

Proposed Rules Changes

Part G

Section 11

Sub Section B

Current Rule

So long as the Girls High School tryouts are held two weeks prior to the Boys High School tryouts, any player who makes the Boys Varsity or Junior Varsity will automatically forfeit \$400.00 of the NSPAHA registration fee and any player who makes the Girls Varsity or Junior Varsity will automatically forfeit \$300.00 of the NSPAHA registration fee. In addition, the parent of any such player will still be responsible for complying with all NSPAHA volunteer requirements.

Proposed Change:

So long as the Girls High School tryouts are held two weeks prior to the Boys High School tryouts, any player who makes the Boys Varsity or Junior Varsity will automatically forfeit \$400.00 of the NSPAHA registration fee and a prorated amount to cover any ice, scrimmages, or other team fees incurred prior to the player moving the high school team and any player who makes the Girls Varsity or Junior Varsity will automatically forfeit \$300.00 of the NSPAHA registration fee and a prorated amount to cover any ice, scrimmages, or other team fees incurred prior to the player moving the high school team . In addition, the parent of any such player will still be responsible for complying with all NSPAHA volunteer requirements.

Reason for rule change is to cover any costs incurred by teams for scrimmages or other hockey related costs. This should relieve team managers of the responsibility of having to collect these fees.

Part G

Section 4

Sub Section a, b, and c

Current Rule

a) NSPAHA, in agreement with Minnesota Hockey, believes that all players should play at the appropriate age level. However, if a player chooses to be rated at a level higher than his or her appropriate age level, the conditions set forth in the following paragraphs must be met.

b) A player must declare his or her intentions, before the end of Registration (dates published in the NSPAHA Newsletter and/or on the NSPAHA website).

c) A player who chooses to be rated at a level higher than his or her appropriate age level must be rated at both age levels, with an extra rating fee assessed for the second rating. (Extra fee to be set by Board of Directors, based on the number of rating hours.)

d) If a player ranks in the top eight skaters at the "A" level during the ratings, the player will be automatically placed on the "A" traveling team, subject to the limitations set forth in paragraph 7 and provided that circumstances do not require application of paragraph 4(l) below (pertaining to underage players).

e) If a player rates from number 9-20, the coach can choose to place the player in one of the remaining seven slots (9-15) on the "A" traveling team. (Note: Board approval is required for adjustment if more than 15 skaters are placed on a team.) If they are age appropriate, players not selected for the "A"

traveling team will be placed on teams at the next level (B, C). Players not of the appropriate age level will be placed on a team at their age appropriate level, based on their age level tryout rating.

f) In addition, if more players are needed to roster a team, players may be asked to move to a higher age level to complete a roster. If requested to move to a higher level, a player will be responsible for all costs associated with playing at that level.

g) Coaches should form teams in the best interest of the team and not the individual players.

h) (none)

i) C teams will be organized to divide talent within the age groups as equally as possible.

j) Nothing in this section or in any other portion of these Rules gives a player a right to play at a level above the player's age appropriate level. All move-ups are within the discretion of NSPAHA.

NSPAHA reserves the right to deny a request to move up to a higher age level, at any time, based upon the impact that the requested move-up is likely to have on other players in the association.

Proposed Rule

a) NSPAHA, in agreement with Minnesota Hockey, believes that all players should play at the appropriate age level. However, if a player has a "bubble birthday" (birthday falling between July 1st and August 31st) and the conditions set forth in the following paragraphs are met they may choose to play one level higher.

b) A player must declare his or her intentions, before the end of Registration (dates published in the NSPAHA Newsletter and/or on the NSPAHA website).

c) A player with a bubble birthday who chooses to play up one level, will be considered a part of that level for the rest of their NSPAHA hockey career. Conversely, if they choose to stay with their correct level, they will be considered a part of that level for the rest of their NSPAHA career. The board reserves the right to move Mite players up to the Squirt level if needed.

d) If a player ranks in the top eight skaters at the "A" level during the ratings, the player will be automatically placed on the "A" traveling team, subject to the limitations set forth in paragraph 7

e) If a player rates from number 9-20, the coach can choose to place the player in one of the remaining seven slots (9-15) on the "A" traveling team. (Note: Board approval is required for adjustment if more than 15 skaters are placed on a team.) Players not selected for the "A" traveling team will be placed on teams at the next level (B, C).

f) (none)

g) Coaches should form teams in the best interest of the team and not the individual players.

h) (none)

i) Any level with multiple teams will be organized to divide talent within the age groups as equally as possible. (Example: 2 B teams, or 2 B2 teams)

j) Nothing in this section or in any other portion of these Rules gives a player a right to play at a level above the player's age appropriate level. All move-ups are within the discretion of NSPAHA.

NSPAHA reserves the right to deny a request to move up to a higher age level, at any time, based upon the impact that the requested move-up is likely to have on other players in the association.

Reason for Rule Change: This puts us in line with other associations in D2 in terms of the bubble age policy. This also gives kids the chance to stay with their classmates if they have a bubble birthday.

Part G

Section 5

Sub Section a, b, and c

Current Rule:

- a) Raters will be required to attend all sessions.
- b) An alternate Rater will be identified at each level in the event a regular Rater is unable to attend a session.
- c) Coaches and Raters should not talk to anyone regarding tryout performance before tryouts are concluded.

Proposed Change:

- a) NSPAHA will employ independent raters to evaluate skaters and goalies during tryouts.
- b) The independent raters will be responsible for selecting the A pool at each level.
- c) The highest level head coach will be responsible for selecting the players from the A pool to fill out the remainder of their team.

Reason for Rule Change: The board feels this would provide a more transparent selection process where individuals with no ties to program can provide fair and impartial ratings for the tryouts.