

Airdrie Little League – Player Movement Policy

Introduction:

This policy document identifies the process and the considerations for moving players between divisions in Airdrie Little League. This policy aims to ensure that player movement is made fairly and with the best interest of the player, team, and the league in mind.

When players register to play in Airdrie Little League, they are automatically placed in the proper age division as defined by the league. Players playing with similar ages can benefit from social interaction and camaraderie, which can lead to a more positive overall experience.

The coaches of each team will be working with every player on the team regardless of their initial skill level to help them learn, improve, compete and develop a passion for the game.

The Process – Players Moving Up an Age Division

- Parents/Guardians must make a formal request to the league if they want the league to consider moving their player up an age group.
- A player moving to a higher age division will only be considered if they would enter that division in the next season based on the current season's Age Chart. Players younger than Airdrie Little League divisions are not to be accepted due to insurance policy.
- Players in Minors, Majors or Teenage divisions must be evaluated to determine if they are within the top 10 percent of their age group in terms of skill level before being considered for movement to a higher age division.
- A player will not be moved up an age division without the permission of the Parent/guardian.

The President of Airdrie Little League will decide if a player will be moved up an age division based on the following considerations and the input of the Vice President, Player Agent and Division Director.

Considerations:

Safety: Safety is the top consideration before deciding to move players up an age division. A player will not be moved up if there is a higher risk of injury due to the more advanced level of play.

Skill level: Players in Minors, Majors or Teenage will need to be in the top 10 percent of the next age group up in terms of skill level before being considered for movement to a higher age division. There is a risk that these players will not be able to compete or have as much fun when they are removed from their peer group and placed on a team of older players.

Emotional maturity:

Players need to have a high level of emotional maturity to handle the challenges of playing up an age division with and against older players.

Impact on team composition:

Moving a player from one division to another can significantly affect the balance of the teams and the league. Considering the impact of a player movement on team composition can help

ensure that current and future teams are competitive, balanced, and that the league remains strong.

Parents/guardians of the player will be informed of the decision. (If a player is moved to a higher age division and is not successful, the player may be moved back to their original division.)

The Process - Players Moving Down an Age Division

- Parents/Guardians must make a formal request to the league if they want the league to consider moving their player down an age group.
- A player will not be moved down an age division without the permission of the Parent/Guardian.
- The league has created an age appropriate developmental progression for all players to move through from Blast Ball to the Teenage Divisions.

The President of Airdrie Little League, with input from the Vice President, Player Agent and Division Director will assess the description of the special circumstances presented by the Parent/Guardian and decide if a player will be moved down an age division.

Parents/guardians of the player will be informed of the decision.

Conclusion:

By making player movement decisions with these considerations in mind, Airdrie Little League will work to ensure players have a positive and safe experience while promoting their development as athletes.