## DRAMHA Team Composition Guideline

## Deep River and Area Minor Hockey Association (DRAMHA) supports Competitive Hockey. To this end, DRAMHA will request from players an indication of their interest in playing at the Competitive level by formally selecting Competitive hockey during the registration process, and will require receipt of such registration by August 1st. DRAMHA will support tryouts at every level in conjunction with the following framework:

## Pre-requisites

## A suitably qualified coach has been selected in accordance with the dates listed in the coach selection policy.

## If total numbers at an age-level are 17 or less, or if interest in competitive is 7 or less, the competitive program will be placed on hold for that particular season.

## Guideline

## DRAMHA strives to achieve a minimum of 10 skaters per team, and considers 10-15 skaters per team as being ideal. The subcommittee described in Section 4 below will decide on team composition and tryout structure, including the potential extending of tryout invitations to external associations in an attempt to achieve the minimum or ideal numbers of players to support two teams, with a goal of a competitive and house team being formed.

## Where viability of competitive hockey at a given age-level is questioned due to the overall skill level, the concern shall be raised in writing to the executive well in advance of the coming season. The strength of the group can be evaluated using a DRAMHA approved evaluation method; and based on the results, the sub-committee/executive will render a decision.

## Since it is the aim of minor hockey programs to allow everyone an opportunity to play, a Competitive team will not be formed at a particular level within the DRAMHA if its formation means numbers for a House league team at the same level will fall below 11 total players, unless approved by the executive.

## A sub-committee shall be formed at each level to agree on the competitive tryout strategy, including Competitive level coach, House-league coach, Director of Competitive Level, Director of House-league and President DRAMHA. The sub-committees shall meet at a pre-specified time in late August or early September to finalize the proposed tryout strategy at each level. If one or more sub-committee members are absent, or the positions are vacant, a suitably informed delegate shall be appointed by DRAMHA President to form a complete quorum at each level. All issues shall be brought to the table at the sub-committee quorum, including the proposed numbers of each team, and decisions made at the quorum shall be considered final to allow the conditioning week to be planned, and the competitive tryout strategy to be communicated to the parents within that level.

## Where no Competitive team will be formed at a particular level within the DRAMHA, the Executive will attempt to facilitate transfers for players wishing to try out at other associations. In order to participate in tryouts at another association, DRAMHA must not be offering a Competitive team at the player’s level, the player must be invited by the new association to attend tryouts, and the player must obtain a Permission to Skate form approved by the President of DRAMHA, the President of the tryout association, and the Chair of District 5.

## Players trying out for Competitive Hockey must make every attempt to attend all tryout sessions for their level.

## A player who declines a place on a DRAMHA competitive team or who does not attend tryouts may not request a transfer to another Association if that request jeopardizes the existence of the Deep River competitive team.

## Due to the pre-requisite numbers listed in the table above, tryouts may not be eligible to proceed until tryouts from neighbouring associations are completed. Every attempt shall be made by the association to support this schedule, and conduct tryouts immediately following those of our neighbouring associations. The sub-committee will review an interim conditioning strategy to ensure the ice-time is utilized to the benefit of all competitive and houseleague players.

## Transfer players will not be allowed on the ice until an approved Permission to Skate form has been received by the DRAMHA President and Registrar.

## Tryout evaluations shall be conducted by a minimum of 2 impartial evaluators. Every attempt shall be made by the competitive level coaching staff to arrange for qualified evaluators from outside the Deep River area and DRAMHA organization. However due to schedules and demographics, it is understood that this may not always be possible. Evaluators from within the organization can include hockey personnel including executive, other competitive level coaches and managers who have minimal direct interest in that particular age-group.

## If agreements cannot be reached at the sub-committee level, the issue shall be tabled for executive vote.

## Competitive Hockey Best Practices:

## Although not mandatory, the following items should be given due consideration as best practices:

## It is encouraged to have a minimum of 12 skaters on a competitive team, particularly at the older / contact levels to ensure the sustainability of that team during the season

## It is encouraged that all competitive teams have 2 goalies. Attempts shall be made by the competitive team coaching staff to secure a second skilled goalie. If required, the second goalie shall be a transfer participant from outside the association, and if possible, have at least 3 goalies tryout for the team to ensure a competitive tryout.