



**APPROVED- September 17, 2021**

# **Warriors Tryout Policy**

## **1.0 Introduction**

The North Durham Minor Hockey Association will schedule ice time for tryouts to each Representative and Select team. The schedule will be posted in advance on the NDMHA website with teams, locations, and number of tryouts. Tryouts may be conducted in the spring or fall and are subject to NDMHA programming and availability as per OMHA.

## **2.0 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 Representative or Select team.

## **3.0 Policy Statements**

### **Application**

3.1 NDMHA "AA" tryouts will commence as per OMHA guidelines. "A" tryouts will commence upon the completion of the "AA" tryouts. "AE" tryouts will commence upon the completion of the "A" tryouts. Once AA tryouts are complete, it will be confirmed if the association will look at icing either the A and/or AE teams/or MD teams subject to registration numbers.

3.2 The Director of Coaches and Director of Representative Hockey will meet with the Coaches prior to the commencement of the tryouts to establish the NDMHA standard tryout procedures.

3.3 The Association will provide ice time for a reasonable number of tryouts to each team. The Association will collect the tryout fees for all tryouts.

3.4 It will be the responsibility of the Association to ensure that every player attending a tryout is registered with the Association or eligible to tryout.

3.5 All players trying out for a Representative team must follow NDMHA Registration process posted on the NDMHA website.

3.6 For all levels, players are required to tryout for one level higher than they played the last season of traditional hockey (2019-2020). (e.g., if you played A, you must tryout for AA, if you played AE, you must tryout for A) Any NRP or previous AAA players must tryout at the AA level.

3.7 U8 players entering their U9 year, must try out for U9 AA and be released to tryout for the A team and then release from the A team to be eligible to play for the AE teams

3.8 Players who were registered with House League during the the last season of traditional hockey (2019-2020) can register to tryout at any level. However, they must register and purchase their tryout passport by the first night of the "AA" tryouts.



3.9 Players who are registering in the Recreational program for the upcoming season are eligible to attend Select tryouts. Select players must meet the OMHA Residential guidelines; they must register and purchase their tryout passport prior to attending tryouts.

3.10 At the first tryout the Association will provide a letter that outlines the tryout process. A letter from the Head Coach will also be included with team goals and expected budget/costs for the year.

3.11 The Head Coach can release players after the 1st tryout and after every subsequent tryout.

3.12 If a player is not able to tryout, he or she must obtain an exemption from the Head Coach and approval from the Representative Committee. If the player is required to tryout and refuses to do so, the player cannot be carded to any NDMHA Rep team.

3.13 If a player who is required to tryout does not attend the first required tryout and the Head Coach is not prepared to grant an exemption, the Head Coach must attempt to contact the player's parents immediately following the first required tryout to advise them of the consequences of not trying out.

3.14 All Rep team players must try-out with their own age group. At the "AA" and "A" levels, players may also try out for a rep team for the division that is one calendar year older without prior Executive approval. "AE" does not qualify.

3.15 Players from other centers must complete the online registration form and have an NRP passport from their home center with them prior to skating their first tryout.

### **Selection Process**

3.16 The Board of Directors will establish a Representative Committee. There will be one member of the committee at all tryouts. If a Head Coach has not been selected, the committee will choose the team and then the Coach Selection Committee will recommend a Head Coach.

3.17 The coach is required to have non-parent volunteers, both on and off the ice. Minimums of three (3) evaluators are needed.

3.18 Players/goaltenders will be notified whether they have been selected to attend the next skate via the NDMHA website.

3.19 All players/goaltenders trying out for any team must remain on the ice for the entire tryout except in the case of illness or injury.

3.20 Players accepted as Non-Resident Players (NRP) must be considered impact players and validated by the Representative Committee.

3.21 A Head Coach may select a player/goaltender who is not able to attend tryouts if the Head Coach and the executive are satisfied that if the player/goaltender were able to attend the tryouts the player/goalie would be one of the players/goaltenders chosen to the team. The player must contact the Head Coach prior to tryouts to advise he/she will be absent.



3.22 To ensure a consistent level of development and in order to be economically feasible, a team composition of 17 players will be adopted. Head Coaches wishing to form a team outside the 17 targets must seek prior Representative Committee approval.

3.23 U14 will follow the OMHA U14 tryout guidelines

3.24 If a player attends “AA” or “A” tryouts and is selected for any of these teams they cannot decline and accept an offer from another NDMHA rep team. Offers of commitment must be returned to NDMHA within four (4) days.

3.25 Players who have been selected and have accepted, through a signed offer of commitment to play given to the coach or manager of a rep team, who subsequently decide to quit the team for reasons other than injury or illness, are financially responsible for their individual share of all team costs (depending on the number of players on the team) from the time that they have accepted to be on the team to the time that a replacement player accepts in writing the offer of commitment to play.

### **Underage Players**

3.26 The Association discourages the signing of underage players. In exceptional circumstances, an underage player may be signed if he or she is assessed in the top three (3) player/goalie on the older aged team. Whether the player is among the top players on the older aged team is to be determined by the Representative Committee and communicated to the player after the second (2nd) skate. If still eligible, the player must commit to one team before the third (3rd) tryout.

3.27 Any underage player wishing to play on an older aged team for a second or subsequent year must meet the same criteria each year.

### **4.0 Non-compliance Implications**

Non-compliance with this policy could result in, but not limited to;

- Failure of an eligible person to play on a NDMHA team.
- Removal of a selected player from his/her team within NDMHA

### **5.0 Questions about this Policy**

If anyone has questions/concerns about the policy, or the purpose of the policy they can be directed to the Director or Representative Hockey or the Director of Coaches for clarification.

**APPROVED BY THE NORTH DURHAM MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**