



Policy	CGHA-009
Effective Date	August 19, 2022
Board Approval	August 19, 2022
Updated	April 3, 2025
Review	Annually

Competitive Tryout Policy

1. Objective

1.1. The objective is to provide players a fair opportunity to be evaluated through a standardized process that demonstrates transparency, fairness, and consistency.

1.2. The Clarington Girls Hockey Association (CGHA) encourages players to compete at the appropriate level to maximize their development as players and individuals. Meeting this goal will allow the association and its members to ice competitive teams at all levels of play.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. The tryout passport fee will be set annually by the CGHA Board of Directors. The mandatory tryout fee is to be paid in full to the CGHA before the beginning of the first tryout when registering/purchasing the passport.
- 2.2. Tryouts are open to all registered CGHA Residents, Non-Resident Players (NRPs) and OWHA Release Players.
- 2.3. Player residency and import eligibility rules will apply.
- 2.4. Proof of residency is required before the first tryout, please see the Residency Policy. https://claringtonflames.ca/Public/Documents/Resident_Eligibility_Requirements_for_Comp_Rep_Players_Policy_-_Updated.pdf
- 2.5. A Permission to Tryout (PTT) is required before the first tryout if the player is coming from another centre.
- 2.6. Head coaches should be aware of the OWHA (Ontario Women's Hockey Association) [Tampering Policy](#).

3. Before Tryouts Begin

- 3.1. The CGHA will follow the OWHA guidelines for tryouts.
 - 3.1.1. There will be a registration deadline for tryouts that will be posted on the CGHA website. It is encouraged to register early, regardless of the level your player wishes to

attend, as this assists us in determining the number of teams

- 3.1.2. Tryout passports can be purchased after the deadline by emailing the Registrar registrar@claringtonflames.ca and providing a PTT.
- 3.1.3. The tryout schedule will be posted on the CGHA website and social media.
- 3.1.4. Players are required to register for tryouts through RAMP.
- 3.1.5. After registering with RAMP, players will be assigned a unique tryout number that they will use throughout the process.
- 3.1.6. Tryouts will be held sequentially by tier.

4. Player Evaluation and Selection

- 4.1. The CGHA will hold tryouts to enable head coaches to assess and choose players in conjunction with independent evaluators. Once the head coach has selected their team, the board will approve the selection.
- 4.2. Players must attend tryout sessions to be considered for a team. Absences due to uncontrollable circumstances, must be discussed with the coach and forwarded to the Board, via email at tryouts@claringtonflames.ca for approval.
- 4.3 No player will be rostered to a team unless they have registered for tryouts, and expressed their desire to play for that team during selection. In other words, only players who participated in tryouts will be considered for rostering. After teams are selected, rostered and the season commences changes may be made to rosters at the discretion of the Board.
- 4.4 Coaches may roster a team, with a minimum of 15 players and two goalies but may roster up to 17 players and 2 goalies max. Any exceptions must be approved by the Board of Directors.

5. Objectives of Player Evaluations

- 5.1. To provide players a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team appropriate to their skill level as determined during evaluations.
- 5.2. To provide consistency in the evaluation process so that player and parent expectations are consistent as players progress through the association's program levels from year to year.
- 5.3. To form teams to maintain competitive play in which athletes can develop and participate equitably while having fun during the season.
- 5.4. To provide meaningful feedback to enable player development.

6. OWHA Team Recategorization

6.1. The CGHA Board of Directors, in collaboration with the coach, will decide the division that the team will participate in. The decision will be based on player skill level, evaluations and exhibition games completed during tryouts and until the end of September. In the event the two disagree, the Board of Directors shall decide. Example: Tier 1 teams may not play at AA due to their overall skill level and ability. If the Board of Directors determines there will be more development and success at a lower level ie: A, there will be a recategorization consideration aligning with OWHA deadlines and process.

6.2 The CGHA Board of Directors, in collaboration with the coaches, will determine if two teams can compete at the same level.

7. Communication

7.1. Communication with parents and players is a priority throughout the tryout process, and should include:

7.1.1. **Initial Coach Contact** – An introduction letter will be handed out at the first tryout to outline the coach's expectations for the season. Any questions regarding the season will be referred to the coach. A meeting will be held by the head coach throughout the tryout process.

8. Conflict of Interest

8.1. Efforts should be made to ensure that players are evaluated and selected fairly and objectively.

This includes:

- All efforts are made to adhere to the CGHA Conflict of Interest policy and that every effort is made to ensure that players are evaluated fairly. Working to eliminate the appearance of a conflict of interest on the part of anyone involved in player evaluation and selection.

9. Independent Evaluators

9.1. Each team will be assigned a minimum of one (1) independent and impartial evaluator by the CGHA Board of Directors. That evaluator must attest to having no Conflict of Interest in the age group of players which they are evaluating.

9.1.1. The evaluator must be presented and approved by the CGHA Board of Directors in advance of tryouts.

9.1.2. Additional evaluators, to be presented and approved in the same manner, may be provided by the head coach and/or CGHA to support the player selection process. 9.1.3. CGHA Approved Non-parent assistant coaches who do not have a conflict of interest with any of the players in the tryout process may work alongside the head coach during

the tryout process.

9.1.4. The head coach makes the ultimate decision when selecting their team, allowing them the freedom to select from among the top 20 ranked players (imports in the top third).

9.1.5. The independent evaluator is not there to argue minor differences (again, the head coach makes the final decision); they are there to confirm that the tryout process was conducted ethically and without obvious contradictions. *An impartial or independent evaluator is defined as an individual (non-parent and not related to a player in the tryout process) who has adequate hockey knowledge, experience, and expertise as approved by the Board.*

10. On-ice Instructors During Tryouts

10.1. During tryouts, on-ice instructors must be at least 18 yrs. of age.

11. Offers of Position

11.1. Players will be offered positions on the team via Offer of Commitment.

11.2. A CGHA player that is offered a position on a CGHA Representative Team is required to sign a CGHA Offer of Commitment within 24 hours to accept the offer and payment via RAMP to the association will be set yearly.

11.3. If the Offer of Commitment is not signed and payment is not received within the 48 hours, or declined the head coach, at their discretion, may release the player from the team and offer the position to another player previously released at their discretion, selecting from the remaining top # of players or top 1/3 of imports provided the import cap has not been reached. If no players remain within the top selections as presented, the head coach can select from the remaining eligible players within the top 25 or the top 2/3 of the imports provided the import cap has not been reached."

12. Releases

12.1. All player releases from each team will be managed through the CGHA website's team page, via the number assigned to them from RAMP. Releases will be posted within 24 hours of the completed tryout session.

12.1.1. The sign-in table will also have a copy of your players' unique number.

12.1.2. Families will be directed where to access the tryout list for each team online.

12.1.3. After tryouts, head coaches should make themselves available to players to discuss areas of opportunity and any other information on why they were not selected. Please observe 24 hours before reaching out to a coach for feedback.

13. Selection of Bench Staff

13.1. The head coach shall select their bench staff (assistant coaches, trainer, and

manager) and submit via email to the Director of Rep and Secretary for approval from the Board of Directors.

14.Code of Conduct

14.1. During the tryout process, all players, parents, and coaches are expected to adhere to the OWHA Code of Conduct, and Municipality of Clarington expectations.

14.2. Any behaviour contrary to the code or expectation will result in immediate expulsion from the tryout process.

15.Permission to Tryout (PTT)

15.1. If the CGHA is **not** your home centre, you will require a Permission to Tryout (PTT) form to attend tryouts. You will need to contact your **Home Association** to receive the PTT form. If you played in the CGHA the previous season, you do not need a PTT.

15.2. You need to register and pay for CGHA tryouts on RAMP.

15.3. All Non-Resident Players (NRP) players **MUST** bring and hand in a printed copy of their PTT form to the registration desk at their first tryout.

15.4. Failure to register, make payment, or provide a valid Permission to Skate Tryout Form (if necessary) could prevent you from being able to participate in tryouts.

16.Permission to Tryout Information for Current CGHA Players

16.1. You need to complete a CGHA PTT online request form, we require at least 48 hours' notice to process PTT requests.

16.2. You must submit one request for each PTT you need (e.g., each center, dates of tryouts, and level you are wishing to try out at).

16.3. No PTT will be issued until tryouts commence in April as directed by OWHA.

17.Import or Non-Resident Players

17.1. As a guide, the import should rank high in skill on the team.

17.2. OWHA released players count as an import.

Head Coaches may select up to the following import numbers set below.

Age Division	Tier One Team	Tier Two Team	Tier Three Team
U9	3	2	0
U11	6	3	2
U13	6	4	3
U15	8	4	3
U18	9	4	3
U22 (formerly Intermediate)	No limit, however, priority selection is given to non-import players		
Senior	No limit, however, priority selection is given to non-import players		

18. Non Resident Goalies

18.1. Non Resident goalies will be treated as residents.

CLARIFICATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS:

The goal of allowing a limited number of import players is to recognize player loyalty within the CGHA, as well as to support a feeder system in order to maintain the association's growth and competitive play.

In instances of ambiguity or conflict in interpretation, the Residency Policy shall take precedence.

SAMPLE IMPORT SITUATIONS:

I played for the CGHA last season only and live in Clarington.	NOT AN IMPORT
I played for the CGHA last season and live elsewhere.	NOT AN IMPORT
I am an OWHHA released player.	IMPORT
I played House League/Fundamentals for the CGHA and never played elsewhere.	NOT AN IMPORT
I live in Clarington and played in another OWHHA association last season	NOT AN IMPORT
I live in an area serviced by another OWHHA association.	IMPORT
I live in Clarington and have never played hockey before.	NOT AN IMPORT
I live in Orono /Newcastle/ Newtonville / Kendal / rural area around Clarington and have never played hockey before.	NOT AN IMPORT
I live somewhere where there is <u>no</u> closer OWHHA association and have <u>never</u> played hockey before.	NOT AN IMPORT
I live somewhere where there is <u>no</u> OWHHA association and I played <u>girls'</u> hockey somewhere else last year.	IMPORT

I live somewhere where there is <u>no</u> closer OWHA association and I played <u>boys'</u> hockey somewhere else last year.	NOT AN IMPORT
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19.Player Movement

19.1. Players cannot participate in higher-level teams unless granted exceptional status by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Example is if you have a U7 player and would like to be considered for U9. The Player can not move up more than one age division.

Revisions to this Policy

Section	Update	Date
Overall Policy	Overall Formatting and Grammar	February 2025
4.2 Player Evaluation and Selection	General email added for players to contact if missing tryout	February 2025
6. OWHA Team Recategorization	Addition about possibility of two teams at same division	February 2025
7. Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> clarified Role of Convenor removed 	February 2025
9. Tryout Convenor	Removal of Tryout Convenor role	February 2025
10. Independent Evaluator	Clarify	February 2025
11.2 Offers of Positions	How Initial payment is collected	February 2025
11.2 Offers of Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 hours to commit and make initial payment 	February 2025
15.3 Non Resident Players and Permission to Tryout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must bring a printed copy of PTT to first tryout 	February 2025

17. Imports	Goalies are not considered imports	February 2025
17. Import Numbers	u9T2- 2 Imports u11T1- 6 imports u11T2- 3 Imports u11T3- 2 Imports u13T1- 6 Imports u13T2- 4 Imports u13T3- 3 Imports u15T2- 4 Imports u15T3-3 Imports u18T1- 9 Imports u18T2- 4 Imports u18T3- 3 Imports	February 2025
Sample Import Situation	<p>I played for the CGHA last season but live elsewhere- Not an Import.</p> <p>I live in Clarington, but played in another OWHA association. Not an Import</p>	February 2025