

CHESTERMERE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

POLICY and PROCEDURES

**CMHA EVALUATION POLICY**





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## GENERAL INFORMATION

Each year, the Chestermere Minor Hockey Association (CMHA) undertakes the task of placing players on teams. The ultimate goal of this process is to provide players with the best possible experience in an environment where they can grow as hockey players and young people.

This document has been designed to ensure the Evaluation Process is a fulfilling and positive experience for all by providing a conceptual framework supported by a number of practical evaluation tools and resources designed to make the process as transparent as possible.

Key areas of focus include evaluator objectivity, clear and concise lines of communication, effectively run ice sessions, definitive roles and a succinct reflection and feedback mechanism will all play a vital role in developing and building an effective player evaluation process.

Player evaluation and placement, like player development, is a process - effective management of the process will make a young players experience in hockey a more positive one.

## OBJECTIVES OF PLAYER EVALUATION

- To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's total hockey skills during the skating and scrimmage sessions.
- To ensure that players have a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team appropriate to their skill levels as determined during the on-ice evaluations of the current year.
- To provide coaches with the opportunity and flexibility to build a team based in part on their own coaching philosophy and knowledge of player skills and attitude.
- To provide uniformity and consistency in the evaluation process such that a player and parent expectations are consistent from year to year as players move through the various levels of the association's programs.
- To form teams to maintain balanced and competitive play where the athletes can develop and participate equitably and have fun playing hockey during the season.
- To provide feedback in order to develop players.

## EVALUATIONS

Level Specific Information:

### U7 HOUSE LEAGUE

**Evaluations:** U7 evaluations will be run under the CMHA Evaluation policy

- CMHA goal is to make the teams as even as possible at the beginning of the season to facilitate the house league program.

**Notification:** All players will be notified by the U7 Coordinator as to what ice time they are on for any conditioning and evaluation.

**Ice Times:** U7– 2 Conditioning, 2 Evaluation Games

**Conditioning:** During conditioning the on-ice coaches will run the players drills as set out by CMHA to get them ready for the evaluations.

Conditioning Group Chart

Number of registered players	
19 or less	One group
20 to 35	Two groups
36 to 50	Three groups
51 to 64	Four groups
65 to 85	Five groups
86 to 100	Six groups

**Evaluations:** U7 will be evaluated during game play

**Group Set Up:** Conditioning and Evaluations groups will be divided into 1<sup>st</sup> year players and 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> year players.

## Team Selections

The teams will be drafted by the coaches selected by the Hockey Development Director.

- No special requests will be allowed with the exception of siblings.
- The coach's child will not be involved in the draft.
- The coaches will draft one (1) player at a time.

**The draft will be run using the chart below:**

Teams	Top 1-15 as per Evaluations	16-35 as per Evaluations	36-55 as per Evaluations	56-75 as per Evaluations	76-?? as per Evaluations
Red	Draft 3	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft???
White	Draft 3	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft???
Orange	Draft 3	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft???
Black	Draft 3	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft???
Blue	Draft 3	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft 4	Draft???

## U7 Season

CMHA will have its U7 house league start at the beginning of November with the focus on skill development for the first 6 weeks. Each team will play each other 2-3 times a season and be given 3-4 extra ice times to invite other surrounding teams (Indus, Calgary, Strathmore, Okotoks, Airdrie etc.) to come and play an exhibition game.

**Game Play Rules:** The following will be the rules of game play for all CMHA U7 house games and exhibition games.

- Game time is 1 hour.
  - 2 Periods of 27 minutes run time with 5 minute warm up
- Players shifts will be 3 minutes
- Playing surface should be maximum 8,500 sq./ft (100' x 85') (half ice with barriers).
- 3 goal limit per player (NO Exceptions)
- Coaches are to ensure that each player is to play all positions during the game
- Coaches need to rotate goalies every shift during all house league games and exhibition games. Teams are welcome to use a goalie stick (sticks will be provided by CMHA)
- 4 on 4 play with a goalie.
- No score is kept.
- All U7 players should have an opportunity to play goal and all players should rotate through the goalie position throughout the season.
- Blue Puck: recommended for U7 game play.

**Tournaments & Exhibition Games:**

- Teams will be given travel permits for 2 overnight tournaments.
- Travel permits must be obtained through the League Director as early as possible for tournaments outside Zone 6.
- Teams may attend as many local tournaments as they wish as long as they don't interfere with the house league schedule and they obtain a travel permit, if required. Local tournaments being in the following areas:
  - Calgary, Okotoks, and High River (NEED Travel Permit).
  - Cochrane, Strathmore, Indus, and Airdrie (NO Travel Permit needed).
- Hosting an exhibition game will require an exhibition permit obtained from the League Director requested as soon as a game is scheduled.
- A travel permit obtained from the League Director is required to attend any away exhibition game outside of Zone 6.
- Each team can return a maximum of 2 house league games. The following rules must be followed.
  - You must communicate to the team you are scheduled to play of the change. You must also make the U7 Coordinator and the Ice Director aware of the ice time you would like to hand back. This must happen at least two weeks prior to the scheduled time. This will allow the team that you were going to play time to find an alternative. Where you can offer more than two weeks' notice that will be appreciated and helpful to the opposing scheduled team.
- Your team cannot hand back ice against the same opposing team more than once. So, if you have already handed back ice against U7 Blue you cannot do it a second time.

## U9 & U11

**Notification:** All players will be notified by their level coordinator as to what ice time they are on for any conditioning and evaluation

- Conditioning for U9 and U11 will start the week after Labor Day.
- Once the groups are selected, the coordinator will send out an email to notify the players as to what group they are in.

### Ice Times:

- U9 – 2 conditioning, 1 skill evaluation (speed testing), 3 evaluation games
- U11 – 2 conditioning, 1 skill evaluation (speed testing), 3 evaluation games

**Conditioning:** During conditioning the on-ice coaches will run the players drills as set out by CMHA to get them ready for the evaluations.

- The drills set forward by CMHA will be used in the U9 and U11 skill evaluation (speed testing)

### Conditioning Group Chart

Amount of registered players	
19 or less	One group
20 to 35	Two groups
36 to 50	Three groups
51 to 64	Four groups
65 to 85	Five groups
86 to 100	Six groups

**Conditioning:** Conditioning groups will be set up by the Operations Director prior to the start of conditioning.

**Evaluations:** U9 and U11 will have 1 skill evaluation (speed testing) and 3 evaluation games

- After the speed testing, U9 and U11 players will be divided up into teams to play in the games with the scores based on their skill evaluation.
- U9 games will run 60 minutes
- U11 games will run for 90 minutes
- U11 Goalies will attend separate conditioning ice times run by the Goaltending Committee.
- U11 Goalies will be evaluated by the Goaltending Committee and placed in the level of evaluation game
- U11 Goalies will be then evaluated during their game play
- All other goalie information in the goalie section of the policy.

### Group Set Up:

- Groups will be divided up after the skill evaluations are done.
- After each evaluation game the groups may be readjusted according to their current evaluation scores to help better identify the interface players. Interface players are typically harder to

rank due to the small differences in skill level between them. This readjustment helps both the evaluators and the player by giving them a better opportunity to show their skills against players of similar caliber.

- The Evaluation Committee will try to move as many players and goalies as they see fit in order to challenge an athlete within various competition levels.
- At CMHA's discretion, the top 5 (as ranked by the evaluation scoring system) may be asked to stay home for the final ice time.

**Team Selection:** U9 and U11 teams are divided up based on the average scores the players receive from their evaluations.

- Players are placed on their teams by their total evaluation score
- The score is made up of the following:
  - Speed Testing 10%
  - Game 1 30%
  - Game 2 30%
  - Game 3 30%
- If there are players that are very close in score, the Coach selected will choose the player (s) to make the team
- No coaches are selected prior to a team being finalized unless there is a choice to be made above
- U11 Goalies are placed on their teams by the Goaltending Committee
  - Decision comes from a combination of scores from skills evaluation along with game play.
- The maximum team size of the U9 team is 18 players (as per Hockey Alberta).

**Game Play Rules for U9:** The following will be the rules of game play for all U9 games and exhibition games.

- Game time is 1 hour.
  - 2 Periods of 27 minutes run time with 3 minute warm up
- Players shifts will be 1.5 minutes (use buzzer for line changes).
- Playing surface should be maximum 8,500 sq./ft (100' x 85') (half ice with barriers).
- 4 on 4 play with a goalie.
- No score is kept (game summary or game sheet is required for U9).
- All U9 players should have an opportunity to play goal and all players should rotate through the goalie position throughout the season.
- Blue Puck: recommended for U9 game play.



## U13, U15 & U18

**Notification:** All players will be notified by their level coordinators as to what ice time they are on for any conditioning and evaluation:

- Conditioning for U13, U15, and U18 will start approximately 2-3 weeks after U7, U9, and U11.
- Once the groups are selected the level coordinator will send out an email to notify the players as to what group they are in.

### Ice Times

- U13 – 2 conditioning, 1 skills evaluation (speed testing), 3 evaluation games,
- U15 – 2 conditioning, 1 skills evaluation (speed testing), and 3 evaluation games
- U18 – 2 conditioning, 1 skills evaluation (speed testing), and 3 evaluation games

**Conditioning:** During conditioning the on-ice coaches will run the players drills as set out by CMHA to get them ready for the evaluations. Drills will be posted on the CMHA website prior to the first conditioning ice time.

### Conditioning Group Chart

Amount of registered skaters	
17 or less	One group
18 to 34	Two groups
35 to 50	Three groups
51 to 64	Four groups
65 to 85	Five groups
86 to 100	Six groups

**Evaluations:** U13, U15, and U18 will have 1 skill evaluation (speed testing) and 3 evaluation games.

- Skills evaluations will run 1 ¼ to 1 ½ hour depending on the size of the group in each level.
- Goalies will attend all conditioning ice times with the players. Goalies will also attend 1 separate goalie-only conditioning (ALL goalies to attend). Goalies will also have 1 separate goalie evaluations. All other goalie information in the goalie section of the policy.

**Group Set Up:** Groups will be divided up after the skill evaluations are done.

- After each evaluation game, the groups may be readjusted according to their current evaluation scores to help better identify the interface players. Interface players are typically harder to rank due to the small differences in skill level between them. This readjustment helps both the evaluators and the player by giving them a better opportunity to show their skills against players of similar caliber.
- The Evaluation Committee will try to move as many players and goalies as they see fit in order to challenge an athlete within various competition levels. The top 5 players (as ranked by the evaluation scoring system) may be asked to stay home for the final ice time.



**Team Selection:** U13, U15, and U18 teams are divided up based on the average scores the players receive from their evaluations.

- Teams will be selected through an “evaluation” process prior to announcement of “Head Coach” positions.
- U13, U15, and U18 will be divided into two (2) groups, forwards and defense.
- Players are placed on their teams by their total evaluation score
- The score is made up of the following:
  - Speed Testing 10%
  - Game 1 30%
  - Game 2 30%
  - Game 3 30%
- If there are players that are very close in score, the Coach selected will choose the player to make the team
- No coaches are selected prior to a team being finalized unless there is a choice to be made above
- U13 to U18 Goalies are placed on their teams by the Goaltending Committee
  - Decision comes from a combination of scores from skills evaluation along with game play.
- Maximum number of players on a team is 21, unless a special request is sent to Hockey Alberta for an oversized roster.

## U21

Team selection for the U21 team will only occur if there are more than 21 players and 2 goalies registered the season. Selections will take place by the Coach and U21 Coordinator. Team selection must be approved by the President.

### INDIVIDUAL PLAYER/GOALIE INFORMATION:

Players will determine which position they are trying out for in U13, U15, and U18 and will be evaluated at that position. CMHA will try to have even number of forwards and defense on each team depending on the number of players registered for each position. Example chart below.

Total Teams	Total Forwards	Avg FWD per team	Total Defense	Average DEF per team
3	30	10	15	5
4	48	12	16	4
5	45	9	20	4

- Any player that is sick during the evaluations and misses 1 or more evaluation will not be deducted anything from their score. The player must attend a minimum of 2 evaluations.
- If a player gets injured before the evaluations and is remaining in the same age division, they will start on the same team they played on the previous season but a spot will be left open on the next higher team from last year from them to try out for. The player will have 3 ice times to try out for the

higher team. If a player is moving up an age division (U11 to U13), the player will start on the lowest team in the division and will move at the discretion of the Evaluations Committee and coaches. The coach and the Evaluation Committee will make the final decision as to what team the player is placed on.

- If a player gets injured during evaluations, the score they receive from the current season's evaluations will be used to determine what team the player will be placed on.
- Any injured player must provide a doctor's release stating they are fit to participate in evaluations.
- Any unexplained absence will be marked as a zero for that evaluation at the discretion of the Evaluations Committee.
- Any injured player placement will be at the discretion of the CMHA Board.

## GOALTENDERS: U11 & OLDER

Goalies – Will attend Goalie Specific Evaluations. This will consist of 2 conditioning ice times and 1 skill session. The goalies then will play in 3 evaluation games.

CMHA understands that goalies are not recognized until the U13 age group by Hockey Alberta. CMHA will recognize goalies in the U11 age group.

**Goalies** will be evaluated and placed by the following combined criteria:

- All goalies will be evaluated during one (1) scheduled goalie clinic by goalie evaluators and run through set goalie specific drills.
- All goalies will be evaluated during regular evaluation scrimmages. The evaluators will complete a skill evaluation sheet for each goalie.

All goalie evaluation scores will consist of both the goalie specific ice times and evaluation games.

### Goalie Team Placement Chart

Number of Goalies	3 team Division	4 team division	5 team division
4	1 on team 1 & 3, 2 on team 2 for affiliation	1 on each team	Discretion of the CMHA Board
5	1 on team 1, 2 on team 2 & 3 for affiliation	1 on each team, 1 goalie placed where best suited for the goalie and affiliation	1 on each team
6	2 on each team	1 on team 1 & 3, 2 on team 2 & 4 for affiliation	1 on each team, 1 goalie placed where best suited for the goalie and affiliation
7	2 on each team, 1 moved up, overage if possible or released	Goalies placed were best fitted for each team and affiliation	Goalies placed were best fitted for each team and affiliation

8	2 on each team, 2 moved up, overage if possible or released	2 on each team	Goalies placed were best fitted for each team and affiliation
9	2 on each team, 3 moved up, overage if possible or released	2 on each team, 1 moved up, overage if possible or released	Goalies placed were best fitted for each team and affiliation
10	2 on each team, 4 moved up, overage if possible or released	2 on each team, 2 moved up, overage if possible or released	2 on each team

## Goalie selections

Where there are enough goalies in a division, CMHA will allow the Head Coach the opportunity to choose their second goalie for their team. This process will be mirrored to the player's selection policy with the coach choosing their second goalie from the next 2 evaluated goalies.

## EVALUATORS

The evaluators will consist of, but are not limited to, any coach or assistant coach that has applied for a coaching position in CMHA.

- Coaches will NOT be allowed to evaluate their own child.
- A pre-evaluation meeting will be held at each level to explain the process and what CMHA is looking for. The meeting will be held approximately one (1) week before the first evaluation.
- Evaluators may be asked to justify their scoring if the Evaluation Committee has questions or wants to inquire into the scoring.
- A minimum of six evaluators to a maximum of twelve are required to evaluate players at each level. The evaluators will use the CMHA Tablets provided.
- The Operations Director will contact the evaluators for each level and schedule them in for the evaluations.

## PLAYER ACCELERATION

Underage players must inform the Registrar and level coordinator in writing if they wish to play in a higher division by August 15th of each season.

- Underage players must be in their second year in their appropriate age group.
- Underage players must still attend their age appropriate ice times so CMHA can evaluate them in their age category in case they are not accelerated.
- There will be NO player acceleration from U7 to U9.
- Players in U9 that are not in the top 3 of the age appropriate category will not be allowed to pursue player acceleration to U11.

- Players wishing to player accelerate from U11 to U13 must accelerate to U13AA not U13-1.
- Underage players will attend the skill evaluation and the first evaluation game of the level above. If the player is not in a position on the top team, they will return to their age level.
- Underage players that have requested to play in a higher division must make the top half of the top team. In the case of player acceleration to U13, U15, or U18, the number will be determined by what position they are trying out for.
- In the event that the teams of the higher division are full, the underage player must return to his/her age appropriate team.
- The CMHA Board reserves the right to void any movement if it jeopardizes the registration of any team.
- In the event a player from a lower level is moved ahead based on the abilities demonstrated during the evaluation process, the Evaluations Committee will be responsible for justification of this decision.

## EVALUATIONS COMMITTEE

The Evaluation Committee will be composed of the Operations Director, the Hockey Development Director, the Vice President and the level coordinators.

The Hockey Development Director will meet with the potential Head Coaches and assistant coaches 1-2 weeks before the start of their group's skill and evaluation games.

- The Operations Director will organize the conditioning and skill ice time groups by approximately August 20<sup>th</sup>. The Division Coordinators will let the parents and players know their first 3 ice times.
- The Operations Director will organize and assign the pinnies/jerseys for the skills evaluation (no jerseys for conditioning ice times).
- The level coordinators are responsible to wash the evaluations pinnies/jerseys once evaluations are complete.

## POST EVALUATION GRIEVANCES

**Q. The evaluators must have made a mistake in scoring my child, how do I go about getting this error corrected?**

A. The scores given to each player by the evaluators are not open for discussion or revision. The evaluators are watching and scoring all the players against each other in a fair and consistent manner, and once those scores are entered onto the score sheets, and the sheets are signed by the evaluator and turned into the level coordinator, they will not be changed.

**Q. Everyone who watched my child play including his last coach thinks that he/she deserves to be placed on a higher team. Will you consider the opinions of others during the review process?**

A. Unfortunately the opinions of past coaches or other parents who witnessed your child play cannot be factored into final team placement. To maintain integrity and fairness to all who have been evaluated, the only measurement tool we can use is the scores that have been given by the evaluators.

**Q. I truly believe that my child has been placed on the wrong team. Can he/she be moved to a higher level team through an evaluation review?**

A. Once teams have been set, player movement is not an option unless there has been a technology related issue with the spreadsheets involved or an error is found in the scoring input into the spreadsheets. In very rare occasions, an error is made in the scoring input. If this does occur, the scores will be properly input and re-calculated. Once the re-calculation has occurred, the Evaluations Committee will review the numbers to determine if a change in team placement is required.

**Q. There must be something wrong with the evaluation process to have my child placed on the team he/she ended up on. Why did my child not end up on a higher team?**

A. All the players are evaluated against other players in their peer group and are scored accordingly. By the time we approach the last skate, the players who fall on either side of a team line are being watched closely. There may be 5 to 10 players whose scores are close enough to each other to warrant this procedure. In many cases, there is a minute difference in the scores between these players (sometimes decimal point differences). At the end of the process, a line is drawn at the number of players that are required to be on each team and the teams are announced.

**Q. I am very upset about where my child was placed. Can I call someone to discuss the matter in detail?**

A. If after a 24-hour cooling off period and you still wish to speak to someone, you may contact the Operations Director for further assistance.

Effective From	Policy Version	Author	Approved By	Nature of Changes
December 31, 2021	1	CONFIRM	President	New