



## Olds Minor Hockey Association: Non-Resident (Import) Policy and Procedure

**Organization:** Olds Minor Hockey Association (OMHA)

**Policy Name:** Non-Resident (Import) Policy

**Date of Policy Adoption:** 2024 (through Team Formation Handbook)

**Date of Policy Amendments:** August 19, 2024/August 26, 2025

**Policy Purpose:** The purpose of the Association's Non-Resident (Import) Policy is to comply with Hockey Canada and Hockey Alberta requirements when processing player imports. This policy is intended to give criteria and limitations to the Association when considering extenuating circumstances for player import considerations.

<b>Applicable Hockey Canada Regulation(s):</b>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
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<b>Applicable Hockey Alberta Regulation(s):</b>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
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<b>Applicable Olds Minor Hockey Association Bylaw(s):</b>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
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This policy is authorized under Article 3.7 (a)(i) of the Olds Minor Hockey Association bylaws.

### Olds Minor Hockey Association Policy:

#### *Resident Players:*

- Resident players are players that *meet the requirements set out in Hockey Canada's bylaws under "Section C: Residential Qualifications"*.
- Verification of residency may be requested of players under the Association's "Proof of Residency Policy".
- Players that do not meet the definition and requirements of resident players are considered non-resident (import) players; there are, however, the Association identifies sub-categories of non-resident (import) players, with specific processes and considerations for each sub-category.

#### *Eligibility to Apply for Non-Resident (Import) Player Status:*

- The Association will consider import requests from non-resident (import) players:



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- Whose home association has no team in their age division;
- Whose team in their home age division is full; or
- Who would like to apply for an exception to play in Olds Minor Hockey.

*General Processing of Requests to be a Non-Resident (Import) Player:*

- All applying non-resident (import) players must complete and submit the appropriate Hockey Alberta Player Movement Form.
- All completed player movement forms must be submitted to registrar@oldsmminorhockey.com by the registration deadline.
- Applying players must also provide a letter outlining the exceptional circumstances of their request for non-resident (import) status.
- Applications must be made on an annual basis for non-resident (import) players. There is no guarantee that non-resident (import) requests will be able to be accommodated by the Association every year, even if a player has been granted non-resident (import) status in previous seasons; however, if a non-resident (import) player with a permanent release is accepted by Olds Minor Hockey, there is no further requirement for the player to reapply for non-resident (import) status.
- Once a request for non-resident (import) status is approved, a link will be sent to the applicant to register, and the player must meet all other Olds Minor Hockey requirements to participate. Registration fees will be based on the date the “Player Movement Form” was submitted by the applicant to Olds Minor Hockey.

*Non-Resident (Import) Mainstream Players General Provisions:*

- In the event of surplus players in a specific age division, a resident mainstream player who registered before the registration deadline will be guaranteed a team placement ahead of a non-resident (import) mainstream player.

*AA Non-Resident Players (U11, U13, U15, and U18):*

*Category One: Non-Resident (Import) AA Male Player From Associations Within the Designated Hockey Alberta Recruitment Zone:*

- “Recruitment Area” for this category is as defined by Hockey Alberta.
- Olds Minor Hockey Association accepts non-resident (import) players for its U11 AA, U13 AA, U15 AA, and U18 AA teams from the following minor hockey associations, according to Hockey Alberta’s AA model.



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- The Association reserves the right to declare an “in need” for AA specific positions if the level of play among evaluated players is not to the expected competitive standard.
- There is no limit to the possible number of non-resident (import) players on each of Olds Minor Hockey’s U11 AA, U13 AA, U15 AA and U18 AA teams in this category of non-resident (import) players.
- Non-resident players who fail to secure a spot on an Olds Minor Hockey AA team must return to their home association.
- Players who may want to be considered for mainstream if they do not secure AA placement must submit their request for non-resident (import) mainstream consideration during the registration process.
- Players trying out for U11 AA must fill out a “Hockey Alberta Notification of Tryout Form”.

### *Category Two: Non-Resident (Import) AA Players From Associations Outside of the Designated Hockey Alberta Recruitment Zone:*

- When the Board of Directors approves a non-resident (import) player application in this category, it is an approval to tryout and only for AA.
- There is no limit to the possible number of non-resident (import) players on each of Olds Minor Hockey’s U11 AA, U13 AA, U15 AA and U18 AA teams in this category of non-resident (import) players.
- Non-resident players who fail to secure a spot on an Olds Minor Hockey AA team must return to their home association.

### *Female Non-Resident (Import) Players General Provisions:*

- The Association aspires to grow female hockey locally and is therefore committed to forming two female teams for each age division; however, prospective female non-resident (import) players may want to be aware of the following to ensure they safeguard their ability to play elsewhere if the Association reaches its female non-resident (import) limit:
  - The Association is committed to filling the maximum roster positions for the formation of two female teams for each age division;



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- While the Association generally requires female non-resident (import) players to form two teams per division, Olds Minor Hockey will give first priority to and protect roster positions for resident female players;
- Olds Minor Hockey will, having considered general registration numbers and all relevant criteria, notify female non-resident (import) applicants within seven days of close of registration if:
  - The female non-resident (import) player is assigned a roster spot;
  - Female non-resident (import) numbers will trigger non-resident (import) female tryouts; and/or
  - The Association intends to overage or underage players to eliminate the necessity of female tryouts.

### *Decision-Making for Non-Resident (Import) Applications:*

- The Board of Directors is the sole decision-maker on non-resident (import) players.
- The Board of Directors will consider player non-resident (import) requests by or at the first board meeting after the close of registration, and only if a completed player movement form has been submitted.
- The Board of Directors may consider additional non-resident (import) requests after non-resident (import) requests have been considered by the Board after the close of registration, subject to team formation process and considerations.

### *Additional General Criteria for Considering Player Import Status:*

- The Association endeavours to reasonably accommodate non-resident (import) requests, however, cannot guarantee that it can approve applications in any given season.
- When considering non-resident (import) requests, the Association will factor:
  - The general registration numbers of the Association and within age divisions;
  - Position needs in specific age divisions;
  - The first-priority commitment to resident players, where applicable;
  - Whether a player was previously approved as a non-resident (import) player; and/or
  - Relevant hockey history of the player.
- The Association, in accordance with Hockey Alberta requirements, will further consider player non-resident (import) requests in extenuating circumstances based on the following factors:



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- Location of workplace of parent(s)/guardian(s);
- Location of the school of the player;
- Distance of travel and/or accessibility to ice times for the player;
- Need for the player in the Association; and/or
- Other extenuating circumstances that are relevant considerations in compliance with Hockey Alberta requirements.

### *Ineligible Factors for Non-Resident Player (Import) Requests:*

The Association, in accordance with Hockey Alberta requirements, will not grant non-resident player (import) requests on grounds that are not considered extenuating circumstances such as tryout purposes only, coach preferences, teammate preferences, ice time preferences, or other similar factors.

**Policy Review:** This policy will be reviewed annually by the Olds Minor Hockey Association Board of Directors.

### **Policy Oversight:**

The Board of Directors is primarily responsible for the implementation of this policy, although there are policy accountabilities for all Association affiliates.

### **Operational Appendix:**

Hockey Alberta:

[www.hockeyalberta.ca/uploads/source/Forms/Player\\_Movement\\_Process](http://www.hockeyalberta.ca/uploads/source/Forms/Player_Movement_Process)