



## Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Hockey Club

### Guidelines for Tryouts

#### **1.0 Players**

- 1.1 Players trying out for a Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA team must;
  - 1.1.1 be a bona-fide resident of District 9 or District B(excluding Metcalfe) and
  - 1.1.2 be registered with the local member hockey association of District 9 or District B and
  - 1.1.3 have completed and submitted the Tryout Registration form and paid the try out fee
- 1.2 All players will tryout at their appropriate age level.
- 1.3 Each player will receive a minimum of two (2) tryout sessions unless, in the opinion of the teams' head coach, the players' safety may be jeopardized in which case a refund of the tryout fee will be issued. A player who misses a tryout (authorized by the Team Liaison) can be released after one tryout and will NOT be issued a refund
- 1.4 All tryout sessions are mandatory. All absence requests will be handled on an individual basis and through the Team Liaison. The Team Liaison will only entertain such requests at the orientation sessions or later.

#### **2.0 Players injured or ill during tryouts must:**

- 2.1 Have been registered as described in General 1.1
- 2.2 Produce a doctor's certificate within 24 hrs of the injury or illness, if occurring during tryouts or, if occurring prior to tryouts, at the first tryout session.
- 2.3 If the illness or injury is of a long-term duration (more than 7 days), the players' parents/guardians must provide weekly updates on the players' condition to the Team Liaison of the team he/she is trying out for.
- 2.4 Provide a doctor's certificate permitting the player to return to tryouts and/or specifying conditions which would restrict the players' full participation.
- 2.5 **Player level will be assessed following the guidelines specified below:**
  - 2.5.1 If the player was a AAA player during the previous year, and the coach of the prior year has provided an assessment which ranks the player as:
    - 2.5.1.1 having been ranked in the top third of that team, then the player will be permitted to be considered AAA for assessment.



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2.5.2 A player may not return to the ice for assessment at AAA until and unless:

2.5.2.1 The player's parent provides a doctor's certificate indicating permission for the player to return to competitive hockey or indicating conditions under which he/she may return and,

2.5.2.2 The player's parents have provided bi-weekly reports on the player's condition and progress to the Team Liaison team head coach.

2.5.3 AAA coaches may hold one position open for assessment on player's return.

2.5.4 The decision of the Ottawa Jr.67's AAA Executive in determining the player's tryout status will be final.

### **3.0 Players moving into the Zone(district) during tryouts must:**

3.0.1 Provide proof of imminent residency as per ODMHA rules and

3.0.2 Have been registered as described in 1.1.

3.0.3 Requires a letter from previous Association with current standing.

### **3.1 Players moving into the Zone(district) after tryouts must:**

3.1.1 Provide proof of imminent residency as per ODMHA rules and

3.1.2 Have been registered as described in 1.1.

3.1.3 Requires a letter from previous Association with current standing.

### **4.0 Players trying out at the Junior levels**

Any players wishing to be able to return to his appropriate playing level at the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA if unsuccessful at the Junior must:

4.1 Fulfill the criteria for players trying out for a Jr. 67's AAA team as described in 1.1.

4.2 Inform the Team Liaison and the head coach of the appropriate Jr. 67's AAA level team as to:

4.2.1 What Junior teams(s) he/she is trying out with and,

4.2.2 Provide regular updates as to their status.

4.2.3 Participate in at least one tryout session with the Jr. 67's AAA in order for the coaches to be able to assess/evaluate the player.

4.2.4 As of November 1, all rosters are finalized. After Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, players returning from Junior will be handled on a case-



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by-case basis.

### **5.0 Player selection**

- 5.1 Players trying out for Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA teams shall be selected in accordance with Ottawa Jr. 67's Aims and Objectives, and their hockey ability. This collective criteria and the process to evaluate will be based on the tryout plan (including skaters and goalies) and must be defined and recorded by the respective Head Coach prior to the commencement of any tryout and approved by the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Executive.
- 5.2 The tryout plan defined by the Head Coach in 5.1 and approved by the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Executive will be the method used to evaluate the players by the Player Selection Committee. A record of assessments from each evaluator must be completed, signed, with the name of the evaluator clearly printed and kept in a sealed envelope with the Team Liaison.
- 5.3 On or before the end of tryouts, all players still remaining at the tryouts (not released), will be advised that should they not be selected to the "AAA" team at their level they should return to their home "AA" Association.
- 5.4 The Head Coach and an Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Executive Member are required to meet with each player and to be supportive and positive when releasing the player, but shall not forecast or guarantee the success of a released player with regards to subsequent tryouts and this includes making affiliation commitments.
- 5.5 The results of the "concluding" evaluations, using the criteria and processes of the tryout plan, will define the selection of the final team. It is left to the discretion of the Head Coach, as to when the confirmed players, noted above, are informed. The Head Coach is required to submit all evaluation documentation to the Team Liaison here within 48 hours of confirming the players for the team).
- 5.6 Team rosters are not finalized until January 10<sup>th</sup> of each playing season. Players may be released from their team up to and including January 10<sup>th</sup>. After January 10<sup>th</sup>, team rosters are final until the end of the playing season (as per the Hockey Canada/ODMHA guidelines). After the official team list has been submitted to the



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District Registrar, all player releases require Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Executive approval.

### **6.0 Player Reassigned from Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA**

- 6.1 A player may only be released from tryouts after he has attended two (2) tryout sessions unless the players' safety is jeopardized. A player who misses a tryout (authorized by the Team Liaison) can be released after one tryout
- 6.2 Players/parents wishing further clarification of the reason(s) for release may request so in writing (within 48hours of the release) to the appropriate Team Liaison.
- 6.3 A verbal or written response, as requested, will be provided to the player/parents A.S.A.P. of receipt of their request.
  - a. Further clarification of this written response can be made to the Ottawa Jr. 67's President within 24 hours
    - The President will review the documentation and reply A.S.A.P. If a hearing is requested by the player/family. The cost of this appeal is \$75.00 payable to the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Hockey Club and the appeal process will follow the ODMHA guideline for appeals.

### **7.0 Players release/transfer from District 9 and District B**

- 7.1 Traditionally, District 9 and District B do not support player transfers in or out of our District.
- 7.2 Any request for a transfer/release by a player of his/her parents must be done through and in accordance with the ODMHA Rules and Regulations.

### **8.0 Players wishing to tryout at a higher level. (MINOR/MAJOR MIDGET REVIEW)**

No request by a player, or his parents/guardians, for permission to tryout at a higher level will be entertained by the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA. Only under exceptional circumstances may a coach of a higher-level team make such a request to the VP of Operations and only then will such a request be considered following approved guidelines and procedures. Any subsequent decision will consider the best interests of the player, the teams involved and the overall well being of the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Hockey Club.



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8.1 Request by a Coach to have a player tryout at a higher level (age group). Instances of this happening should be a rarity/exception.

Coaches are not allowed to request lower level players tryout at a higher level prior to tryouts. All players, therefore, must start the tryouts at their own age level. This guideline is not to be considered a means to raid a lower level team of the top players. This guideline is to be used solely when a player possesses exceptional hockey talent and his hockey development would be restricted if kept at the lower level.

8.2 If, following the second session of tryouts, a coach determines that; "a lower level" player possesses hockey talents which are equal to or better than the top five players trying out for his team and therefore could be an impact player on his (the higher level) team", the Head Coach may make a written submission to the VP of Operations of the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA requesting consideration to allow a lower level player to tryout at the higher level. This request must outline the coach's rationale for his request.

**A coach may not approach or communicate with the player or his parents**

8.3 **The VP of Operation will:**

- a. consult with the Coach Mentor and the Director of Player Development and obtain their recommendations and
- b. where possible, consult with the players' previous year's coach and obtain his ratings of the five best players (three forwards, and two defense) on the previous year's team .These will be ranked in order. \*\* (Note: the player must rank as the top forward, defense or goalie)
- c. arrange to have independent evaluations done of the player during current tryouts. \*\* (Note: the player must rank as the top forward, defense or goalie)
- d. present the request, rankings and recommendations to the Ottawa Jr. 67's Executive for consideration.

8.4 **The Ottawa Jr. 67's Executive will review the request** taking into consideration the best interests of the player, the teams involved and the overall well being of the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA program and if approved will:

- i. Determine whether the player, and/or his parents agree to tryout at the higher level and
- ii. Advise the requesting coach of the Executive committee's decision and,
- iii. Arrange to have independent evaluations done of



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the player while he/she is trying out at the higher-level team.

8.5 If the requesting coach determines that he still wants to keep the player at the higher-level team, he will make his request to the VP of Operations who will:

8.5.1 call a meeting of the Ottawa Jr.67's AAA Executive at which time the independent evaluations conducted in 6.3 c above will be opened to determine:

8.5.2 If player is a forward, was he ranked as one of the top 3 forwards or

8.5.3 If player is a defense, was he ranked as one of the top 2

8.5.4 If player is a goalie, was he ranked as the # 1 goalie.

8.6 If the Ottawa Jr. 67's Executive determines that;

8.6.1 The player did rate in accordance with #4 above; the VP of Operations will advise both coaches affected, and the player and his parents, that the player may remain at the higher level team if they both agree.

8.6.2 The player did not rate in accordance to #4 above; the VP of Operations will advise all parties involved that the player must return to play at, and with, his own level team.

### **9.0 Team Selection**

9.1 The guidelines and selection time-lines will be determined and finalized at the August coaches' meeting.

9.2 Coaches are required to have at least three evaluators. These individuals cannot be a parent or related to anyone trying out at that age level. The Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Executive must approve all evaluators.

9.3 There will be a separate goalie evaluation session held at each level.

9.4 All players must wear their Ottawa Jr. 67's tryout sweaters and socks during all tryout sessions. Please see Appendix "A" for additional details.

9.5 All Teams will select

**9.5.1** Bantam – minimum 17 players (2 Goalies, 6 Defense, 9 Forwards)

**9.5.2** Midget – minimum 18 players (2 Goalies, 6 Defense, 10 Forwards)

9.6 Bantam Levels



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When the AAA coaches are satisfied they have selected the players for their respective team, they may finalize their selections and notify the President and VP of Operations and their Team Liaison. The Team Liaison will arrange for a face-to-face meeting with the players reassigned and selected. The AAA coach is required to address and give feedback to all players. The Team Liaison will continuously update the Registrar of any releases and of the final team list after each release/selection session to ensure Competitive associations and home associations are notified of those returning players for those try-outs.

### 9.7 Midget Levels

The coaches at the Midget level should follow all guidelines expressed in 2.3.a above suitably adjusted for dates.

At the Midget levels only, the AAA coaches must finalize their selections and complete and submit the ODMHA player list no later than two days prior to their first league game.

**10.0** Coaches must NOT announce their selection(s) until they make the final decision. Neither should they inform some players that they have “made the team” which would automatically identify those players still “on the bubble”.

Any deviation from the above must first be approved by the VP Operations

### 11.0 President and VP Hockey Operations

11.1 Prior to the start of tryouts, identify any player trying out for a AAA team, who is a child or ward of:

- a. a member of the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Executive

11.2 Obtain a group of independent evaluators (who possess hockey knowledge). These individuals may consist of previous coaches, or current coaches who may evaluate at different levels than their own team level.

11.3 Arrange/schedule the independent evaluators to assess the players identified above, and rate them as being in”

11.3.1 the top third of players on the ice trying out or,

11.3.2 the middle third of players on the ice trying out or,

11.3.3 The bottom third of the players on the ice trying out.

11.4 These evaluations must be based on hockey sense, skills



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and abilities.

- 11.5 After each session, collect the independent evaluations and keep them sealed unless an appeal is received in writing concerning the release of a player identified in above.

**12.0 The final AAA roster must be immediately given to the President and Registrar who will notify the District Registrar.**

- 12.1 Once the initial team list has been submitted to the District Registrar, all player releases must have Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Executive approval.

### **Appendix – A Conditioning & Tryout Sweater Policy**

What follows is the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA Policy on Tryout Sweaters and socks. We are trying to simplify the ongoing process for Tryouts, in order to accomplish this goal all players will be given two (2) numbered sweaters (1 black & 1 white) and one pair of socks. The number on the sweaters will be that players' tryout number with the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA for the rest of his minor hockey career.

The sweaters are oversized and should last the player for 2-3 years. If a player should lose a sweater or both sweaters they will be expected to buy new sweaters. Each year at registration each player will be asked if they require new sweaters (1 or 2 and which color black or white) on their registration form.

In future seasons, all first time players attending tryouts will receive their first set of sweaters as part of their tryout fee. After which time, if a sweater is too small or lost, the player will be expected to buy a new set.

### **Appendix – B Parent Involvement in Tryouts Policy**

Parents of children "trying-out" for the Ottawa Jr. 67's AAA teams are not to be involved in the Selection Process. Involvement includes not only on-ice activity but extends to working with or for the Head Coach in any capacity during the try-out process. Violation of this policy will not be tolerated.