



## Team Formation and Player Policy

USA Hockey classifies ideal team sizes and birth year for 2024-2025 hockey season as:

10U: 10-12 skaters, 1 goalie (2014 & 2015)

12U: 12 skaters, 2 goalies (2012 & 2013)

14U 15 skaters, 2 goalies (2010 & 2011)

- ★ According to WAHA guidelines a player may only be rostered on a total of two teams. Therefore if a player is dual rostering they may not also cross roster and vice versa.

### Dual Roster of Players

By WAHA definition double rostering is when a player that meets age classification is registered with *more than one team in a different age classification* within the same association. For example: a 10U aged skater is rostered on her 10U team and also rostered on a 12U team. The player's primary commitment will be to her age level team schedule in all but extreme situations and when both team coaches and the girl's directors are in agreement.

Decisions for players to double roster will be based on the following criteria:

1. Co-op and/or coach request to fill a team roster
2. Current rostered skater is unable to play for an extended period of time due to illness, injury, or disciplinary situations creating a roster of less than ten skaters
3. Need for a second goalie

Players must register, practice, and play games with their age appropriate team only until a decision is made. Players who are asked to double roster must make all of her age level team's practices and games. When the older teams practices and games do not conflict the player may participate. Dual rostered players should be utilized only if necessary due to a shortage of players. Both older level and age appropriate level coaches need to be in communication of needs and work with team managers.

### Cross Roster

By WAHA definition cross rostering is when a *female skater is registered with one co-ed youth team and one girls team at the same age level.* For example: a female skater is rostered with a Coulee Region Stars 12U team and also rostered with her home association coed Peewee (12U) team. Cross rostering requests will be considered for: an association need to make a roster of 14 players or less, a goalie need, or another specific need identified by the association. Association presidents and the girls directors will make decisions on eligibility of cross rostering annually and submit all needed forms by November 15th. WAHA regional directors and the girls & women's section director will make all final decisions for cross roster requests.

Designation of a primary team must be communicated to the girls directors and association president no later than November 15th annually. A female skater that is cross rostering must designate a primary team which she will participate in all games, practices, tournaments, and activities with. Participation with the secondary team shall only occur when it does not conflict with the primary team, unless an agreement is made with coaches and girls directors. Both primary and secondary coaches need to be in communication of needs and work with team managers. If the skaters' age level has two girls teams, and the player makes the upper level girls team, this should be her primary team and her co-ed team should be her secondary. Playdowns and state will be played with the primary team and the skater will not be eligible to play with the secondary team if the secondary roster exceeds 14. In the event the primary and secondary team playdowns do not conflict, the skater may play with both only if the secondary team roster is less than 14. In the event her primary team does not qualify for a state tournament and the secondary team roster is less than 14, the skater can play with the secondary team.

### Roster Up of Players

Requests to roster up a level (not a dual roster request) may be submitted to the girls directors for review on a case by case basis when it is in the best interest of the co-op. Requests must be submitted in writing prior to evaluations/tryouts. Roster up requests are meant to allow a player to be rostered on a team one age level above their appropriate age level, making the upper age level her primary and only team.

Decisions for players moving up will be based on the following criteria:

1. Co-op and/or coach request to fill a team roster
2. Skater must be of second year age at her appropriate level of play
3. Movement of skater will not negatively impact either level team

Players must register, practice, and play games with their age appropriate team until a decision is made. Requests to move up will be reviewed for double roster opportunity prior to roster up so as not to leave any team with roster sizes that are not ideal. Requests will be reviewed in a timely manner and a decision will be communicated to the appropriate parties. If a decision is made to roster a skater up an evaluation/tryout will take place where the top ranked skater(s) will be picked out as potential roster up candidates.

### Roster Down of Players

Any roster down requests are to be submitted to WAHA. Requests will be reviewed for disability purposes only.

### After Evaluation Changes

Skaters are not typically allowed to change teams after evaluations take place. Changing teams can be team to team within the co-op or a CRS team to/from one of the associations co-ed teams. There may be situations that allow for consideration of changes in which the girls directors, coaches, and association boards will discuss and come to the best decision for all. Any such player change shall never result in a movement to a lower level team. Examples of changes that may be considered: permanent vacancies on a team, multiple roster depletions on a team, new/late player registration, or head coach evaluation of player misplacement.