



Durham Crusaders Hockey Association

Underage Player Movement Policy

This policy is in place to determine the eligibility of any registered player registered with the Durham Crusaders Hockey Association seeking to play hockey at a higher division than the division associated with their current age group.

Any player wishing to move up a category must meet the following criteria in order to facilitate such a move:

- a) The player must exhibit advanced skills and abilities to play at a higher level. The player's skating ability, general hockey skills, personal maturity and physical safety will be taken into consideration.
Note: In order to move up a division at a Representative level, the player should rank within the top 5 players in their respective position.
- b) The move should only be permitted if registration numbers allow for it. Player movement should not leave a team at their respective age group short players. In addition, the age group to which the player is moving must have spaces available to accept another player.
- c) The Durham Crusaders Hockey Association Board will appoint an evaluative team of 3 members (including the receiving coach where possible) to be certain that a player meets all of the criteria. Board members appointed to said evaluative team shall not have any affiliation or relation to the team or the player in question. The evaluative team may make a recommendation to the Durham Crusaders Executive for approval. If approved by the Durham Crusaders executive, the request will then go to the OMHA Convenor and Regional Director with the understanding that the final approval is at the discretion of the OMHA.
- d) If registration numbers permit players may move up due to a lack of registrations at a higher level (i.e. U11 has one or two full teams and U13 has too few players to form a team). In this instance, moving players up to ensure the existence of a team at the higher level may be an option. This would be based upon Board approval of above criteria as well as player and parent/guardian consent.

d) If numbers permit players to move up due to lack of numbers at a higher level, ie, if Novice 3C has 16 skaters and Atom 3C has 9 skaters moving up players to Atom to balance teams may be an option upon Board approval of above criteria as well as player/family/guardian consent.

All decisions based on the criteria outlined above criteria will be taken to the Durham Crusaders board for approval, and following that, to the OMHA for approval before any player will begin the season (games) at a higher age level/division level.