

EXCEPTIONAL PLAYER STATUS PROCESS

The rationale of the Exceptional Player Status process is to provide representative level players who display exceptional skill and ability at an 'elite' level to play up an age group provided they meet the requirements outlined below.

The player must be properly registered with the Ilderton Minor Hockey Association (IMHA) prior to the 1st Scheduled Tryout. All registration fees must be up to date and paid for the current season and any previous season(s) for a player to be considered for Exceptional Status.

Players Trying out for more than one (1) Representative team must pay an additional tryout fee for the second team. Players must also attend all Tryouts for their designated age group additional too the tryouts for the higher group requested. The fee amount for the additional tryout will be equal to the regular tryout fee.

The player must be eligible by residence as defined by OMHA boundaries.

Request for Exceptional Player Status and tryout request must be submitted in writing to the IMHA Secretary at least 10 days prior to the team's first scheduled tryout date.

Any player obtaining permission to try out as an underage player will only be allowed to try out for one higher aged team per season and only for the top representative team in the higher aged division. Players granted the opportunity to try out for the higher aged team will not be allowed to continue to any Additional Entry Rep Teams or Local League Teams in the higher age group.

Players will be evaluated by an Appointed Committee that will include (as a minimum) two IMHA Executive Members and two additional non-parent evaluators that are free of conflict. The Exceptional Status Evaluation Committee may advise the underage athlete of his/her non-selection at any point after the conclusion of the first try-out. At this time, the player would return to the tryout process for their own age group.

The Exceptional Status Evaluation Committee of the higher-aged team will determine the underage player's eligibility for continuation in the tryout and evaluation process no later than the conclusion of the third try-out. With the conclusion of the evaluations a decision will be made and is not eligible for an appeal.

An underage player may only be approved for selection to the higher-aged team on one of the following conditions:

- Is evaluated and ranked as the top goaltender (U11 to U18).
- Is evaluated and ranked as a top three (3) skater (U5 to U11)
- Is evaluated as a top 3 forward or a top 2 defensemen based on their declared tryout position (U13 to U18).

Representative teams from U5 through to U18 are allowed a maximum of two (2) underage player.

IMHA reserves the right at the Local League level to move players to a higher age division, if there is a shortage of players in a given age group to adequately roster teams.