

PCMHA Exceptional Player Identification Process

PCMHA, through adherence to the PCHMA- Rep Division Guiding Principles, embraces a holistic view of the development of players within its association. The physical, emotional and social development of our youth is paramount. PCHMA recognizes and appreciates that players should be playing at levels that are appropriate to their development. In rare circumstances, a player's development may exceed his or her age level placement. In such cases, the "PCMHA Exceptional Player Identification Process" will be enacted.

In order to have a player considered to advance a level beyond their age group, the following process will be applied:

1. Parent(s)/legal guardian of the child must make application in writing (hard copy or email) to the president of the Pictou County Minor Hockey Rep Division, Erin Cormier (rep@pcmha.com), stating their request to have their child considered for "Exceptional Player Status" prior to registering for tryouts. The letter/email must include the name of the child, parent(s)/guardian, contact information, and level (Atom, Pee Wee, Bantam) at which the player is intending to try out and the name and contact information of a former coach who is willing to attest to the ability of the player. Note: Players may not attempt to play up more than one age level.
2. Parent(s)/guardian will register the player at the AAA level during scheduled PCMHA Rep Try out Registration.
3. Players will be eligible for three ice times at which point the coaching staff of the team will have the discretion to decide if the player should be considered further.
4. If the player is invited back, a team of evaluators will be assembled to assess the player as per the "PCMHA Player Selection Process". Players will be evaluated in practice and game situations. The player must demonstrate that he/she would be in the top half of the players on the team at his/her position. That is to say a forward would be in the top 5 forwards and a defenseman would be in the top 3 defensemen.
5. The team of evaluators will meet with the coaching staff of the team to share the information collected through the "Player Selection Process".
6. A recommendation on the player's status, whether he/she is granted "Exceptional Player Status" and placed on the team or whether the player will return to his/her age appropriate level will be made. (Communication with the coach of the younger level will be ongoing throughout the process.) Approval of the decision from the Regional Director of Hockey Nova Scotia must be obtained. The decision will then be communicated to the player and his/her parent(s)/guardian.