

IMPORT POLICY

The GGHA is dedicated to providing a fun environment for females to develop self-esteem and confidence through hockey, by promoting team work, a strong work ethic and athletic commitment, which develops all members to be the best they can be as players, team mates, and leaders for now and for the future.

It is recognized that import players and their families can provide significant contributions both on and off the ice and that players residing in certain areas may have limited opportunities to play competitive hockey in their home centre. However, the GGHA strives to maximize competitive and development opportunities from girls within the Association. Therefore, restrictions are in place on the numbers of imports that are allowed on different teams. This is designed to strike a balance between competitiveness, providing opportunities to local players and players from other associations, and to maximize development of both individual players and the overall GGHA program.

Import definition

- 1) The following players are considered 'local' players and **are not** considered imports:
 - a. Players that live within the City of Guelph
 - b. Players who have not previously been registered with an OWHA-association or have only been registered in the GGHA.
 - c. Players that were on the roster of a GGHA team the preceding year.
 - d. Players from outside the City of Guelph that are not considered imports (through b-c above) but were released during tryouts and played elsewhere at a level higher than the next GGHA team (e.g. player was released from A and went to play A or BB elsewhere, if the next GGHA team was B).
 - e. Players from outside the City of Guelph that are not considered imports (through b-c above) that left to play at a level higher than offered by the GGHA (e.g. left to play AA when the highest GGHA team in that division is A). If they are rostered in another association for two consecutive years, they will lose their non-import status.
- 2) Resident players that decline an offered position, OR, do not try out for a GGHA team, AND subsequently play in a different association at or below that level are **not eligible to try out for the top tier team** the following year.
- 3) Players from outside the City of Guelph that decline, OR do not try out for a GGHA team AND subsequently play in a different association at or below that level permanently forfeit their eligibility to play for a rep team in the GGHA.
- 4) If there are enough non-import goalies to fill the goalie positions on all rep teams in the age group (e.g. if 4 non-import goalies try out for a division that has A and B teams), an import goalie that is selected will count towards the maximum number of imports.

- 5) Imports must be substantially better than any non-import players that are released. The GGHA board reserves the right to require documentation of evaluations and/or to appoint independent observers to judge the relative ability of imports and non-imports.
- 6) Any exceptions to the policy must be requested by the Head Coach or player's parent, and approved by a vote of the GGHA board.
- 7) Proof of address must be provided for all new players and any other players at the request of the GGHA Registrar.

Import numbers

Import numbers for each team will be determined by the GGHA Board annually by Jan 15. The Board may assign a team a total number of imports, or specify individual numbers for skaters and goalies.

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