

Section 3: Player Eligibility Parameters

3.1 Grade Eligibility

Students must be in the ninth (9th) through twelfth (12th) grades and attend school full-time, to be eligible for a Varsity Team. Full-time school attendance will be defined as a student who is taking four (4) classes at his/her school. Students who are in the seventh (7th) to tenth (10th) grades and attend school full-time will be eligible for a Junior Varsity Team. ***7th and 8th grade students may NOT play Varsity. 11th and 12th grade students may NOT play JV. Exceptions MAY be made for goalies on a case by case, emergency basis.***

3.2 Age Restrictions

Any player who will turn nineteen (19) prior to September 1 for the following season will not be eligible to participate. *****The minimum age for a player in the league is 13. The player must turn 13 during the calendar year that the season begins. The maximum age for a JV player is 16. If a player turns 17 during the calendar year that the league season begins they may not play JV regardless of grade attended in school.***

3.2.1 Definitions

- Affiliated Player-A player who attends a school affiliated with a member club or resides in an area that is affiliated with a member club.
- Unaffiliated Player-A player who does not attend a school affiliated with a team or resides in an area not affiliated with a member club.
- Primary Address-Address where the player resides during the school year. Not a temporary address, 2nd home or relative's home.
- Club Assignments-All Unaffiliated player assignments will be made by the league advisory group.

3.3 Private School Students & Home-Schooled Students

If the private school the player attends has a member-team the player must play for their school. Students attending a private school that does not have a member-team must play for the member-club which represents the public high school attendance area in which the student resides. If the student lives in an area that does not support a team, the student will be placed on a team through the Leagues Unaffiliated Tryout process.

Home School students must play for the member-club which represents the public high school attendance area in which the student resides. If the student lives in an area that does not support a team, the student will be placed on a team through the Leagues Unaffiliated Tryout process.

3.4 Visiting Players

Players who are rostered on another ice hockey team outside the Dallas/Fort Worth Metropolitan area during the current season, will not be eligible to join a Varsity or Junior Varsity team, unless the player's family permanently relocates before the December 31st deadline to finish the current school year in the DFW area. Players who relocate to the DFW Metroplex must comply with the deadlines set forth in sections 3.2, 3.8, 3.9, and 3.10. The league may include full teams from outside the DFW area. A player whose family resides in DFW and plays on a team, other than Jr. A Tier 1 or 2 team may play high school hockey even if he/she plays on a team outside the metroplex. The player must meet all TAHA and league requirements to be eligible for the playoffs and/or state tournament.

3.5 Billeted Players

Players who are billeted in DFW for the purpose of playing hockey and/or training, will not be permitted to play in the league. The exception is a student that is part of a school, foreign exchange program.

3.6 Unaffiliated Players

The League will hold an unaffiliated registration prior to each season. Once registration closes, the League Advisory Group will assign the players to an existing Member Club, based upon geographic location and the Member Clubs need for players. Once the player is assigned to a Member Club, he/she will continue to play for that Member Club for the duration of his/her career in the AT&T Metroplex High School Hockey League, unless his/her school enters a Member Team, at the player's skill level, into the League, at which point the player will be required to play for the new Member Team or the player moves to an area affiliated with a member club.

Skill level is defined as JV or Varsity and NOT the different division levels within JV and Varsity. Unaffiliated players wishing to join the league after the unaffiliated open registration process has concluded but prior to the roster freeze, may apply to the league for a team assignment.

- Note 1: Unaffiliated players must complete the unaffiliated registration link and will then be assigned by the league Advisory Group. Clubs may not recruit unaffiliated players, and unaffiliated players may not solicit roster spots with clubs.
- Note 2: If a club rosters an unaffiliated player that did not get assigned by the league then that club will lose that player and the ability to receive additional unaffiliated players for one calendar year.
- Note 3: If a player refuses to join the team they are assigned to, they will not be assigned to another team that season. They may register as an unaffiliated player the following season.
- Note 4: The league will consider requests for a specific club but must assign players based on the following priorities; club need & players proximity to the school. The league must distribute

unaffiliated players as equally as possible to all teams requesting players.

Note 5: Players refusing an unaffiliated team assignment may choose to sit out the one calendar year. After 1 year the player may reapply for a different team assignment.

Note 6: Clubs do not have the ability to “release” players for the purpose of playing for another club. Rostering and playing for your local club is an integral part of the AT&T MSHSL and the fundamental difference between high school and house/travel leagues.

3.6.1 Players Cut by HOME TEAM

We encourage all clubs not to cut players. Clubs may offer a development program for players who may not be ready for league play. Players who are not ready for high school hockey should be encouraged to play in the DSMHL. Players who are cut will not be able to play for another league club. Clubs that cut players without league approval will not be eligible to receive unaffiliated players.

3.6.2 Player from non-participating teams.

If a club chooses not to participate in a season, players from the non-participating club may not play for another club.

Section 3.7 Junior A Players

Players who are rostered on a Junior A-Tier 1 Junior A-Tier 2, as of October 1 of the year in which a season begins, will not be eligible to participate in the League.

Section 3.8 Proof of Eligibility

Each Member Team shall be required to complete a SAF, including signatures, and return to the League, no later than the start of the pre-season leveling tournament. Any Member Team who has not submitted their completed SAF will not be eligible to participate in any League games until the form has been completed and submitted.

Any player who is added to the Member Team’s roster after the SAF has been submitted must complete an individual Eligibility Verification Form before he/she will be permitted to play in any League games.

Section 3.9 Students who Move and/or Change Schools

Students who move and/or change schools on or prior to December 31 of the year in which a season begins must play for the Member Club representing the school/area that the student is transferring to, unless one (1) of the following two (2) conditions is met:

1. The student’s new school does not have a Member Team within the League, [or](#)
2. The student’s new school’s Member Team is full.

In the event that one (1) of the above two (2) conditions is met, the player shall complete the current season on the Member Team that represents the school the player started the season with. However, in the following season, the player must try out for the Member Team representing the school he/she has relocated to. If the player's new school/area does not have a Member Team, he/she must petition the League for an exemption for future seasons.

Students moving after 12/31 of their Junior season and prior to 12/31 of their Senior year may continue to play their final year of eligibility with their previous club or play for the club from their new school/area.

Students who change schools after December 31 of the year in which a season begins, will be permitted to complete the current season with the Member Team that the player started the season with. However, the following season, the player must try out for the Member Team which represents the school he/she has relocated to. If the player's new school does not have a Member Team, he/she must petition the League for an exemption for future seasons.

"Players whose families move during the season will be eligible for playoffs with their new team provided that they meet the minimum league requirements for games played using the total games played for their primary team on both clubs. This rule is for league play only and does not apply to State Tournament games"