**New Hamburg Hockey -Exceptional player Policy**

**2015/2016**

*The policy applies to A level hockey*.

A player may try-out for a team in the age group above (ie Major Atom to Minor Peewee or Minor Bantam to Major Bantam) providing that they are an exceptional player.

An Exceptional Player is one who meets the following criteria

1. superior skills to players in his own age group
2. deemed to be in the top 3 players in the age group\*\*\* (including NRP’s) he/she is attempting to move up to, based on hockey skill level
3. possess the physical and social maturity to move up a classification
4. players returning from AAA automatically qualify

\*\*\*top 3 forwards or top 2 defense or top goalie

Players wishing to play in a division above their age category for the upcoming season must

e-mail the New Hamburg Hockey Office [nh\_ice@rogers.com](mailto:nh_ice@rogers.com) with their request no later than February 15th . Players will be advised by March 15th if they have been granted exceptional status.

The player will be evaluated during games (league and playoff) as well possibly team practices by an independent group appointed by the NHHA Executive. That group will determine if the player qualifies as an exceptional player. It will be up to the coach of the team that the “exceptional player” is trying out for to decide if they want to choose that player for their team.

(Being deemed an exceptional player doesn’t necessarily mean he/she will be selected)

If at any time during the process the parent(s) of the player(s) participating in the movement attempts to influence the coaches or evaluators, the process will be terminated.

If a successful “exceptional player” subsequently decides during the season that he/she no longer wishes to participate at the higher level the New Hamburg Hockey Executive will decide placement of said player.

NHHA executive strives to run a progressive association, with a strong emphasis on player development. New Hamburg Hockey philosophy remains the creation of strong teams through the creation of strong individuals.