

Frequently Asked Questions

Dual Participation in Sanctioned and Non-Sanctioned Programming

Q1: Can my child play in both a BC Hockey-sanctioned program (like RMMHA) and a non-sanctioned league (like HPL, JPHL, etc.) during the season?

A: No. Under BC Hockey's current policy, players who participate in any non-sanctioned games after the designated cut-off date (typically September 30) are ineligible to participate in sanctioned programming for the remainder of the season.

Q2: What happens if a player is found to be participating in both?

A: BC Hockey may declare the player ineligible. If BC Hockey instructs us to remove an athlete from a roster, RMMHA will comply with that decision. Refunds, if applicable, will be issued according to our refund policy.

Q3: Does RMMHA investigate or monitor who is playing in non-sanctioned leagues?

A: No. RMMHA does not actively investigate or monitor NSL participation. However, if someone has verifiable evidence (e.g., published rosters, promotional materials, game footage), it must be submitted via email to the RMMHA President at president@ridgemeanowshockey.com. If the concern appears valid, RMMHA may forward it to BC Hockey for review. We do not make eligibility decisions independently and will await direction from BC Hockey.

Q4: Can my child still attend non-sanctioned camps or development sessions?

A: Yes — as long as they are not participating in games after the cut-off date. Skills development and private training are not restricted under BC Hockey's policy.

Q5: What if a player has already registered with RMMHA and then joins a non-sanctioned team mid-season?

A: If this is confirmed by BC Hockey, the player will be removed from the RMMHA roster, and a refund will be provided in accordance with [RMMHA's Refund Policy](#).

Q6: Why doesn't RMMHA enforce this rule more directly?

A: As this is a BC Hockey policy, BC Hockey is responsible for enforcement. Our primary role is to support athletes and families in having exceptional minor hockey experiences, maintaining the integrity of our programming without acting as investigators. As a BC Hockey member association, we will uphold the application of this policy as directed.

Q7: Will my child be judged for playing in a non-sanctioned program?

A: No. RMMHA does not view participation in other programs as a reflection of loyalty or commitment. Every family is encouraged to determine what is best for their athlete. Athletes selected for RMMHA competitive 'A' teams must ensure RMMHA remains their top priority.

Q8: I heard there were athletes participating in both sanctioned and non-sanctioned programming last season. Why is this season different?

A: Last season, there was confusion across many associations — including ours — about how the BC Hockey Non-Sanctioned League (NSL) policy was to be interpreted and enforced. While efforts were made to support athlete participation, it became clear through direct communication with PCAHA that athletes are not permitted to participate in both sanctioned and non-sanctioned games after the cutoff date. This season, RMMHA is taking proactive steps to provide clear guidance to families and teams so everyone understands the policy and how it will be handled.

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