

APPENDIX B – FSMH AFFILIATION POLICY

1. The Purpose of this policy is to:

- 1.1. **Player Development:** Enhance player development by enabling athletes to compete at higher levels, which improves their skills and experience.
- 1.2. **Team Roster Management:** Provide guidelines for effectively managing team rosters to ensure teams can fill positions for practices and games as required.

2. Scope:

This policy outlines specific conditions under which players may affiliate with other teams, including eligibility criteria based on division and player needs. It details applicable rules for different age divisions (U7, U9, U11, U13, U15, U18), including conditions for player affiliation and the roles of coaches and team directors in this process.

3. Policy:

Players may affiliate with other teams according to Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations. The needs of the Association's Program and the Rangers Athletic Club must be considered. The Division Directors, in consultation with coaches, will complete and submit Affiliation Forms to the General Manager (GM) for approval and registration with Hockey Alberta. With the approval of the Division Director and the GM, an "affiliating team" may accept players from teams one or two levels below within the same division.

a) Division Guidelines:

- **U7:** No affiliation permitted.
- **U9:** Affiliation is allowed only if a team has fewer than 12 players.
- **U11:** Player affiliation available on a case-by-case basis; goaltender affiliation is required.
- **U13:** Each team may affiliate up to ten players and, if available, a goaltender.
- **U15:** Each team may affiliate up to ten players and, if available, a goaltender.
- **U18:** Each team may affiliate up to ten players and, if available, a goaltender.

*All RAC affiliations are selected by the Head Coach of the affiliating team

Important Note: Players may affiliate from non-contact to contact teams with written approval from a parent.



b) Use of Affiliates

The goal of affiliation is to allow players to compete and develop at higher levels while providing the higher-level team with players to fill their rosters for practices and games. Coaches of the affiliating team must obtain approval from the head coach of the player's regular team before inviting the player or their parents to a practice, game, or tournament.

Coaches of the player's regular team can only decline participation if the player is under any suspension or has a commitment to a regular season, playoff, or tournament game. If there is a conflict with practices or exhibition games, the player must be allowed to compete with the higher-level team.

Any disagreements in the affiliation process will be escalated to the Division Director for a final decision.

A player may affiliate with only one team and must come from a lower tier, division, or category.

Female players on minor male hockey teams may apply to affiliate with female teams, subject to approval from the Hockey Alberta Minor Female Regulation Coordinator.

c) Affiliation Process

- i. **During the evaluation process, the Division Director, VP or President and GM will identify potential affiliate players.**
- ii. **At least two weeks after team formation, the Division Director and GM will finalize affiliate selections in collaboration with coaches.**
- iii. **All affiliates must be finalized prior to December 1.**
- iv. **Affiliations must be reviewed and endorsed by the President, Vice President or GM of FSMH. In exceptional cases, affiliations may be accepted and endorsed by the President until January 15th of the current hockey season.**
- v. **Players will be formally added to teams in the Registry and designated as "Affiliates."**

Important: Teams must be able to present a copy of their official hard card listing approved affiliates upon request.



Note: Any player participating in a game as an affiliated player without proper approval or registration in the Hockey Canada Registry will be deemed ineligible, and team officials may face disciplinary action according to Hockey Alberta Minor Regulations.

- d) Key Points
 - i. **The requested player must be in good standing with their team and not serving a suspension. Affiliation is a privilege; head coaches can deny affiliation for players displaying negative or undisciplined behaviour.**
 - ii. **All affiliations terminate at the end of the current hockey season.**
 - iii. **The team with a game should always take precedence over practice.**
 - iv. **If the player's team has a game at the same time as the affiliate team, preference should be given to the primary team, except when:**
 - a. A key position (like goaltender) needs to be filled.
 - b. A minimum of 12 skaters is required.
 - c. Ultimately, the decision should rest with the player and their parents, with no negative consequences imposed
- e) Games
 - i. The team utilizing an affiliate player must designate that player on the game sheet as an "AP" (Affiliate Player).
 - ii. Affiliates may participate in league games, playoffs, provincial championships, exhibition games, and tournaments.
 - iii. The total number of players listed on any official game sheet, including affiliate players, cannot exceed 18 players and two goalies.
 - iv. Teams may substitute injured or absent players with affiliated players to meet roster size requirements. Note that the roster size will be reduced by one for each player who is under suspension.
- f) Numbers of Games

A registered player is considered to have participated in a game when their name is listed on the official game report, except in the case of an alternate goaltender. Alternate goaltenders are considered to have participated in the game once they take the ice.



If the affiliation process has been properly followed, a player may compete in a maximum of 10 games with the team they are affiliated with. This limit excludes exhibition and tournament games. Should a player participate in more than 10 games with their affiliated team, they will be deemed ineligible and subject to the rules set by Hockey Alberta. However, if a player's registered team completes their regular season and playoffs before the affiliated team, the player may continue to affiliate without limit.

g) Substitute Goaltender

A substitute goaltender from another team in the same or a lower division may be allowed if there is medical evidence or extenuating circumstances showing that a replacement goaltender is needed. You must notify your Division Director as soon as the need for a substitute goaltender arises. Please refer to the Hockey Alberta Substitute Goaltender Criteria and Application for more information. Games played by an approved substitute goaltender do not count against the player's affiliate games limit

h) FSMH Affiliation Grid

Team	***TIER	Teams Can Affiliate From #1	Teams Can Affiliate From #2	Teams Can Affiliate From #3
U9	INTRO	*	*	
U11AA	AA	FS401	FS402	
FS401	A	FS402	FS403	
FS402	B	FS403	FS404	
FS403	C	FS404	FS405	
FS404	D	FS405	U9 GOALIES	U9 GOALIES
FS405	D	*U9	FS407	U9 GOALIES
FS407 FURY	B FEMALE	FS307	U9 FEMALE RANGERS	U11 FEMALE RANGERS
U13AA	AA	FS501	FS502	
FS501	B	FS502	FS503	
FS502	C	FS503	FS504	
FS503	D	FS504	FS505	
FS504	D	FS505	FS402	
FS505 FURY	B FEMALE	FS407	U11 FEMALE RANGERS	U13 FEMALE RANGERS
U15AAA	AAA	U15AA	FS601	
U15AA	AA	FS601	U13AA	
FS601	B	FS602	FS603	FS501
FS602	C	FS603	FS502	



FS603	B NBC	FS502	FS503	
FS605 FURY	B FEMALE	FS505	U13 FEMALE RANGERS	U15 FEMALE RANGERS
U18AAA		U17AAA	U18AA	U15AAA
U17AAA		U16AA	U18AA	U15AAA
U18AA		U16AA	FS701	FS702
U16AA		U15AAA	U15AA	FS601
FS701	B	FS702	FS703	FS601
FS702	C	FS703	FS601	FS602
FS703	C NBC	FS602	FS603	
FS704 FURY	B FEMALE	FS605 FURY	U15 FEMALE RANGERS	U18 FEMALE RANGERS

* U9 Affiliation is allowed only if a team has fewer than 12 players.

** U9 players affiliating to U11 must be approved by your level director and are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

*** If you believe your team will be moving tiers after the tiering round, please contact gm@fsmhockey.com before selecting affiliates

