

AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION ILLINOIS, Inc.

"Dedicated to the development of today's youth
through Athletic and Academic excellence."



USA Hockey Girls' Tiering Criteria

Approved by USA Hockey Youth Council June 5, 2009

Tier I Girls Hockey

The general intent of Tier I Girls Hockey is to provide an opportunity for the best female athletes to develop and compete at the highest level of hockey available in the United States, at 19 & Under, 16 & Under, 14 & Under, and 12 & Under, by and through USA Hockey and the Affiliate. Tier I hockey is for the best female athletes who wish to advance to the Tier I National Championships.

- A. Tier I organizations register Tier I teams and advertise them as such for tryouts, to recruit, entice, or in any way give the appearance of being a Tier I Program.
- B. Players must be properly registered with USA Hockey as per the USA Hockey Annual Guide.
- C. Tier I coaches and all assistants must abide by the USA Hockey CEP criteria defined in the Annual Guide.
- D. Tier I teams can recruit players and have open tryouts. Each organization may field no more than one team at each level that can advance to a National Championship. No player shall be solicited nor shall the possibility of playing Tier I hockey be discussed with any player, prior to the conclusion of the USA Hockey National Tournaments except for an existing Tier I player for the particular Tier I Organization for which that player played during the existing season and then only by that Tier I Organization.
- E. Rosters at the 19 & Under and 16 & Under levels should not have out-of-district player restrictions. Rosters will be limited to a maximum of four (4) out-of-district players for levels 14 & Under, and 12 & Under. Residency is based on where the player's parent resides. An appeal can be made for a waiver if the number exceeds four. The District or Affiliate can impose stricter requirements if needed.
- F. Tier I teams have the intent to play at the highest competitive level possible.
- G. Tier I teams should include as a minimum or build their programs to include: strength & conditioning, on-ice skills, tactics & habits, hydration and recovery, mental preparation, training elite athletes, training and opportunity for upward mobility.

Tier II Girls Hockey

The general intent of Tier II Girls hockey is to provide an opportunity for intermediate female players to develop and compete in the United States at 19 & Under, 16 & Under, 14 & Under, and 12 & Under, by and through USA Hockey and the Affiliate. Tier II hockey is for intermediate level players who wish to advance to the Tier II National Championship.

- A. Tier II teams register as Tier II. Tier II denotes an intermediate level of competition.
- B. Tier II teams may participate in league play and players must be properly registered with USA Hockey as per the USA Hockey Annual Guide.
- C. Tier II coaches and assistants must abide by the USA Hockey CEP criteria defined in the Annual Guide.
- D. Tier II tryouts are open tryouts and any team can apply to a Tier II league provided they meet all Affiliate Association Girls' and USA Hockey registration rules.
- E. Rosters will be limited to a maximum of four (4) out-of-district players for all levels: 19 & Under, 16 & Under, 14 & Under, and 12 & Under. Residency is based on where the player's parent resides. An appeal can be made for a waiver if the number exceeds four. The District or Affiliate can impose stricter requirements if needed.
- F. It is strongly suggested Tier II teams or clubs refrain from openly recruiting outside their defined boundaries or outside their member organizations.



Sanctioned Affiliate of USA Hockey