

**POLICY TITLE:** Team Tryout, Blades, OWHA  
**IMPLEMENTATION AND CONTENT RESPONSIBILITY:** Vice President – OWHA  
**POLICY APPROVED BY:** NDMHA Amalgamation  
Committee  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:**  
**REVIEW DATE:** March 26, 2017

### **General Introduction**

The NDMHA will provide ice time for tryouts to each Blades Representative team. The schedule will be posted in advance on the NDMHA website with teams, locations, and number of tryouts. Tryouts will occur in late April and or early May of each season.

### **Purpose**

This Policy is intended to outline the processes used to administer the tryout process leading to ultimate selection for those NDMHA players wishing to play on a Blades Representative team.

### **Definitions**

**Impact Player:** Impact players are defined as being either a top 3 forward, top 2 defenseman, top 5 player overall or top goalie.

### **Policy Statement - Tryout Process and Rules**

1. At the first tryout the Association will provide a letter that outlines the tryout process and evaluation criteria. A letter from the coach will also be included with team goals and expected costs for the year.
2. "A" tryouts will generally commence upon the completion of the "AA" tryouts. "BB" tryouts will commence upon the completion of the "A" tryouts. "B" tryouts will commence upon the completion of the "BB" tryouts.
3. Fees for tryouts will be set by the NDMHA and posted on the NDMHA website prior to tryouts.
4. Players will be required to provide their own jerseys and they will be provided with a pinnie/jersey and or a pair of socks before the start of each tryout. These pinnies/jerseys must be returned after each tryout, failure to do so will result in the player not being allowed to skate again until the pinnie/jersey is returned.
5. Players from other centers must provide a Permission to Skate (OWHA) Form from their home or previous center with them prior to skating their first tryout.

### **Policy Statement - Selection Process**

1. The coach will have only non-parent volunteers assisting with try-outs, both on and off the ice. A minimum of 3 evaluators are needed. Hockey Canada evaluation guidelines are to be used. The Head coach is responsible for picking all players. Final rosters are to be approved by the Blades Tryout selection committee prior to release.
2. No players/goalies can be released until the end of the second tryout. No incumbent players/goalies may be cut until the third tryout. The head coach will notify players/goalies whether they have been selected or released from team via the NDMHA website.
3. Any Head Coach who anticipates releasing more than 3 rostered players from the previous season's team must advise the Tryout Selection committee at least 24 hours before doing so.

4. All players/goalies trying out for any team must remain on the ice for the entire tryout except in the case of illness or injury.
5. Tryout performance is the key component for player selection. Past performance, specifically in regards to game play, can be used in the evaluation process if exhibition games are not part of the try-out. A full explanation is required in the player evaluations.
6. There should be no advantage or disadvantage to player selection as a result of:
  - a) players and/or parents with whom the coach has a personal relationship, or
  - b) players and or parents that have had issues with the coach in the past.If there have been past issues and there are concerns the executive should be advised during the tryout process.
7. A head coach may select a player/goalie who is not able to attend tryouts if the head coach is satisfied that if the player/goalie was able to attend the tryouts the player/goalie would be one of the players/goalies chosen to the team. The player must contact the coach prior to tryouts to advise he/she will be absent. The coach must notify the selection committee of any intent to do so as soon as possible.

### **Policy Statement – Tryout Process, Residency**

1. The geographic boundaries of the North Durham Blades (NDB) shall consist of the municipal boundaries of the Township of Uxbridge, the Township of Scugog and the Township of Brock and all players residing within these boundaries will be considered a NDB resident. In the event that only one of the parents resides within the boundaries, the child, subject to proof of residency of the parent residing within the boundaries, will be considered a NDB resident.
2. All players and parents affiliated with the NDB must properly execute a NDB Registration Form and have registration fees paid in full.
3. Grandfathered residents are residents who live outside the NDB boundaries but have completed a full season as a player in the NDB.
4. Each competitive rep team may roster up to two non-residents. If a team wishes to roster more than two non-residents they will require approval from the NDMHA Executive or their designated tryout panel.
5. Any non-resident player that is released from the NDB and rosters with another OWHA Association shall immediately lose any grandfathered residency status previously held by that player within the NDB.
6. Any non-resident player that leaves the NDB, and is not released and does not play hockey in the season(s) that she is not with the NDB, shall not lose any grandfathered residency status previously held by that player within the NDB.
7. Any non-resident player that leaves the NDB and is not released and then plays hockey in the OHF, the GTHL or the OMHA for the season(s) that she is not with the NDB shall immediately lose any grandfathered residency status previously held by that player within the NDB.
8. Any non-resident player who tries out for the NDB where that player's sibling has previously been granted residency status within the NDB shall be automatically credited with the same residency status in the NDB.

## **Policy Statement – Tryout Process, Underage Players**

9. The NDMHA discourages the signing of underage players All Rep team players must try-out with their own age group. Players may also try out for a rep team for the division that is one calendar year older without prior Executive Council approval. Players wishing to try-out for a team which is two calendar years older must receive prior approval of the NDMHA Executive or their designated tryout committee.  
Example: A major Peewee may try-out for a Bantam rep team; however, a minor Peewee must obtain Executive approval to try-out for a Bantam rep team. Despite this, Players may try out for older teams if player numbers will not justify the formation of a team at their own age level.
10. Upon selection at tryout, Players may roster with a NDB team for the division that is older than their actual age group, however, this is permitted only for a player that is judged to be an impact player by the coach and the NDMHA Executive or their designated tryout selection committee/panel. If eligible, the player must commit to one team following the second tryout.
11. Any underage player wishing to play on an older aged team for a second or subsequent years must meet the same criteria each year.

## **Policy Statement – General**

1. With the exception of the approved coaching staff, it is highly recommended that only non-parent volunteers assist with try-outs, both with on ice drills and off ice evaluations. A minimum of 3 evaluators are suggested.
2. Players accepted as Non Resident Players (NRP) need to be impact players.
3. No players/goalies can be released from a team until the end of the second tryout. No incumbent players/goalies may be cut until the third tryout. The head coach will notify players/goalies whether they have been selected or released from a team via the NDMHA website.
4. It is understood that skill appropriate OWHA player and volunteer numbers are not always available. In these instances the three above noted sections may be waived with approval from NDMHA Executive or their designated tryout panel.
5. The entire selection process will be subject to Executive oversight. At any point a coach may be asked by the NDMHA Executive or their designated tryout selection committee/panel to back up his/her decision process to ensure that the tryouts are run fairly and objectively.
6. To ensure a consistent level of development and in order to be economically feasible, a recommended team composition of 17 players should be adopted. Coaches wishing to form a team outside of this target must advise and receive approval from the NDMHA Executive or their designated tryout panel.
7. Any Head Coach who does not follow any of the Tryout selection process rules may face disciplinary action in the form of suspension or removal as the Head Coach.
8. Under special circumstances any of the above noted rules may be waived or changed by a ruling of the NDMHA Executive or their designated tryout panel.
9. Prior to tryouts the NDMHA Executive will appoint an appropriate number of tryout designates to a Blades tryout selection panel/committee. A vote, with a minimum quorum of 3 designates, will be required to waive or change any of the above noted policy.

The NDMHA has made every attempt possible to provide a transparent system in which players are selected fairly. All decisions for player placement will be final.