

Minimum Bench Strength and Affiliated Player (AP) Information Sheet

Minimum Bench Strength

U7 to U9

Minimum Bench Strength: 13 players

If a team has 12 or less players available, an AP player can be called up

U10 to U15

Minimum Bench Strength: 15 players

If a team has 14 or less players available, an AP player can be called up

U16 to U21

Minimum Bench Strength: 13 players

If a team has 12 or less players available, an AP player can be called up

GOALIES ARE INCLUDED IN THE MINIMUM BENCH STRENGTH COUNT

Exceptions can be made if the team is at minimum bench strength but does not have a goalie

Teams who do not meet the Minimum Bench Strength may call up Affiliated Players (APs) to make up the difference

The minimum number of players to start a game is 6 players or 5 players and a goalie

Affiliated Players

A “chain affiliate” is a Select team from the same member club

A “house league affiliate” is a House League team from the same member club

U7 to U10

A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate in a **lower tier** of the same age division, or

A player may be brought up from a house league affiliate of the same age division

U11 to U13

A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate in a **lower tier** of the same age division, or

A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate **One Year below** the age division, or

A player may be brought up from a house league affiliate of the same age division

U14 to U21

A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate in a **lower tier** of the same age division, or

A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate **up to Two Years below** the age division, or

A player may be brought up from a house league affiliate of the same age division

Affiliated Players (continued)

An AP must be distinguished as such on the electronic game sheet.

A team may **ONLY** call up an AP if the team is **below** their minimum bench strength, and may only call up enough APs to reach the appropriate minimum bench strength

Teams may use **a maximum of five (5) AP's in any one game**

After January 15th, individual players from **Chain Affiliation** teams may be used five times as an AP in regular season or playoff games; once a player plays a 6th game with the team they must be added to that team's roster and may only play on that team. The five (5) games played, may include a maximum of two (2) playoff games.

After January 15th, individual players from **House League Affiliation** teams may only play on one select team. The individual player can play a maximum of 5 regular season games plus a maximum of two (2) playoff games.

Examples:

Scenario 1

A team in U8 Tier Three would like to call up a player from U8 Tier Two of the same chain affiliation. Is this allowed?

No. A player in the U8 age group can only call up an AP from a chain affiliate team in a **lower tier** or the house league of the same division and not from a higher tier team.

Scenario 2

A team in U13 has 17 players rostered and 2 are away for their game next week. The team will have all 15 remaining players available for the game. They would like to call up 2 AP's from the U12 of the same chain affiliation to fill their spots. Are they allowed?

No. The U13 team has 15 players available and meets their minimum bench strength requirement. They are not allowed to call up an AP in this scenario.

Scenario 3

A team in U9 Tier One will only have 9 players available for their next game. They decide to call up 4 players from their chain affiliation in Tier Two. Is this allowed?

Yes. The U9's can call up AP's from a chain affiliation in a lower tier, they are within their 5 player maximum for any one game and will not exceed the minimum bench strength of 13 for their age group.

Scenario 4

After January 15th, an AP plays 2 games in the Winter Season and 2 games in the playoffs. The team is requesting them again for a 3rd playoff game. Is this allowed?

No. Though the AP may play 5 games total after January 15th, they are only allowed to play a maximum of 2 games in the playoffs.