



Avalon Minor Hockey Association
244B Pennywell Road
PO Box 5783
St. John's, NL
A1C 5X3

13th July 2026

To: Membership of Avalon Minor Hockey Association (AMHA)

Re: AMHA Player Release Policy

The Board of Avalon Celtics Minor Hockey Association has carefully reviewed and considered its approach to player release requests from past years, including requests from the 2025-2026 season. The new policy for the 2026-2027 season will be as follows (and will remain the policy unless changed by the Board in the future):

1. Any player who was granted a release under the AMHA/SJMHA U11/U13 All-Star Pilot (the "Pilot") for the 2025-2026 season will not be required to return to the Avalon Celtics Minor Hockey Association for the 2026-2027 season;
2. Any player who was granted a release for the 2025-2026 season outside the Pilot is required to return to their home association in accordance with applicable Hockey Canada By-Laws, and;
3. Going forward, player release requests will not be granted absent extenuating circumstances and are to be executed in accordance with applicable Hockey NL and Hockey Canada requirements.

While the Board will deal with each request on a case-by-case basis, an "extenuating circumstance" will not be established unless a player release refusal would result in a material negative impact to the health/safety/well-being of the player. The Board would require appropriate documentation to assess and determine whether extenuating circumstances exist, with the sufficiency of such documentation being in the Board's discretion.

A player preference (or a family member's / legal guardian's preference for the player) to play with a team in another association, whether for reasons of perceived competitiveness or player development, friendships in the other association, or any other reason based on preference, will not be considered an "extenuating circumstance" for purposes of this policy.

Sincerely, on behalf of the Avalon Minor Hockey Association (AMHA) Board,


Ward Avery, P.Eng.
President