call-up may only be used to replace an existing rostered player.
- Head Coaches should use AP players to play a full roster, where possible.
 - As a minimum, DJHL teams must ice thirteen (13) skaters plus one (1) goalie in all levels of league play.
- Teams must not exceed their approved roster size by utilizing call-ups.
- Coaches must follow all roster regulations outlined by the Don Johnson Hockey League (DJHL).

Call-Up Hierarchy:

- A team call up players from the B team.
- B team call up players from the C team.
- C team(s) call up players from MCHL teams.

Player Eligibility and Selection

Eligibility

- An AP player can only affiliate with one higher-category team per season.
 - U11/U13 All-Star C teams will receive separate AP lists.
- Call-up players must possess skills comparable to the level they are joining, to maintain fairness and competitiveness.
- A player may not be called up more than five (5) times in a season without approval from the Technical Director or All-Star Director.

Selection Process

- APs must be chosen from players who participated in All-Star tryouts.
- The AP lists will be created by the Technical Director, in consultation with the All-Star Director
- Where possible, All-Star teams will be assigned:
 - 3 forward, 2 defensemen, and 1 goaltender



Practice and Game Participation

Practice Participation

- Head Coaches are encouraged to invite their assigned AP players to practices to help promote team integration and ensure a smoother transition when required to participate in games.
- If it is known in advance that an AP will play in a game, they should also be invited to the preceding practice.
- Scheduling should allow for fair access and player availability.

Game Participation

- Game call-up opportunities must be shared fairly among all APs. No AP should play more than two additional games than another AP at the same position.
- Coaches must make reasonable effort to call-up according to position. If no positional APs are available, an AP may be called to play another position.
- If all APs are not available, a call up player must come from the same ranked team as the AP, in consultation with the Technical Director or All-Star Director
- APs may be invited to play with higher-tiered teams, but participation is optional. They must not be pressured to accept, nor should their original team influence or penalize them for their decision.
- Should there be a scheduling conflict with the APs regular team, it is recommended that the higher-tiered team game take precedence over their original team.
- APs may not miss their own team's games in order to attend a practice with the higher-tier team.

Goalie Specific Rules

- When an AP goalie is called up for a second time and has not appeared for at least one full period in the first call-up game, then that goalie must play at least two full periods of the second call-up game, regardless of whether it is a play-off game or not.
- The scoring of five goals on the AP goalie in the second call-up game is the only way the two-period rule can be disregarded

Availability

- APs should maintain reasonable availability for practices and games.
- Equal opportunities are not guaranteed if an AP has frequented or extended absences.
- When called up, APs must inform their original team coach if they will miss a team event.

Any deviation from this process requires approval from the Technical Director.



Mid-Season Changes

Each team should have enough APs to operate effectively and uphold intent of the Call-Up Policy. If necessary:

- The NEMHA Executive may add or remove APs at any time, with preference given to players who attended All-Star tryouts.
- Recommendations for changes may be made by the Technical Director in consultation with the Head Coach.
- AP status may be revoked if a player consistently declines call-up opportunities.
- For DJHL play, no new APs will be activated after the deadline established by the Operating Committee.

Affiliated Player Fee

An AP fee may be set annually by the NEMHA Executive.

Policy Enforcement

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action or revocation of call-up privileges. The Technical Director and Board of Directors retain the authority to review and adjudicate any exceptions or disputes.