



## TEMISKAMING SHORES MINOR HOCKEY ASSN.

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THIS POLICY APPLIES TO ALL MEMBERS REGISTERED WITH  
THE OWHA WITHIN TSMHA

### TSMHA Skate – Up Policy (OWHA)

The Temiskaming Shores Minor Hockey Association (TSMHA) strongly recommends that all players participate in the age group for which they are, by birth year, designated under OHF and OWHA rules and regulations. TSMHA recognizes, however, the right of the underage player to play at an older age level under special circumstances.

***This policy applies to the following age groups that are registered within OWHA:***

- U7 and U9, follow the Hockey Canada Player Pathway
- U11 Rep to U18 Rep programs

***Eligibility:***

- A parent/guardian who wishes for his/her child to play up a category must present a request in writing to the TSMHA president to have his/her child participate in tryouts for an older age group.
- All written requests must be received by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Any requests received after this date will not be considered.
- A fee of \$150 must be paid to TSMHA, and this fee is non-refundable.
- A player must be in the second year of her assigned age group to apply to skate up to a higher age group.
- A player must be ranked:
  - the top 6 players of tier 1 for U7/U9 age groups
  - the top three (3) forwards, top two (2) defence, or top goalie position on the team for which she is trying out for; U11 to U18 age groups.
- A player must try out at the highest level of her own age group and the highest level of the older age group concurrently during the skate-up process.



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### ***Process:***

- The written request is received by the TSMHA president.
- The coach for the team in the higher age group will get the opinion of the player's previous coach and then will be asked to evaluate the player in question based on skill and ability.
- A third impartial and anonymous evaluator will be chosen by the TSMHA president to provide a fair assessment. The evaluator will be asked to attend the first three (3) out of four (4) tryouts to evaluate the player in question. The underage player will be evaluated based on skill and ability for the age group for which she is requesting to play.
- An evaluation form, adapted from Hockey Canada, will be used by the evaluators to evaluate and rank the skills and abilities of all the players trying out for the same position (forward, defence, or goalie) as the underage player. Evaluators will assess and rank players independently from one another.
- Once evaluations have been completed, they will be presented to the executive committee at which time a decision will be made to approve or deny the request. Any decision made by the executive committee is final and there is no opportunity for an appeal.

### ***Conflicts of Interest:***

- If a parent of the underage player participating in the tryout attempts to influence the coaches or evaluators at any time, the process will be terminated.

### ***Duration:***

- Underage players requesting to play in an older age group must apply every year.

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