

STONY PLAIN MINOR HOCKEY
ASSOCIATION



2023 PLAYER EVALUATION AND COACH
SELECTION MANUAL

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This manual has been Sponsored by the Executive Board of Directors and developed by a volunteer membership committee based upon the guidelines provided by Hockey Canada and common practice of Associations of similar size. The models contained in this manual are consistent with both Hockey Canada and SPMHA historical practices.

1.0 PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 SPMHA Philosophy

Evaluations are an important part to every season and the SPMHA recognizes that it is important to each player, parent or guardian, evaluator and to each team to ensure that this process is designed to allow each player to demonstrate their skills and abilities. The SPMHA strives to provide a fair, open, impartial assessment of each player. This will ensure the proper placement on teams best suited to develop each level of skill.

1.2 Objectives

- a) To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's total hockey skills during the skating and scrimmage sessions.
- b) 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.
- c) 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
- d) 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.

1.3 Rules

- a) The selection criteria will be the same for all players at each level, from U9 to U18 and the evaluations will be documented. This ensures consistency in the evaluation process, and provides consistency in player and parent/guardian expectations from year to year as players move through the various levels of the SPMHA's programs;
- b) Evaluations are documented and remain confidential. Individual evaluation scores and rankings are not released, as our purpose is to form teams, not to rank players for the general membership. Under no circumstances will evaluation results be released to parent/guardians or players, including members of the Executive Board of Directors as it pertains to their child's scores. The SPMHA does not have the resources to release this information in a form that will educationally benefit and develop the player. This education and development is the responsibility of the coach and parent/guardian. The evaluation sheets and the ranking criteria is only made available to the Evaluation Committee and the President of the SPMHA. The Evaluation Committee at each level

will be comprised of the VP of Hockey Operations, Director of Policies & Procedures, the Division Director, and Director of Coach Development (for placement of head coaches).

- c) A member of the Evaluation Committee will remove himself from any discussions or decisions that are required to be made regarding his or her own child. Members of the Executive Board of Directors will not release evaluation data. As well, all members of the evaluation process are required to sign a letter of confidentiality stating that under no circumstances will evaluation results be released.
- d) Any new player that registers with our Association will have the opportunity to try out for the highest level in their division as long as the evaluation is prior to the cut-off date as determined by the Association.
- e) The Executive Board of Directors (via the Evaluation Committee), will deal with any injury or illness, which prevents a player from completing the evaluations, on a case-by-case basis.
- f) Although it is impossible to eliminate subjectivity, or previous coach/player experiences, the selection process will reflect on-ice performance during the evaluation period. Again, as an Association, our goal in team formation is to have players of similar ability playing together to maintain balanced teams where the athletes can participate equitably and have fun playing hockey during the season.
- g) Evaluations are considered "mandatory". Players that are awaiting supplemental funding from community organizations and agencies will be permitted to participate in evaluations, provided the player portion of their registration fees has been paid, if applicable. Payment of the registration fees and the fundraising deposit in full is necessary prior to being placed on a team roster. The responsibility falls on the family of the player to communicate to the SPMHA Registration Coordinator if supplementary funding is being used for their player.
- h) Registration is not considered completed until:
 - a. The registration fee is paid in full.
 - b. The fundraising deposit has been submitted.
 - c. A parent or guardian has completed Respect in Sport and attached it to their player's profile.

At team formation, roster spots will not be reserved for players that have incomplete registration. Depending on the registration numbers for the division, it may be necessary to release a player who is deemed not fully registered, if the team appropriately tiered for the player is full.

2.0 TIMELINES

Table 2.0: 2023 - 2024 Season Timeline

2023-08-15	SPMHA Registration Fees due in full
2023-08-25	U18 AAA Rookie Camp Starts
2023-08-25	U15 AAA Tryouts Start (Team chosen by Sep 11)
2023-08-26	U15 AAA/AA Goalie Tryouts Start
2023-08-27	U13 AA Goalie Tryouts Start
2023-08-27	U15 AA Tryouts Start (Teams chosen by Sep 17)
2023-08-28	U13 AA Tryouts Start (Teams chosen by Sep 6)
2023-09-01	U18 AAA Tryouts Start (Team chosen by ~Sep 16) *Note: U18 AAA roster may be impacted up until Jan 10*
2023-09-04	SPMHA Coach interviews for all divisions U7 – U18 (Sep 4 – 10)
2023-09-07	SPMHA Goalie skills evaluations (U11 / U13)
2023-09-08	U16AA/U17AAA/U18AA Goalie Tryouts Start
2023-09-08	U17 AAA Tryouts Start (Team chosen by Sep 23)
2023-09-09	SPMHA Evaluations start (U9 / U11)
2023-09-10	SPMHA Evaluations start (U13)
2023-09-11	U16 AA Tryouts Start (Teams chosen by Oct 2)
2023-09-12	U18 AA Tryouts Start (Teams chosen by Sep 27)
2023-09-16	Evaluations complete (U9). Teams chosen by Sep 19
2023-09-17	SPMHA Evaluations start (U7)
2023-09-17	Evaluations complete (U11 / U13). Teams chosen by Sep 19
2023-09-19	U9 / U11 / U13 Equipment Pick-up, 7 - 9pm Glenn Hall
2023-09-20	MANDATORY 1st year U15 Checking Camp
2023-09-21	U9 / U11 / U13 Coach / Manager meetings (Tentative)
2023-09-22	Goalie Skills evaluations (U15 / U18)
2023-09-23	Evaluations complete (U7). Teams chosen by Sep 24

2023-09-23	Evaluations start (U15 / U18)
2023-09-26	U7 Equipment Pick-up, 7 – 9 pm Glenn Hall
2023-09-26	U9 – U13 EFHL Coach / Manager Meeting
2023-09-27	Evaluations complete (U15). Teams chosen by Sep 28
2023-09-29	U15 Equipment Pick-up, 7 - 9pm Glenn Hall
2023-09-30	EFHL U9 / U11 / U13 Tiering Round starts
2023-10-01	Evaluations complete (U18). Teams chosen by Oct 3
2023-10-03	U15 – U18 EFHL Coach / Manager Meeting
2023-10-04	U18 Equipment Pick-up, 7 - 9pm Glenn Hall
2023-10-05	U7 / U15 / U18 Coach / Manager meetings (Tentative)
2023-10-07	EFHL U15 Tiering Round starts
2023-10-14	EFHL U18 Tiering Round starts
2023-10-21	Pictures at Heritage Pavilion – 1 st Session (additional sessions TBD)
2023-10-21	Referee Clinic at Border Paving Centre
TBD	Coach 1 - Coach Certification
TBD	Coach 2 - Coach Certification
TBD	Checking Skills - Coach Certification
2023-11-15	Coach Certification deadline
2023-11-18	EFHL U9 - U13 Regular Season starts
2023-11-25	EFHL U15 - U18 Regular Season starts
2023-12-01	SPMHA U13 Tournament (Dec 1 – 3)
2023-12-11	SPMHA Affiliation Deadline (Hockey Alberta filing deadline Dec 15)
2024-01-20	SPMHA U7 Jamboree (Jan 20 - 21)
2024-02-24	SPMHA Fundraiser Dance – No travel permits approved for this weekend
2024-03-01	EFHL U11 – U18 Playoffs start
2024-03-09	EFHL U9 Playoffs start
2024-03-17	EFHL Season finished

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

All players registered in SPMHA are invited to participate in the following divisions based upon their year of birth.

Table 3.0: Division Eligibility by Year of Birth

U7	2017 - 2019
U9	2015 - 2016
U11	2013 - 2014
U13	2011 - 2012
U15	2009 - 2010
U18	2006 – 2008

- 3.1** Players must report to tryouts within the category in which they have been registered or approved.
- 3.2** Players that move into the Association's boundaries after the initial evaluations have ended must be placed on a team until their skill level can be properly determined by an Operations Committee and coaching staff. Initial placement within our association will depend on the new player's previous association's placement and all attempts to make a similar placement will be made. The Division Director, as well as two other non-biased members of the Board of Directors will conduct their evaluation and it will be both practice and game play based. The format to conduct these will have a subjective element, as they will be compared to the "general team" they are being evaluated with (in accordance with the SPMHA Policies and Procedures). In order to be moved up and placed on a higher tier team, their demonstrated abilities must be superior to the team directly below. Placement of new players to the association on a permanent team should be completed in a timely fashion.
- 3.3** A balance between team numbers and player development may factor into player placement decision. Any additions to a team roster after the season has started will not cause a "cascade effect" of player movement with teams below.
- 3.4** Accelerated players in the categories U9 and above shall be permitted at the written request of a parent/guardian. An Operations Committee will determine the player's eligibility. Movement of such a player will be considered under exceptional circumstances. Parents who feel that their child is an exceptional player may make an application under this policy to advance their child. Players making application under Section 45.0 of the SPMHA Policies and Procedures must also possess the physical, emotional, and social maturity to match their superior hockey skills.

4.0 SELECTION PROCESS

- 4.1 All registration and evaluation fees (if applicable) must be paid in full prior to evaluations.
- 4.2 These evaluations will be done by paid evaluators, which are provided by an independent third-party company.
- 4.3 During the evaluation skate, information explaining the evaluation process at each level will be available from the SPMHA website. This information will be provided once the final registration numbers and ice schedule for each level has been determined. The skills and drills to be employed and the ranking criteria to be used by the evaluators will be outlined in this information.
- 4.4 All evaluations are expected to have four (4) to six (6) evaluators. The Association will make every effort to outsource evaluators but, should this be unavailable for any reason, the Division Director will make every effort to ensure these evaluators are unbiased and unrelated to the players being evaluated.
- 4.5 It is absolutely necessary to know the number of players prior to the evaluations to be able to schedule ice and evaluators. The number of skaters per evaluation ice session is to be kept as close to 30 as possible, pending total tryout numbers. If there is more than this, additional ice should be scheduled and the total number of players split accordingly. The same evaluators should be present at all ice times to ensure comparable data comparison.
- 4.6 Movement of players will typically be from the lowest group upwards, as the initial placement of players after the skills evaluation session is designed to promote upward movement (i.e. the lowest ranked group should start larger than the middle ranked group, which should be larger than the top ranked group). There will be allowance for the downward movement of players after the first scrimmage has been completed, provided it is deemed necessary to properly evaluate the player and ensure the best team placement for that player.
- 4.7 Division Directors will be responsible to make contact with the evaluators hired by the association. To maintain consistency the same group of evaluators will be used throughout the level to which they are assigned.
- 4.8 Scrimmage format is as follows:
- a) 5 on 5; or 4 on 4 depending on division.
 - b) All minor penalties will call for a penalty shot for the player for which the infraction was committed against. The referee will place the puck at the center faceoff dot and all of the other skaters will line up at the opposing blue line. The play becomes live as soon as the player picks up the puck and starts up ice for the penalty shot. Play will remain even strength.
 - c) All major penalties will serve a five (5) minute penalty. All major penalties will be reviewed by the Division Director and VP of Hockey Operations.

5.0 SELECTION CRITERIA

5.1 Number of Ice times

- a) The evaluation format will consist of two skills evaluations only at the U7 Level and a combination of skills evaluation and scrimmage(s) at all other levels.
- b) There will be four ice sessions for U9 to U18 Divisions. One (1) skills session comprised of traditional skills and three (3) scrimmage sessions, for U9 and U11. U13, U15 and U18 will have one (1) ice session comprised of skills (for grouping) and three (3) scrimmage sessions for evaluation and placement.

5.2 Skills & Scrimmages Weighting

- a) The evaluation scores are cumulative until the player has been placed on their final team.
- b) The player evaluation score weighting for skills and scrimmages are as per Table 5.2.
- c) Goalie evaluation score weighting for skills and scrimmages are as per Table 5.3.

Table 5.1: Player Evaluation Weightings by Division

<p>U9:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills - 40% • 1/2 ice 4-on-4 - 20% • 1/2 ice 4-on-4 - 20% • 1/2 ice 4-on-4 - 20% 	<p>U11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills - 10% • Scrimmage - 30% • Scrimmage - 30% • Scrimmage - 30%
<p>U13:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills - used only for grouping • Scrimmage - 34% • Scrimmage - 33% • Scrimmage - 33% 	<p>U15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills - used only for grouping • Scrimmage - 34% • Scrimmage - 33% • Scrimmage - 33%

<p>U18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills - used only for grouping • Scrimmage - 34% • Scrimmage - 33% • Scrimmage - 33%
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Table 5.2: Goalie Evaluation Weightings by Division

<p>U9:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<p>U11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills - 40% • Scrimmage - 20% • Scrimmage - 20% • Scrimmage - 20%
<p>U13:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills – 40% • Scrimmage - 20% • Scrimmage - 20% • Scrimmage - 20% 	<p>U15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills – 40% • Scrimmage - 20% • Scrimmage - 20% • Scrimmage - 20%
<p>U18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills – 40% • Scrimmage - 20% • Scrimmage - 20% • Scrimmage - 20% 	

5.3 Drills

All categories will consist of a single, dedicated drills session for the purposes of initial separation of players into tiered pools (U13, U15 and U18) and for cumulative scoring contributing to final placement (U9/U11). The drills for the evaluations are to be supplied by the independent third-party and can be located on their website at <http://hockeyevaluations.com/about/drills/>.

6.0 TEAM SELECTION

6.1 Decision Making

The Director of Policies & Procedures will ensure that the evaluation processes have been followed. The independent evaluator will collect and tabulate the players' scores. Player placement ultimately is decided using player's evaluation scores by the Evaluations Committee.

6.2 Player Movement

- a) The Division Director will divide the players into equal groupings alphabetically by last name for the first skills session, the results of which will determine the groupings for the evaluation scrimmages. The VP of Hockey Operations will work with the Division Director to set the size of the groupings for the first evaluation scrimmages, taking into consideration the number of division registrants.
- b) It is expected that the lowest ranked grouping will have the largest number of players.
- c) After the first scrimmage player movement may occur.
- d) During the evaluation process, player movement will typically be upwards in nature until final placement.
- e) There will be allowance for the downward movement of players after the first scrimmage has been completed, provided it is deemed necessary to properly evaluate the player for team placement.
- f) The recommendation for the upward or downward movement of a player by the paid evaluators will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee prior to the movement occurring.

6.3 Team Sizes

This upcoming season SPMHA is striving to provide the registrants with the best development possibility that can be attained from our registration numbers.

6.4 Equally Tiered Teams

The EFHL mandates that Association's participating within the league place their teams in tiers based upon the Alberta One Standardized Tiering Model, put in place by Hockey Alberta. In the event that the SPMHA has more than six teams in a division within the EFHL, it will be necessary to create two equally tiered teams, as per the guidelines of the Alberta One Standardized Tiering Model.

Players that make team levels that are mandated by the league to be equal will be selected by placement of the top ranked player to team A, second to team B, third to team B, fourth to team A, etc. Consideration for players to play together may be granted at the discretion of the Division Director so long as they are of equal caliber.

6.5 Communication

All initial evaluation communications will be done using the SPMHA website and the division pages. All registered players will receive email notification of the dates for the first skates, via the Association's website. Subsequent skate times will be posted on the evaluator's website. It is ultimately the parent's responsibility to check the SPMHA and/or evaluator website and to ensure that their player arrives prepared for their division's evaluation dates and times. As the evaluations progress, the Division Directors may post groupings on their pages and notify any additional information to participants via email.

Under no circumstances will any individual on the Executive Board of Directors have access to the scores of their children.

6.6 Releasing Players

In the event that there are too many players within a division to effectively sort into the available teams, excess players would be released to a neighboring Minor Hockey Association, as per Hockey Alberta guidelines.

The criteria for releasing players would be based on a number of criteria including but not limited to:

- a) *Payment of outstanding fees*
- b) *Attendance in the player evaluation process*
- c) *Date of registration, starting with the last player registered in the division, followed by the second last player registered, etc., until the number of excess players was reached.*

Division Directors would contact families of players to be released and facilitate their movement into a neighboring Minor Hockey Association. Stony Plain Minor Hockey would work with the families to ensure that there is a smooth transition to the neighboring Minor Hockey Association in the event that a player needs to be released.

Players that have not paid their fees will be considered "last registered".

7.0 DIVISION INFORMATION

- a) All players must ensure they have a valid birth certificate on file with the Registrar to allow for proper registration with Hockey Alberta.
- b) All full ice scrimmages will have two (2) referees present for U9 (one on each side of the ice), U11, U13, U15 and U18.

7.1 U7 Division

- a) Evaluations at this level are done for grouping of players of like ability.
- b) Each player is to be evaluated during two skill sessions.

7.2 U9 Division

- a) All players are to be evaluated during one (1) skill session and three (3) half ice 4 on 4 scrimmages (as skaters only), which will not have goalies (Shooter Tutors will be used instead).
- b) The combination of results from the skills sessions and (3) half ice scrimmage sessions will determine final player placement.
- c) Evaluations at this level are done to create teams in the Tier 1 through Tier 6 Team.
- d) The number of teams at each Tier will be determined by final registration numbers, as well as direction from EFHL, which uses the Alberta One Standardized Tiering Model.
- e) Each player will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.1.

7.3 U11 Division

- a) All players are to be evaluated during one (1) skill session and three (3) full ice scrimmages, which will have goalies.
- b) The combination of results from the skills sessions and the three (3) scrimmage sessions will determine final player placement.
- c) Evaluations at this level are done to create a Tier 1 Team through Tier 5 Team.
- d) The number of teams at each Tier will be determined by final registration numbers, as well as direction from EFHL, which uses the Alberta One Standardized Tiering Model.
- e) Through a partnership with the Spruce Grove Minor Hockey Association (SGMHA), SGMHA will conduct the player evaluation/selection and coach selection for the U11 HADP team. This process will be completed prior to the evaluation of the remaining players allowing the returning players to attend the remaining evaluations.
NOTE: The SPMHA will not be offering a U11 HADP Team for the 2023/24 Season, as per the exemption granted by Hockey Alberta.
- f) Each player will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.1, and the goaltenders will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.2.
- g) Position declaration at the U11 Level should be skater or goaltender. It is highly recommended that positional specification for players does not exist until U13 Level at the earliest (U11 Level for Goaltenders).
- h) The selection of players at these levels should be on their overall hockey skills and ability to "play" the game. (Hockey Canada Player Evaluation and Selection Document).
- i) During scrimmages every effort will be made to ensure all players will be given the opportunity to play at all of the skater positions.

7.4 U13 Division

- a) All players are to be evaluated during one (1) skill session (for player grouping only), and three (3) full ice scrimmages, which will have goalies.
- b) The combination of results from the three (3) scrimmage sessions will determine final player placement.
- c) Evaluations at this level are done to create a Tier 1 Team through Tier 6 Team.
- d) The number of teams at each Tier will be determined by final registration numbers, as well as direction from EFHL, which uses the Alberta One Standardized Tiering Model.
- e) Through a partnership with the Spruce Grove Minor Hockey Association (SGMHA), SGMHA will conduct the player evaluation/selection and coach selection for the U13 AA team. This process will be completed prior to the evaluation of the remaining players allowing the returning players to attend the remaining evaluations.
- f) Each player will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.1, and the goaltenders will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.2.
- g) Positional declaration at this level should be forward, defense or goaltender.

7.5 U15 Division

- a) All players are to be evaluated during one (1) skill session (for player grouping only), and three (3) full ice scrimmages, which will have goalies.
- b) The combination of results from the three (3) scrimmage sessions will determine final player placement.
- c) Evaluations at this level are done to create a Tier 1 Team through Tier 6 Team.
- d) Body Checking during the evaluation scrimmages:
 - i. First scrimmage – all non-body checking
 - ii. Second scrimmage – Group A / B full body checking, Group C non-body checking
 - iii. Third scrimmage – Group A / B full body checking, Group C non-body checking
 - iv. Players that selected non-body checking will automatically be moved to Group C for the second and third scrimmages.
 - v. If there are only two scrimmage groups, Group A would be full body checking and Group B would be non-body checking for the second and third scrimmages. For the first scrimmage, both Group A and Group B would be non-body checking.

- e) The number of teams at each Tier will be determined by final registration numbers, as well as direction from EFHL, which uses the Alberta One Standardized Tiering Model.
- f) Through a partnership with the Parkland Athletic Club (PAC), the PAC will conduct the player evaluation/selection and coach selection for the U15 AA team. This process will be completed prior to the evaluation of the remaining players allowing the returning players to attend the remaining evaluations.
- g) Final players in the AA tryout process will fall under 6.2 Player Movement c), as outlined earlier.
- h) Each player will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.1, and the goaltenders will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.2
- i) Position declaration at this level should be forward, defense or goaltender.

7.6 U18 Division

- a) All players are to be evaluated during one (1) skill session (for player grouping only), and three (3) full ice scrimmages, which will have goalies.
- b) The combination of results from the three (3) scrimmage sessions will determine final player placement.
- c) Body Checking during the evaluation scrimmages:
 - i. First scrimmage – all non-body checking
 - ii. Second scrimmage – Group A / B full body checking, Group C non-body checking
 - iii. Third scrimmage – Group A / B full body checking, Group C non-body checking
 - iv. Players that selected non-body checking will automatically be moved to Group C for the second and third scrimmages.
 - v. If there are only two scrimmage groups, Group A would be full body checking and Group B would be non-body checking for the second and third scrimmages. For the first scrimmage, both Group A and Group B would be non-body checking.
- d) Evaluations at this level are done to create a Tier 1 Team through Tier 6 Team.
- e) The number of teams at each Tier will be determined by final registration numbers, as well as direction from EFHL, which uses the Alberta One Standardized Tiering Model.
- f) Through a partnership with the Parkland Athletic Club (PAC), the PAC will conduct the player evaluation/selection and coach selection for the U16 AA and U18 AA teams. This process will be completed prior to the evaluation of the remaining players allowing the returning players to attend the remaining evaluations.
- g) Final players in the AA tryout process will fall under 6.2 Player Movement c), as outlined earlier.

- h) Each player will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.1, and the goaltenders will be evaluated using the evaluation model found in Appendix A - 14.2
- i) Position declaration at this level should be forward, defense or goaltender.

8.0 LATE REGISTRANTS AND NON-EVALUATED PLAYERS

- 8.1** Players that move into the Association's boundaries after the initial evaluations have ended, miss evaluations due to an injury or an illness (a corroborating physician's note will be required), or an excused absence approved by the Executive Board of Directors (via the Evaluation Committee), prior to the start of evaluations, must be placed on a team until their skill level can be properly determined by an Operations Committee.
- 8.2** Initial placement within our association will depend on the new player's previous association's placement and all attempts to make a similar placement will be made.
- 8.3** Placement of new players to the association on a permanent team should be completed in a timely fashion.
- 8.4** Returning SPMHA players that miss evaluations without an excused absence will be subject to a \$300 administration fee payable prior to initial placement, in addition to the \$150 late registration fee, if applicable.
- 8.5** For returning SPMHA players that miss evaluations, their previous season's placement will not be used to definitively determine their team placement for the upcoming season.
- 8.6** At team formation, roster spots will not be reserved for players that have registered, but missed evaluations without an excused absence. If the team appropriately tiered for the player is full, a refund will be issued and the player will be released.
- 8.7** The Division Director as well as two other non-biased members of the Board of Directors will conduct evaluations during two separate practices, which will include a blend of drills (skill evaluation) and scrimmage (gameplay evaluation). There must be a minimum of 15 minutes of scrimmage in each practice to appropriately evaluate gameplay.
- 8.8** The format to conduct these evaluations will have a subjective element, as they will be compared to the "general team" they are being evaluated with (in accordance with the SPMHA Policies and Procedures). In order to be moved up and placed on a higher tiered team, their demonstrated abilities must be superior to the team directly below.
- 8.9** A player that does not participate in evaluations waives their right to appeal their final team placement as determined by the evaluation conducted by the Operations Committee.
- 8.10** A player showing up at the wrong session during evaluations (and having missed theirs) will be allowed to participate in that session, but with the potential consequences resulting therein.
- 8.11** Players that enter late into evaluations cannot become a 'lock' on any team (i.e., player released from elite stream tryouts is not guaranteed a spot on team 1).

9.0 GOALIE EVALUATION

Goaltender evaluations will only be at the U11 Level and above, and, will consist of 1 separate goaltender specific skills evaluation sessions and three (3) scrimmages. The goalies will be evaluated over these four (4) sessions and ranked according to ability. While they will participate in the entire evaluation process, their evaluations will be complete, typically, after these sessions. Game play for all goalies will be evaluated in the A and B Pool and not in the C Pool, to ensure each goalie is challenged by teams of similar or consistent skills. In the event that there are four Pools due to a higher registration number of participants, goalies will be evaluated in A, B and C Pool, but not D Pool.

10.0 EVALUATION FEEDBACK

SPMHA will provide an opportunity to receive feedback on the current season's evaluation process. This feedback will be examined closely to ensure that the Association's process is continually improved. The evaluation feedback will not change the decided placement of the current season but will be used to improve processes for the upcoming season. The questions asked will be based on the suggested evaluation feedback questions from Hockey Canada Player Evaluation and Selection Manual.

11.0 COACH SELECTION

The SPMHA strives to ensure that each team has a qualified coach who's first priority is to develop players on their team.

- 11.1** The Coach Selection Committee is to consist of at a minimum the VP of Hockey Operations, Director of Coach Development and the Division Director. In the event that one of the Selection Committee Members applies for a Head Coaching position, has a family member applying for a coaching position or is unavailable, every effort will be made to fill that position by another member of the Executive Board of Directors or Division Director for that age category. Interviews must be conducted by at least 3 elected Board members.
- 11.2** Potential head coaches must apply prior to August 15th each year in order to be considered for a head coach position. Leniency will be extended for the U7 division. The application deadline for coaches may be subject to extension, as determined by the Executive Board of Directors.
- 11.3** Coach interviews will be scheduled and conducted prior to the start of evaluations.
- 11.4** Non-parent volunteer coaches will be encouraged to apply.
- 11.5** Previous coach evaluation information (Coach feedback form, mid and final season parent evaluation, coach year end reports) will be provided to interviewers and the applicant during the interview.
- 11.6** After the interviews are completed, the Interview Committee will rank applicants applying for the same level with the position offered to the highest ranked position. The Coach Director will provide each successful coach a copy of Section 34 "Duties of Coaches" of the SPMHA Policies and Procedures.

- 11.7** Coaches for teams are interviewed to rank them against each other for placement dependent upon their players evaluations. If three parent coaches apply for head coach for a specific division, and their players all end up on the same team, the highest ranked coach will be selected as the head coach.
- 11.8** A parent Coach selection for a team is entirely dependent on the final tier placement of their player, NOT the initial rankings from the Coach interview process.

12.0 EVALUATION APPEALS

- 12.1** Any appeals regarding team placement at the conclusion of evaluations must be submitted in writing to the VP of Hockey Operations within three (3) days of team formation being released.
- 12.2** The application must be accompanied by an Evaluations Appeal Fee of \$300.00 in e-transfer, bank draft, money order or certified cheque payable to the Stony Plain Minor Hockey Association.
- 12.3** The Evaluations Committee will notify the complainant if the next team tiered higher is already carrying a full roster size, as this would prevent the movement of the player regardless of the appeal outcome. Players will not be moved downward in order to make room for another player. The complainant may choose to withdraw or proceed with their Evaluations Appeal based on this information.
- 12.4** The evaluation data will be reviewed by the Evaluations Committee to identify any potential anomalies relative to their own scores, session to session; and, relative to their peer group. If it is determined that the player was incorrectly placed at team formation due to a mathematical error, the Evaluations Appeal Fee of \$300 will be returned to the Applicant.
- 12.5** If the review of the evaluation data finds no anomalies, an independent evaluator without ties to the SPMHA or the third-party evaluation company, will be contracted to further evaluate the player. The Evaluations Appeal Fee of \$300 will be non-returnable at this time.
- 12.6** The additional evaluation should be completed in a timely fashion, but will be subject to the availability of the independent evaluator and the SPMHA practice schedule. The player will not be permitted to participate in games with the team with which they were placed, whether it is exhibition, tournament, league, or otherwise, until the further evaluation has been completed.
- 12.1** The format to conduct these evaluations will have a subjective element, as the player will be compared to the "general team" they were placed on. In order to be moved up and placed on a higher tiered team, their demonstrated abilities must be superior to the team they were placed on, and they must also be deemed to be in the upper half of the level of skill on the higher tiered team.
- 12.2** Further evaluation will be both practice and game play based and carried out over two separate practices, which will include a blend of drills (skill evaluation) and scrimmage (gameplay evaluation). There must be a minimum of 15 minutes of scrimmage in each practice to appropriately evaluate gameplay.
- 12.3** The first additional evaluation will be at practice with the team with which the player was placed at team formation. The second additional evaluation will be at practice with the next team tiered higher.

- 12.4** At the conclusion of the additional evaluation, the independent evaluator will make their recommendation for team placement and the Evaluation Appeal will be deemed closed. No additional appeal on team placement for that player will be considered for the current season.
- 12.5** If the recommendation is made by the independent evaluator to move the player up to the team above the one that they were placed on, but that team is already carrying a full roster size, a refund will be issued and the player will be released at the complainant's request.

13.0 PARENT CONDUCT

Parents are expected to be supportive during evaluations. During on-ice sessions, parents are to remain within the seating area and not communicate, in any form, with any players on the ice. Conduct failure may result in the parent being asked to leave the premises and not attend subsequent sessions.

14.0 APPENDIX A EVALUATION CRITERIA

14.1 Player Evaluation Criteria

As outlined at our third-party evaluation company's webpage <http://hockeyevaluations.com/criteria/>.

Skating

- Agility	- Edge control	- Tight turns
- Backward	- Foot speed	- Speed
- Balance	- Forward	- Starts
- Cross overs	- Quickness	- Stops

14.1.1 Skills

- Accuracy of shot	- Shooting (different types of shots)	- Passing (choice of pass)
- Creativity	- Shooting in stride	- Point shots (walking the blue line)
- Dekes / Protection	- Stick handling	- Receiving pass / accuracy of pass
- Forehand / Backhand	- Quick release (toe drag release)	- Saucer pass / lateral pass

14.1.2 Offensive Tactics / Defensive Tactics

- 1 vs. 1 / 2 vs. 1	- Hockey sense	- Positional play
- Angling and gap control	- Knowing rules of game	- Stick checking
- Attack triangle (zone entries)	- Net drive	- Support teammates
- Delays / cycling	- Pinching	- Timing

14.1.3 Intangibles

- Anticipation	- Communication	- Unselfish play (sacrifice)
- Back-checking	- Hard on and off the ice	- Work ethic
- Battle	- Involved in the play	

14.2 Goalie Evaluation Criteria

As outlined at our third-party evaluation company's webpage <http://hockeyevaluations.com/criteria/>.

14.2.1 Skating

- Agility	- Balance	- Forward
- Backward	- Control	- Side to side

14.2.2 Positioning

- Angles	- Doesn't have to scramble	- Reads plays
- Anticipation of play	- Makes plays look easy	

14.2.3 Compete

- Battles	- Loose puck compete	- Traces puck well
- Fights for puck	- Recovers well	

14.2.4 Rebound Control

- First save control	- Movement while down	- Tracing puck
- Focus on puck	- Rebounds to safe areas	

14.2.5 Save Ability

- Net play	- Square to puck	- Trapping puck
- Saves	- Transition from ice to stance	

14.2.6 Puck Handling

- Can make pass to teammate	- Can stop puck behind the net	- Uses glove hand appropriately on stick
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15.0 APPENDIX B EVALUATION SCORING MATRIX

15.1 Player Evaluation Scoring Matrix

As outlined at our third-party evaluation company's webpage <http://hockeyevaluations.com/criteria/>.

Evaluation scale	Description
8 - 9	An excellent elite level performance. Player executes effectively at position and within role on team. Clearly outperforms counterparts at same position on opposing team. This player had a lasting dominant effect throughout the game. Player can definitely play and impact at this level.
6 - 7	An above average performance. Good plays and decisions clearly outnumber poor ones. Factors not allowing performance with rating above 4 might include: inconsistently in terms of effort, grittiness lapse in discipline or emotional control as examples. Player can definitely play at this level with the only limitation being depth at a similar position.
4 - 5	An average performance, requires more observation. Player made their share of mistakes / poor decisions, but they were countered by a similar number of good plays / decisions. Player warrants consideration as a candidate for this level.
2 - 3	A below average performance. Bad plays / decisions outnumber good ones. Player may have lacked effort and hustle and made errors costly to the team. Attitude, behaviours and performance questionable. Physical and mental components were deficient and below average. This player shows some potential but has definite limitations which would not allow them to play at this level.
1	Very weak. Well below acceptable standards within age category. Not approaching level of contribution required or expected. Significant, blatant deficiencies in all areas. The potential to play and contribute consistently at this level is questionable.

15.2 Goalie Evaluation Scoring Matrix

As outlined at our third-party evaluation company's webpage <http://hockeyevaluations.com/criteria/>.

Evaluation scale	Description of Score
8 - 9	<p>Goalie is able to move effortlessly forwards, backwards & side-to-side in control with speed. Strong balance & is explosive.</p> <p>Goalie makes saves look easy & is fast to rebounds with both legs in an efficient manner.</p> <p>Goalie is in position to stop shooting & passing options. Angles are strong & precise.</p> <p>Goalie has strong reads of the shot, play & player consistently. Anticipates the play.</p> <p>Goalie battles & owns loose pucks. Is focused & in the game.</p>
6 - 7	<p>Goalie is able to move quickly forwards, backwards & side-to-side in control. Maintains balance easily.</p> <p>Goalie makes saves efficiently & is able to recover to rebounds with both legs quickly.</p> <p>Goalie is in position to stop the first & second shots & is consistently on their angle.</p> <p>Goalie is able to read the shot, play & player consistently.</p> <p>Goalie battles for loose pucks & is consistently focused.</p>
4 - 5	<p>Goalie is able to move forwards, backwards & side-to-side in control. Maintains balance.</p> <p>Goalie is in position to stop the first shot & seldom loses their net.</p> <p>Goalie is able to read the shot, play & player but still lacks consistency.</p> <p>Goalie can find loose pucks & is focused most of the time.</p>
2 - 3	<p>Goalie is able to move forwards, backwards & side-to-side but lacks control. Does not maintain balance consistently.</p> <p>Goalie makes saves inconsistently & struggles to recover to rebounds.</p> <p>Goalie is at times too deep or too far out for shots & other options. Loses their net occasionally.</p> <p>Goalie struggles to read the shot, play & player.</p> <p>Goalie struggles to get to loose pucks & lacks focus.</p>
1	<p>Goalie struggles to move forwards, backwards & side to-side. Struggles to maintain balance.</p> <p>Goalie struggles to make saves & lacks recovery to rebounds.</p> <p>Goalie is too deep or too far out most of the time. Loses their net consistently.</p> <p>Goalie does not read the shot, play & player.</p> <p>Goalie does not get to loose pucks & is not in the game.</p>