



ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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2009-2010

PLAYER MOVEMENT / RELEASES / RECRUITMENT / TAMPERING

The Ontario Women's Hockey Association Executive Committee regularly receives questions regarding the recruitment and release of players. Please note the following OWHA regulations & policies:

OWHA BY-LAW ARTICLE EIGHT - Player Movement / Tryouts

- (A) (1) "Permission to Skate" forms must be filled out and signed by a designated executive member of the player's current association/team and presented to the association/team for which the player wishes to try out before she is allowed on the ice. Failure to comply will result in a minimum two (2) game suspension for the offending player and/or head coach.
- (2) No "Permission to Skate" forms may be used for the period between January 1st and two days after all the Provincial Championships for any teams during the current season (**Note: For 2009-10 season-valid as of 12:01am on April 14, 2010**)
- (B) OWHA TAMPERING POLICY:
No OWHA team may invite or allow to participate in its training camp, practice or play in any scheduled or exhibition game a registered member of another OWHA team from the previous season or of the current season in any division or category without first having obtained permission, in writing, in the manner set forth in REGULATION THREE, Registration (E) and/or BY-LAW ARTICLE EIGHT, Player Movement/Tryouts (A)(1), from the team or club with which such player is registered. For failure to comply with the above, the following sanctions will apply:
- The head coach will be suspended for the minimum of ten (10) games;
 - The team will be fined a sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). This fine is payable within fifteen (15) days of notification of the fine. Failure to submit the fine within the required time frame will result in automatic suspension until the fine is paid;
 - The fine will be remitted to the OWHA;
 - The player will not be eligible to sign with the team with which she had illegal tryouts.
Teams with valid reasons to invite players to tryouts can approach team officials of her current team to request permission.
- (C) "Tampering Report" forms will be directed to the Chair of the Discipline Committee, c/o OWHA Office

INTERPRETATION AND PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED WITHIN THE OWHA

- Every player must sign with the OWHA each year if they wish to be part of the Association.
- Players are only allowed to sign for another OWHA team when they have received a release from their current (previous) OWHA team.
- Players must have written permission from their current (previous) team BEFORE they try-out, practice or play with a different team.
- Falsification of information may result in a suspension of up to 3 years as per Hockey Canada Regulation F.22
- If a team feels there is a valid reason to invite a specific player and/or players to play for or try-out for their team, they are to approach the Team Officials of her/their current team to request permission. They are NOT to approach the player(s) directly. Permission to Skate forms are required for all players from other OWHA teams.
- Team Officials or anyone else violating these regulations face suspension.
- Anyone feeling aggrieved may contact the OWHA Executive Committee.

The situation of player movement is not an easy issue as we sometimes see the wishes/rights of an individual argued against the desires/best interests of the team. Many factors come into all sides of the debate. There is no perfect solution, but we must continue to address the facts and concerns.

Hockey is a great sport. Players have an opportunity to have fun, learn new skills and make new friends. Since it is a team sport, we all benefit by working together to help teams, leagues and associations excel. We encourage your support. Good luck and good sportsmanship!

Fair Play ❄ FUN ❄ Excellence
Good Citizenship ❄ Integrity & Honesty ❄ Equity