



INFORMATION BULLETIN

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August 1, 2023

TO: MHA Presidents

FROM: AI McCulloch, VIAHA President

**COPY: VIAHA Officers
League Commissioners and Managing Directors**

SUBJECT: Affiliation

This bulletin will serve to clarify the regulations and policies on affiliation for both Island league and the recreational leagues in the District. VIAHA strongly encourage all teams to make use of affiliation to ensure that they always have sufficient players available to safely participate in games. Recreational teams that wish to avail themselves of lateral transfer provisions must have affiliate players on their roster before lateral transfers will be considered.

Hockey Canada Regulation F, BC Hockey Regulations 2.8 and 2.9 and VIAHA Regulations 5.25 – 5.30 inclusive outline the processes and restrictions on affiliation. Those regulations applicable to minor hockey teams are:

- Players who are registered on a recreational or carded team may affiliate with a higher division or category team. The player must be listed on the HCR of the team to which he is affiliated before playing as an affiliate and a copy of the updated HCR roster must be sent to the league commissioner/Managing Director. Otherwise the player is considered ineligible.
- A team may have a total of seventeen (17) skaters and, two (2) goaltenders as specially affiliated players. A player may not be affiliated to more than one team at any time and must be released from one affiliated team before being added as an affiliate on any other team.
- A carded player may not affiliate to a recreational team.
- U9 players may affiliate to a U11 team provided they are no more than one year out of the U11 category.
- A player may not participate as an affiliate in more than ten (10) placement, league or playoff games in a season. The player is considered ineligible after the tenth game.
- Except for goaltenders, appearance on a game sheet is considered participation. For goaltenders taking part in any part of a game will be considered participation while appearing as a back-up, on the bench, will not.
- Exhibition and tournament games are excluded from the restriction of ten (10) games.
- Players remain registered with their lower Division/Category team.
- Affiliate players will have the designation “AP” beside their name on the game sheet.
- An affiliate player must have the approval of his/her registered team before being added as to a roster an affiliate.
- An affiliate player must have the permission of his/her registered team to participate in a game as an affiliate player.
- Affiliate players may be used to replace a player or players absent due to injury, suspension or family vacations. An available and eligible rostered player cannot be a “healthy scratch” to make a spot available for an affiliate.



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- A carded team may not use affiliates to bring the numbers of players in a game to a number greater than the number of players on their roster for league, playoff and exhibition games. A team may use affiliates at tournament games that would bring their number of players in a game to more than their roster number.
- A recreational team, including Atom Development, may use affiliates if they have thirteen (13) or fewer skaters available for a game and may only use affiliates to bring the number of skaters up to fourteen (14) .
- Recreational players may not participate as affiliates until the first Wednesday following Thanksgiving. There is no such restriction on carded players.
- MHAs may have additional policies/regulations which further restrict the use of affiliate players within their own Association.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact your league Managing Director/Commissioner or have your MHA President contact the applicable VIAHA Vice-President or myself.

Yours sincerely,

Al McCulloch
VIAHA President