



## Tryout Rules and Policies

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### **TRYOUT REGISTRATION:**

The OWA has mandated that ALL players attending tryouts must register in RAMP. This needs to be completed prior to participating in tryouts.

Please ensure that you register for the division/group that you will be playing for in the 2026-2027 season. There is NO cost for tryouts.

### **PERMISSION TO TRYOUT:**

Current NHGHA players do not require a PTT. All players who played with another organization will be required to bring a copy of your PTT to tryouts. These forms will be collected at the sign in table prior to each tryout session, be sure to bring a copy with you.

### **TRYOUT SCHEDULE:**

The tryout schedule can be found under the tryout tab on our website.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

You will need to check-in at the registration desk prior to each tryout. You will receive a pinnie number to wear over your jersey. Please keep this pinnie with you and do not remove it until tryouts are complete. Players are asked to sign in and be ready for tryouts at least 30 mins before each session.

### **IMPORTS**

Import players (players whose last registration was with any other girls' hockey association, either this year or in the past, regardless of residence) must have a signed OWA Permission to Tryout form from their last association to attend an NHGHA tryout. Players who have never played hockey or have only played co-ed hockey (i.e. Winterhawks, Thunder, etc.) are not considered imports and a Permission to Tryout form is not required.

The NHGHA's import policy permits AA coaches to sign unlimited import players. This year, a limited number of imports will be accepted at the following age groups.

U18A (1F, 1D)

U15 (2012 All Positions, 2013 Defense only)

U13 (2015 players)

U9 A, U9 C

Exceptions may be made by the Rep Director if for example a team requires an import to fill their roster or specific position. If you have questions about a specific level and the import status, please contact [rep@nhgha.com](mailto:rep@nhgha.com)



### **MINIMUM TRYOUT REQUIREMENT**

Players must try out for one level above the team they are currently playing on if staying in the same division. If moving up an age group, players must tryout at the same level as they are currently playing. For example, a minor player currently on the U15BB team must at least try out for the U15A team. A major player currently playing on a U13BB team must at least try out for the U15BB team.

An exception to the minimum tryout requirement may be granted by the Rep Director before tryouts for the minimum required level begin. If a player does not attend the first tryout at the minimum required level and return for each subsequent tryout to which she is invited, or if a player attends the appropriate tryouts and declines a spot offered on the team, the player will not be eligible to play rep for the 2026-2027 season.

### **PLAYERS UNABLE TO TRYOUT**

Any player who was unable to complete the prior season due to injury must provide medical clearance from a physician or nurse practitioner before tryouts. If a player is unable to obtain medical clearance to participate in tryouts, they may still be offered a spot on a representative team at the Head Coach's discretion with the approval of the Director, Representative Teams. The injured player must still register for tryouts and pay any required tryout fee.

If an injured player chooses to accept an offer for a spot on a team even though they were unable to participate in tryouts, they must accept, in writing, the responsibility to pay all assessed team and association fees for the entire season, even if as a result of the pre-existing injury they are ultimately unable to play for part or all of the season. They must also still obtain medical clearance before participating in any athletic activities in accordance with all applicable return-to-play policies.

The obligation to pay all assessed fees remains in force whether the Director of Representative Teams permits the team to replace the injured player on a permanent or temporary basis. Extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis.



## COMMITMENTS

Players who are offered a spot on a team will be asked to sign a commitment letter and pay an initial commitment fee which will be credited towards their team budget. Signing a commitment is exactly that - a "commitment" to your teammates, your coach, and the Twisters to play the full 2026/2027 season. The Twisters firmly believe in the importance of players having a choice of which organization to play for. But the time to exercise that choice is before committing, not afterwards.

Accordingly, no player who has accepted a commitment to any Twisters rep team for the 2026/27 season will be granted a release to play elsewhere unless the Board of Directors determines exceptional circumstances exist. A player seeking to abandon a rep team to which they have committed will also remain liable to pay their proportionate share of the entire year's team budget.

Requests for exceptional consideration should be directed to the Rep Director who will bring the matter to the Board for decision. The fact that a player may decide after the fact that a better opportunity is available afterwards is **NOT** an exceptional circumstance.