



SPMHA Special Event Permit Approved Exceptions: On Ice Assistants

Recognizing the immense benefit for players & coaches to have an older aged player or a coach from another division assist at a practice, SPMHA has adopted the following special event permit (SEP) exceptions.

No SEP is required:

- A.) An individual 18 years of age or older holding an approved carded position (coach, asst. coach, etc.) on a SPMHA or SPKAC team in the current season may assist on ice with ANY SPMHA divisional team during an assigned practice. The assistance of the carded individual must be approved by the practicing team head coach and there must be no known or perceived personal conflicts with any minor player on the practicing team. The carded individual must be in good standing with their current team and said individual cannot assist while serving a suspension.

- B.) A minor player (under the age of 18 years as of Dec 31st of the current season) in the divisions of peewee, bantam or midget (male or female), holding an approved team card assignment with a SPMHA or SPKAC team in the current season, may assist on ice during an assigned practice in the role of a “visiting coach” with an SPMHA team under the following conditions:
 - i. The minor player must be in **full equipment** (including helmet with face mask) while participating on the ice with teams that are 1 division below theirs. This means that a midget player requires full equipment to assist a bantam team but peewee & below they are permitted to wear *at minimum* a helmet, gloves, skates & track suit.
 - ii. The minor player is acting in the role of a “coach” and as such must demonstrate maturity, a positive attitude and good behaviour at all times. The minor player must be cognisant that the players on the practicing team are younger & less skilled so attention must be directed to all players, not just a select few. There is no role for slap shots or other unsafe hockey skills.
 - iii. The minor player can only assist on teams that are at least one division lower than where they are currently playing. For example, a midget player can assist with bantam or lower division; a bantam player can assist with peewee or lower division; a peewee player can assist with atom or lower division.
 - iv. The assistance of the minor player must be approved by the practicing team head coach and there must be no known or perceived personal conflicts with any minor player on the practicing team. The minor player’s primary team games & practices must always take priority over assisting with another team.
 - v. The minor player must be in good standing with their current team and cannot assist while serving a suspension.
 - vi. A maximum of **two** minor players may assist at the same practice unless prior approval is granted by the practicing team divisional VP.

In consideration of the Hockey Canada risk management procedures, it is critical that these processes are followed as detailed above and as in the Hockey Canada *Safety Requires Teamwork* document. The use of a visiting coach or player is a privilege and misuse of this procedure will result in suspension of this process.